# Sutton Movement Writing™

## SSS-2004, The International Movement Writing Alphabet (IMWA)

by
Valerie Sutton

# Sutton Movement Writing

**SSS-2004,
The
International
Movement
Writing
Alphabet
(IMWA)**

**by
Valerie Sutton**

This booklet is
included in the

**SignWriting
Library
Database**

Map artwork by
Bill Reese.

**SignWriting**, a part of Sutton Movement Writing, was first invented by Valerie Sutton in 1974. **Sutton Movement Writing** records all body movement.

# Sutton Movement Writing

**S**utton **Movement Writing** is the International Movement Writing Alphabet (IMWA). It is used to record all human and animal gesture. The IMWA can be compared to the International Phonetic Alphabet (the IPA) for spoken languages. The IPA records the details of sound-based-languages. The IMWA records the details of movement-based-languages. Since it is such a large and broad-based writing system, Sutton Movement Writing has been specified for five fields: **SignWriting**, for writing the movements of Sign Languages, **DanceWriting**, for writing dance choreography, **MimeWriting**, for writing classic pantomime, **SportsWriting**, for writing ice skating and gymnastics routines, and **ScienceWriting**, for gesture-based research.

## Sign-Symbol-Sequence® (the SSS)

The Sign-Symbol-Sequence is the official sequence of symbols in Sutton Movement Writing. The Sequence is used in computer software to sort and look-up movement in Movement Writing. The Sign-Symbol-Sequence makes it possible to publish multi-lingual dictionaries in signed languages, sorted by signs, rather than words.

## Sutton's SymbolBank

The SymbolBank Database is the official source for all symbols in Sutton Movement Writing, prepared by the system's inventor, Valerie Sutton. SymbolBank is built into the SignBank® Computer Program. SignBank sorts dictionaries based on the Sequence established in SymbolBank. SymbolBank can be accessed as a part of SignBank, or as a stand-alone database in FileMaker Pro. Download SymbolBank on the web, or search for symbols in the SymbolBank Web Database:

### SymbolBank Web Database
**www.SignBank.org/symbolbank**