ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

For a variety of reasons, this book has been long in coming. And there are three people who are most responsible for seeing me through the process: Fredric Jameson, who gave me encouragement and support early on as well as throughout; Reynolds Smith, executive editor at Duke University Press, who also supported me with great enthusiasm and greater patience since the day I first contacted him in 1995; and most importantly, Barrett Watten, who has been a supporter of my project from its earliest and who for almost twenty years has provided me with an intellectual companionship and lively friendship that have kept me relatively sane and honest through good times and bad.

I thank all of the editorial staff at Duke University Press, including Fred Kameny, Katie Courtland, and Rebecca Johns-Danes. I received time off for this project at Ohio State and Ohio University.

There are many other great friends and scholars whom I also wish to thank for seeing me through this project and through my life and career as well. My tenure review team was the answer to my dreams: Charles Altieri, Charles Bernstein, Fredric Jameson, Hank Lazer, Jerome McGann, Marjorie Perloff, and Barrett Watten. My professors: Lee Bartlett, Michael Fischer, George Huaco, Grant Keener, and Hugh Witemeyer. My many colleagues and friends at Ohio State: Murray Beja, Roger Cherry, Tom Cooley, Chris Daniggelis, Matt Dingo, Jeff Gabel, Kay Halsek, Ethan Knapp, Barbara Rigney, and most of all, Clifford Vaida and Steve Yao. At the University of Kansas: Jesse Aleman, Byron Caminero-Santangelo, Marta Caminero-Santangelo, Tony Tyee Clark, Joe Harrington, Ken Irby, Stan Lombardo, Jonathan Mayhew, Jeff Moran, Judy Roitman, Tony Rosenthal, and Rochelle Vota. And now at Ohio University: Marilyn Atlas, Ken Daley, Pepo Delgado, Andy Escobedo, Whitney Huber, David Lazar, Bob Miklitsch, Betsy Partyka, Beth Quitslund, Mark Rollins, Carey Snyder, Tom Walker, and Johnnie Wilcox. And other friends have helped me from afar: Francisco Alarcón, Wilton Azevedo, Rodolfo “Corky” Gonzales, Juan Felipe Herrera, Nathaniel Mackey, Demetria Martínez, Mez, and Regina Cecilia Pinto.

Many thanks again to my others close to me: my children, Dylan and Katy
Hartley; my siblings, Gail Boudreault and Eric Hartley; my parents, George Hartley (senior) and Helen Zadrozny; my in-laws, John and Virginia Mendoza; my dear friends, Donna Baker, Matt Richardson, and John Tritica; and my wonderful wife and soulmate, Valerie Mendoza. And to St. Jude, patron saint of hopeless causes.

Portions of this book have previously appeared in *Journal of the Kafka Society of America* and *Poetics Journal*.