

Translator's Note

CATHERINE V. HOWARD

The project of bringing Carlo Severi's magnificent book to life in this English edition has drawn on the efforts of many people, including the translators who contributed to giving it voice. Although their translations were produced at different times for different occasions, all of them were edited and harmonized to ensure that the text's new incarnation as *Capturing Imagination: A Proposal for an Anthropology of Thought* would reflect the unity of the French original and enable readers to follow the author's process of constructing his interpretive model through the entire book. Each of the translators deserves credit for their contributions. Ramon Fonkoue and Joyce Suechun Cheng were responsible for translating the article (Severi [2008] 2012) that was incorporated as Chapter Two in this book. Matthew Carey translated two articles (Severi [2009] 2012, [2008] 2016) that became Chapters Three and Four, respectively, as well as drafts that were revised for Chapters Five and Eight. Eric Bye translated the lengthy Chapter Nine, while I translated Chapters Six, Seven, Ten, part of the new Chapter One, and the front matter, and edited the text as a whole.

The text has also gone through some notable changes in the transition from the French edition to the English. The major difference is the addition of an entirely new chapter to open the book and frame its approach. Furthermore, the author amplified many passages throughout the book expressly for this publication.

One of the invaluable features of Severi's work is that he draws on an astonishing breadth of sources, published in various languages and in various countries, enabling readers to encounter numerous works and authors for the first time. To assist scholars in tracking down references, the citations and bibliographic data for foreign works have been converted to English publications if they exist. Since Severi's analyses are sensitive to the historical context in which the sources first appeared, the original publication date, if known, has been added to each citation. Similarly, direct quotations are drawn from published English versions that exist; otherwise, they have been translated by one of the translators who contributed to this book.

It is our hope that this translation will open up new perspectives on anthropological questions to a wider audience and thus enrich the debates that surround them.