

## Preface

This Volume contains the papers presented at *IAU Colloquium 164: "Radio Emission from Galactic and Extragalactic Compact Sources"*. The Colloquium was held 1997 April 21–26 at Macey Center on the campus of the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology in Socorro, New Mexico, USA.

The Colloquium, attended by 206 participants from 18 countries, marked the 30th anniversary of the first successful experiments in Very Long Baseline Interferometry (VLBI). The Colloquium's program and this Volume's content both reflect the rapid maturing of VLBI as an astronomical research tool, and covers topics as diverse as gamma-ray blazars, molecules and atoms in active galaxies, intraday variability, gravitational lenses, black holes in nearby galaxies, astrometry of pulsars and stellar companions, supernova evolution, and magnetic fields in stellar atmospheres.

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The Volume cover shows an NRAO VLBA image of polarized components in the SiO maser emission at 43 GHz toward the symbiotic Mira variable star R Aquarii, at phase 0.78 of the stellar pulsation cycle (10 mas  $\sim$  2.2 astronomical units; Boboltz, Diamond, & Kembal, these Proceedings, p. 243).

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