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## **PREFACE**

The workshop "Operator Theory" was organized at the Stefan Banach International Mathematical Center in Warsaw from April 19 till May 3, 2004. It was attended by over 60 mathematicians from 20 countries of four continents, including a number of students. The present volume reflects selected topics in operator theory considered in about 50 lectures and accompanying informal discussions. It can be viewed as a continuation of volumes 30 (1994) and 38 (1997) in the Banach Center Publications Series, stressing again the motivation and further perspectives in current research.

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The Editors