

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This book is dedicated to James Tenney, whom we would like to thank posthumously for his role in a 2002 symposium we held at the University of California, Davis. The topic of the symposium was the computer programming workshop he had held in 1967 in the living room of Dick Higgins and Alison Knowles, publishers of Something Else Press in New York City and parents of Hannah Higgins, coeditor of this book. Knowles was the other main speaker at the symposium, for her *The House of Dust* was generated in the context of the workshop and with Tenney's ongoing assistance. Like several artists whose work with early computers is at the core of this book, we were the beneficiaries of Tenney's generosity and expertise. This book would be, literally, unimaginable without him.

Several editors from the University of California Press attended our symposium. Among them were Stephanie Fay and Deborah Kirshman, who expressed an immediate interest in the project. At the time, we imagined a very modest publication, but we soon came across a wealth of unexplored topics, source materials, and a new generation of scholars. We sought out authors and artists internationally, suffered several setbacks, and pulled back when the project exploded in size. This critical process required the gift of patience from our writers and artists and the Press. By 2008, it looked as if we were ready to go, but the copyright clearances have been complex, involving estates and long-since defunct publications. We are especially grateful for the generous granting of rights by the artists, writers, and estates involved. Finally, the astute guidance of Mary Francis and Eric Schmidt in helping to complete the publication stage should not go unacknowledged. Thank you.

Over the ensuing decade, our assistants worked tirelessly to pull this anthology together from Davis, Sydney, Washington, DC, and Chicago. Special thanks go to them for managing a complex project with grace. Douglas Kahn's assistant, Nilendra Gurusinghe, at the University of California, helped with the early stages of the project; Nathan Thomas, Higgins's research assistant at the University of Illinois, Chicago, donned a detective hat and had a keen eye for detail in managing the text and rights issues and formatting as the book was prepared for publication; and Peter Blamey in Sydney saw the project through its final stages. Generous grants from the National Institute for Experimental Arts, College of Fine Arts, University of New South Wales, and the University Scholar program at the University of Illinois, Chicago made the indexing and the completion of the book possible.

Finally, we would like to thank our children and spouses for their continued patience, support, and daily inspiration.