

DEDICATION

George Herrmann was born in Moscow, on 19 April 1921. At the age of five, he lived for one year in Cannes, France, and at the age of 12 (1933), he moved to Basel, Switzerland, the city of the Bernoullis and Euler. He attended the "Gymnasium" of Mathematics and Sciences and graduated with Maturität, in April 1941. In the fall of 1941, he began his studies in civil engineering at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH), Zürich, and in the fall of 1943, he began teaching mechanics under Professor Hans Ziegler. In the winter of 1945, he received a Diploma in Civil Engineering, and then for one year, he served as research assistant to Professor H. Favre, teaching mechanics in French, at ETH in Zürich. His research from 1945 to 1949 was focused on photoelasticity and plate theory. He was awarded a Doctor of Science degree by ETH in May 1949. After one year as a post-doctoral exchange fellow and assistant professor at the Ecole Polytechnique in Montreal, Canada, he joined the Department of Civil Engineering at Columbia University, as an assistant professor. From 1955 to 1962 he was an associate professor at Columbia; then he became Professor of Civil Engineering, and from 1968 through 1970, a Walter P. Murphy Distinguished Professor at Northwestern University. Since April 1970, he has been Professor of Applied Mechanics and Civil Engineering at Stanford University, where he also served as Chairman of Applied Mechanics, 1970-1975, and Chairman of the Division of Applied Mechanics, Department of Mechanical Engineering, 1975-1984.



His professional experiences include: scientific liaison officer, Department of the Navy, the London office of the Office of Naval Research; research associate, Laboratory for Experimental Surgery, Swiss Research Institute, Davos, Switzerland, as well as extensive

consulting contributions to government and industry, including: Swiss Association of Steel Construction Firms, Zürich, Switzerland; Midwest Research Institute; Wright Air Development Center; Battelle Memorial Institute; David Taylor Model Basin, U.S. Navy, Washington, DC; Lee Arnold and Associates, Inc., Consultants in Applied Physics and Mathematics, New York; Gruen Applied Sciences Laboratory; Southwest Research Institute; Stanford Research Institute and Aerospace Corporation.

Professor Herrmann was the recipient of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers' (ASME) Centennial Medal in 1980 and the American Society of Civil Engineers' (ASCE) von Kármán Medal in 1980, was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 1981, received the Humboldt Foundation Award in 1984, was the recipient of the Silver Anniversary Medal of the Society of Engineering Science (SES) in 1988 and the Distinguished Service Award of the American Academy of Mechanics (AAM) in 1989, was appointed as an Honorary Member of the ASME in 1990, received the Christiansen Fellowship Award from St Catherine's College, Oxford University in 1991, was a Visiting Professor at the Mathematical Institute, Oxford University, Trinity Term, in 1991, and the Honoree of an International Symposium on Micromechanics: Heterogenization, Homogenization and Strength at the University of California, San Diego, in 1991. He is a Fellow of the ASCE, an Associate Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), a charter member of the Biomedical Engineering Society, and a member of a number of scientific and technical societies.

Professor Herrmann has been an initiator, principal organizer or co-organizer, chair and committee member of numerous national and international symposiums and professional society committees, as well as a national and international visiting professor, principal lecturer and academy committee evaluator. His activities have included Chair for the Advisory Committee on Russian Translations for the Applied Mechanics Division of the ASME, past president of the Association of Chairs of Department of Mechanics, and the Chairman (1974) and Member (1969-1974) of the Executive Committee of the Applied Mechanics Division of ASME.

Professor Herrmann has made a most noteworthy and phenomenal contribution to the literature in applied mechanics. He has served as a Founding Editor, Editor-in-Chief, Editor, Consulting Editor, Translation Editor and member of the Editorial Advisory Board for various scientific journals and books. He has been the author or co-author of more than 200 papers (a list of his publications appears at the end of this issue).

Professor Herrmann's technical work addresses a broad spectrum of significant engineering problems in solid and structural mechanics. This includes fundamental contributions to thermo-elasticity, elastic waves in homogeneous and heterogeneous media, theory of elastic stability, formulation of dynamic response of laminated composites and fracture mechanics. Among his most important contributions is the coordinated theoretical and experimental investigations of the unstable motion of structural systems under non-conservative loads, the dynamics of laminated composites and fundamental laws in fracture mechanics. He has been influential in charting research in applied mechanics, nationally and internationally.

It is with deep gratitude and warm feeling that this volume is dedicated to George Herrmann.