## Acknowledgments

This book first took shape among the organizing committee of a conference sponsored by the Stanford Seminar on Enlightenment and Revolution. We are indebted to Keith Michael Baker, Terry Castle, Eric Chandler, Hans Ulrich Gumbrecht, Timothy Lenoir, and J. B. Shank for their enthusiastic participation in the planning. We also thank members of the former Forschungsschwerpunkt Literaturwissenschaft, Berlin (today the Zentrum für Literaturforschung).

We are grateful for Helen Tartar's editorial advice early in this project. Peter de Bolla's sympathetic reading and critical comments helped us to shape and clarify the collection. A number of people have assisted in preparation of the manuscript. They include: Alexandra Arch, Lela Graybill, Annette Keogh, Joann Kleinneiur, John Perry, Kate Washington, and Molly Watson. Support for the Seminar on Enlightenment and Revolution, as well as for editorial expenses, came from the Peter and Helen Bing Trust for Teaching.

Versions of some essays in this book have been published elsewhere. By listing the sources, we gratefully acknowledge permission from the authors or their publishers for inclusion in this volume: Lorraine Daston, "The Cold Light of Facts and the Facts of Cold Light: Luminescence and the Transformation of the Scientific Fact, 1600–1750," Signs of Early Modern France II: Seventeenth Century and Beyond, ed. David Lee Rubin (Charlottesville: Rockwood Press, 1997), pp. 17–44; excerpts from Mary Poovey, A History of the Modern Fact: Problems of Knowledge in the Sciences of Wealth and Society (Chicago: University of Chicago, 1998), used by permission of the University of Chicago Press; Alex Potts, "Sans tête, ni bras, ni jambes,"

la description du Torse du Belvédère de Winckelmann," in *La Description: Actes du Colloque Archives de la Critique d'Art* (Chateaugiron: Printemps, 1997), pp. 19–33; "Imagining Flowers," from *Dreaming by the Book* by Elaine Scarry, © 1999 by Elaine Scarry, reprinted by permission of Farrar, Straus and Giroux, LLC; passages from the poetry of John Ashbery, cited in Elaine Scarry's "Imagining Flowers," used with kind permission of the author; Londa Schiebinger, various materials from *Nature's Body: Gender in the Making of Modern Science* (Boston: Beacon Press, 1993) and "Lost Knowledge, Bodies of Ignorance, and the Poverty of Taxonomy as Illustrated by the Curious Fate of *Flos Pavonis*, an Abortifacient," in *Picturing Science, Producing Art*, ed. Caroline Jones and Peter Galison (New York: Routledge, 1998), pp. 125–44.