



It is encouraging that many of the ideas and products described in the first two editions have been incorporated into architectural acoustic designs and practices by the acoustical community. The quality of the built environment has improved substantially. The field of acoustics is vibrant and dealing with the ever-changing challenges of our society. Therefore, we attempted to incorporate this innovation into this third edition, in hopes of continually advancing our ability to silence the noise, enhance the music, and increase speech intelligibility.

This third edition continues the evolution of the state of the art in absorber and diffuser theory, design, and application, as well as the latest status of measurement methods, standards, and prediction models. All chapters have been revised and brought up to date in this new edition, with additional case studies to cater to practitioners working in the measurement, modelling, and design of rooms, semi-enclosed spaces, as well as in noise control. Sustainability, portable vocal booths, new hybrid diffusive devices, and design charts for Helmholtz

absorbers are just a few of the new sections.

We also mourn the passing of Prof. Manfred Schroeder in 2009, a creative acoustician who inspired us and to whom we have dedicated this book. We were honored to contribute to a book that reflects the life, work, and legacy of one of the greatest acousticians of the 20th century entitled *Acoustics, Information, and Communication: Memorial Volume in Honor of Manfred R. Schroeder*, published by Springer and edited by Ning Xiang and Gerhard M. Sessler (2015).

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