

# LES FIGURES PRESS

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## new/s release

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"[I]n a time when many are questioning if we still need formalism and feminism, Wertheim's +|'me'S-pace is a spirited and fun defense of both. Written, in part, as a didactic instructional manual that cannot keep itself from constantly going astray into beautiful and challenging language play, this is a book that asks crucial questions and reconfigures recent histories. It is essential for its arguments. But even more, it is fun to read for its word play." —Juliana Spahr

"Wertheim is 'wruptin, the space between' herself and another until the 'I' erases itself, becomes love, becomes nothing. +|'me'S-pace is an ambitious project, disclosing the spiral of language and being." —Chris Kraus

## +|'me'S-pace

doc. 001b, society for cUm|n' linguistics

Compiled by chr|st|ne werthe|m

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**+|'me'S-pace** is a poetic examination of language, developing its own theory about the intersection of linguistics, psychoanalysis, math and the body. Part of a larger project, the book introduces the field of litteral poetics, a method for studying organized structures in the English tongue. Assuming language as an organ, **+|'me'S-pace** explores and redefines the ways our particular tongue manifests itself in an organization of gender that both complexifies, and frighteningly reduces, the I-Other distinction underpinning many current models.

At the heart of this investigation lie ten principle "characters," | ' S N O + H E M R, whose constantly changing arrangements shiver across the page, fade, disappear and emerge again in a panoply of word-symbols. Combining the most commonly used letters of the Roman alphabet with non-alphabetical symbols, Wertheim allows the text to take on new forms, shapes, sounds, and patterns. The result is a handbook that at once instructs the reader and proposes its own methodology through experiments in litteral poetics. There are multiple ways to read a text, and as Wertheim demonstrates, to write |.

**Christine Wertheim** teaches literature and feminisms in the school of Critical Studies at Cal Arts. For the MFA Writing Program she co-organizes an annual conference: Séance (2004), noulipo (2005), Impunities (2006), Feminaissance (2007), ArtText (2008). She also co-directs The Institute For Figuring, organizing presentations and exhibitions on the intersections of art and science, see << theiff.org >>. Her writings on aesthetics include essays in *Art History vs Aesthetics*, *Xtra* and *Open Letter*.

### About the Les Figs Press TRENCHART Series of New Literature

TRENCHART is an annual subscription series of innovative literature published by Les Figs Press. The TRENCHART Casements Series (2006/07) includes textual work by Nuala Archer, Sissy Boyd, Christine Wertheim, and Vincent Dachy, and visual work by Lisa Darms, Molly Corey, Julie Thi Underhill and The Institute For Figuring. Individual TRENCHART titles are available for \$15 (US) from Small Press Distribution ([www.sbdbooks.org](http://www.sbdbooks.org)). The complete TRENCHART Casements series (5 books) is available as box set from Les Figs for \$60 (US).