Seeking to understand youth culture through its visual and musical expression, *In Garageland* presents a pioneering ethnographic study of rock bands and their fans. The authors explore the functions of rock playing within three socially different peer groups, investigating how their activities relate to the external demands and resources of a late modern world. Presented in dialogic format – the authorial text juxtaposed on the page with the remarks of those interviewed – the authors analyse the objective, social, symbolic and subjective sources and meanings of rock playing, relating these to theories on modernity, social groups and the production and reception of cultural symbols. *In Garageland* develops the notion of youth culture research in a way of mirroring our own grown-up identities and of staking out the limits of late modern culture in general.

An earlier version of this book was published in Swedish as *Under rocken*, 1988.

- “A very welcome addition to critical writing on youth and popular culture. *In Garageland* dynamically combines a range of analytical approaches with detailed empirical work to produce a fascinating account of the place of music in everyday life.” DICK HEBDIGE

Contents

Introduction
Three bands – three cultures
  OH – in between
  Lam Gam – from the suburbs
  Chans – detached
Objective life conditions
  Living in the late modern period
  Three spheres
Subjective driving forces
  Kurre
  Three themes
The groups and their rock music
  The band as a group
  Searching through symbolic praxis
  Learning processes in making rock music
Conclusion
Notes / Bibliography / Index