## **Acknowledgements**

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Pages xiii-xiv of

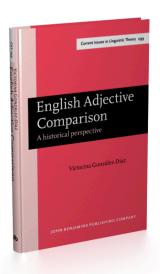
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## Acknowledgements

Adiós, ríos; adiós, fontes; adiós, regatos pequenos; adiós, vista dos meus ollos: non sei cando nos veremos.

(...)

amoriñas das silveiras que eu lle daba ó meu amor, caminiños antre o millo, ¡adiós, para sempre adiós! Farewell, rivers; farewell fountains farewell, little streams;

farewell, beloved view:

I don't know when we will see each other again

sweet berries from the bramble patches which I used to give to my beloved paths across the wheat fields farewell, forever farewell!

(Rosalía de Castro, Cantares Gallegos 15)

In the poem from which this extract was taken, Rosalía de Castro bids farewell to Padrón (Galicia) before emigrating to Castilla. Her goodbye is sad and gloomy; full of that *morriňa* ('melancholy') that is so much ingrained in the Galician character.

My words here also constitute a farewell – although stemming from a completely different frame of mind, as I am unashamedly happy to say *adiós para sempre, adiós* to the work contained in the following pages. However, like Rosalía, before emigrating to new research projects I would like to acknowledge those who, directly or indirectly, helped me through the writing of my PhD thesis and its subsequent adaptation into a research monograph.

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Liverpool, January 2008