

Contents

1	History and Mythology	1
1.1	Serendipity and Strings	1
1.2	The Four Ages of Strings	4
1.3	The Physics and Mathematics of Strings	8
1.4	Historical Snapshot	15
1.5	Summary	17
	References	17
 Part I The (Very) Early Years: 1959–1973		
2	Particle Physics in the Sixties	21
2.1	Hadrontology	23
2.2	Chew’s Boots and Their Reggean Roots	32
2.3	Enter Duality	38
2.4	A Note on Early Research Networks	44
2.5	Summary	47
	References	48
3	The Veneziano Model	51
3.1	Duality and the Beta Function Amplitude	51
3.2	Suzuki’s ‘Small Detour’	56
3.3	Unitarity, Generalisations, and Extensions	58
3.4	Factorization and the Beginnings of Dual Theory	63
3.5	Summary	67
	References	68
4	The Hadronic String	71
4.1	The Multiple Births of Strings	72
4.2	Geometrical Interpretation	80
4.3	Bootstrapping Spacetime	88
4.4	Summary	92
	References	92

5	Supersymmetric Strings and Field Theoretic Limits	97
5.1	Ramond's Dual Dirac Equation	100
5.2	The Ramond-Neveu-Schwarz Model	102
5.3	Many Roads to Supersymmetry	104
5.4	Early Explorations of the Zero Slope Limit	105
5.5	Summary	107
	References	107

Part II A Decade of Darkness: 1974–1984

6	An Early Demise?	113
6.1	Tachyons, Critical Dimensions, and the Wrong Particles	116
6.2	Hard Scattering and Charmonium	118
6.3	Dual Strings and QCD Strings	122
6.4	Soldiering on	126
6.5	Summary	128
	References	129
7	Theoretical Exaptation in String Theory	133
7.1	The Role of the Scherk Limit	135
7.2	Dual Models of Everything	136
7.3	The GSO Projection and 'Real' Superstrings	141
7.4	Summary	144
	References	144
8	Turning Point(s)	147
8.1	Supergravity, Cousin of Superstrings	148
8.2	Polyakov's New Perspective on String Theories	151
8.3	Green and Schwarz's New Superstring Theories	154
8.4	Shelter Island II, Aspen, and Anomalies	155
8.5	Summary	163
	References	163

Part III String Theory Becomes Super: 1985–1995

9	Superstring Theory and the Real World	169
9.1	Compactification	173
9.2	Heterotic String Theory	186
9.3	The Generation Game	188
9.4	Quantum Gravity Elsewhere	197
9.5	Summary	200
	References	201

10 A ‘Second Superstring Revolution’ and the Future of String Theory. 207

10.1 Dualities, D-Branes, and *M*-Theory. 208

10.2 Black Holes, Information, and the AdS/CFT Duality 221

10.3 From Landscape Gardening to Anthrobatics. 228

10.4 The Future of String Theory 235

10.5 Closing Remarks 239

References 239

Index 243

Titles in This Series. 249