ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

When I decided to engage in an in-depth analysis of Leonardo da Vinci's scientific works and to evaluate them from the perspective of our contemporary science, I found to my amazement that in many areas his research was so detailed and so technical that I could not evaluate it without the help of fellow scientists who are experts in those disciplines. I am especially grateful to the following:

- to Ugo Piomelli for enlightening correspondence about fluid dynamics, for spending many hours helping me to analyze Leonardo's drawings and descriptions of turbulent flows of water and air, and for critically reading my chapter on "The Movements of Water";
- to Mattia Sella for correspondence clarifying some technical terms of modern geology and for his critical and very detailed comments regarding my chapter on "The Living Earth"; and to Ann Pizzorusso for informative correspondence about the history of geology;
- to Alessandro Menghini for critically reading my chapter on Leonardo's botany, and for helping me with botanical nomenclature in Latin and Italian; and to Zora Hanackova for helpful correspondence about plant physiology;
- to Domenico Laurenza for his continuing encouragement, for inspiring discussions and correspondence about many aspects of Leonardo's anatomy, and for his critical reading of my chapter on "Elements of Mechanics";
- to Michael Nauenberg for illuminating discussions about the history of mechanics in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and for critical comments about my chapter on Leonardo's mechanics;
- to Helmut Milz for explaining many subtleties of human anatomy to me, and for his helpful comments on the sections of this book dealing with Leonardo's anatomical studies;