

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This book is sharper because of its interaction with the following people. At the University of Chicago, I've had the blessing of an intellectual atmosphere that has nourished its concepts and thinking. In particular, it has grown in conversations with Lucy Alford, Lauren Berlant, Larissa Brewer-García, Claudia Brittenham, Adrienne Brown, Bill Brown, Dipesh Chakrabarty, Maud Ellmann, Leah Feldman, Frances Ferguson, Rachel Galvin, Adom Getachew, Timothy Harrison, Kirsten Ihns, Patrick Jagoda, Alison James, John Kelly, Florian Klinger, Jonathan Lear, Steven Maye, Josephine McDonagh, Mark Miller, W. J. T. Mitchell, John Muse, Deborah Nelson, Sarah Nooter, Julie Orlemanski, Stephan Palmié, Mark Payne, Sarah Pierce Taylor, Andrei Pop, Eric Powell, Srikanth Reddy, Na'ama Rokem, Marshall Sahlins, Zachary Samalin, Victoria Sarago, Geronimo Sarmiento Cruz, Jennifer Scappettone, Richard Strier, Christopher Taylor, Sonali Thakkar, Kenneth Warren, John Wilkinson, and Evan Wisdom-Dawson. James Chandler deserves special thanks for the depth and extent of his engagement with the book's development and conceptual design. Ramón Gutiérrez deserves special thanks for the extent of his intellectual and professional mentorship.

The Chicagoland Junior Faculty Working Group was a crucial support for this project—key in that group has been my conversation and collaboration with Harris Feinsod. Other Chicago friends important for this work are Daniel Borzutzky, Peter Coviello, and Nasser Mufti. My long-standing collaborator, Jose-Luis Moctezuma, also merits special thanks.

Outside of Chicago, important interlocutors for this project have been Rosa Alcalá, Chadwick Allen, Arturo Arias, Birgit Brander Rasmussen, Vicki Couzens, Nilanjana Deb, Kristin Dykstra, Jonathan Eburne, Merve Emre, Michael Golston, Olivia Guntarik, Len Gutkin, Roberto Harrison,

Matthew Hofer, Virginia Jackson, Steven Justice, Donee Lepcha, Jerome McGann, Anne Middleton, Fred Moten, Julieta Paredes, Yopie Prins, Diane Rothenberg, Jerome Rothenberg, Lucia Sa, Glyn Salton-Cox, Craig Santos Perez, Andrew Schelling, Jonathan Skinner, Kathleen Stewart, Michael Angelo Tata, Michael Taussig, Massimiliano Tomba, Gerald Torres, Rodrigo Toscano, and Cecilia Vicuña. As I was acquiring image permissions, I received gracious responses and feedback from Alurista, Carla Alvarez, Francisco Aragón, Stuart Bernstein, John Borrows, Cecilia de Torres, Eleonora di Erasmo, Jennifer Dunbar Dorn, Bettina Erlenkamp, Victoria Fedrigotti, Molly Haigh, Nicholas Hurley, Rushing W. Jackson III, Justin Katko, AnaLouise Keating, Elise McHugh, Kara Newby, Simon Ortiz, Vanessa Pickett, Piper Severance, Eric Singleton, Karen Van Hooft, Gerald Vizenor, and Melissa Watterworth Batt. At its beginning, the project relied on the belief and vision of Wai Chee Dimock, Langdon Hammer, and Anthony Reed at Yale University, as well as Barbara Tedlock and Dennis Tedlock at the University at Buffalo (SUNY). And, at its end stage, the project was nourished by the rigorous but supportive words of its (then) anonymous peer reviewers, Doris Sommer and Roberto Tejada. The advice of two anonymous peer reviewers at *Publications of the Modern Language Association*—where an article version of chapter 3 appeared as “Pictography, Law, and Earth: Gerald Vizenor, John Borrows, and Louise Erdrich”—was also decisive. Amberle Sherman, Joseph Wallace, and Lisa Wehrle provided intelligent and incisive edits. To all of these people, I am profoundly thankful.

I would also like to thank Alan Thomas and Randolph Petilos at the University of Chicago Press for their care in bringing this book into publication. My research assistant, Serin Lee, also deserves a special note of gratitude for helping to bring the book’s many parts together, as do the staff members in the departments of English and Creative Writing at Chicago—Racquel Asante, Angeline Dimambro, Starsha Gill, Jessi Haley, and Lex Nalley. Thanks to Anne Walters Robertson, Dean of the Division of the Humanities, for the additional subvention in support of the book’s publication. Vice Provost Melissa Gilliam and Regina Dixon-Reeves also merit sincere thanks for their manifold and ongoing support.

At an institutional scale, this work matured in research trips and conversations made possible by fellowships at the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Yale University, the Yale Club of San Francisco, and the Institute for Critical Social Inquiry at The New School; as well as the Provost’s Postdoctoral Fellows Program and the Neubauer Family Assistant Professor Program at the University of Chicago.

But most importantly, I am grateful for the intellectual journey that I found with my partner and best friend, Alexis Chema.