

Acknowledgements

Writing on Nietzsche is never easy or pleasant. Doing so in isolation—without critical support, encouragement, and regular reality-checks—can be dangerous and is not advisable.

Enveloping this project from the outset has been a truly agonistic milieu which, akin to a supportive environment, enabled it to develop beyond the author's original intuitions. This creative agon has constantly challenged without once repressing, contested without disparaging, and helped to reach higher, especially when criticising. Such an experience is a rare spiritual privilege these days, and I am incredibly grateful to the many people who, in different ways, made it possible.

This book has been in the making considerably longer than the time it took to write it, and I have accumulated many debts along the way. These are debts of tremendous gratitude which I am more than happy to acknowledge but may only hope to be able to repay one day.

First and foremost, I would like to thank Harald Wydra, who, as the supervisor of the doctoral thesis on which this book is based, gave me the intellectual freedom to explore the subject which did not strike many as having an obvious denouement. I am grateful to Harald for his unwavering support throughout the years, inspiring guidance and for the most incredible gift of unhurried reflection, which helped me to discern much of what would otherwise remain hidden. I am thankful to Helen Thompson, my second supervisor, for her encouragement as well as for challenging me to celebrate earnestly on the manner in which Nietzsche and political economy—not the most obvious of bedfellows—could and ought to be connected.

My sincere thanks to Martin Ruehl and Hugo Drochon for their thorough and critical examination of the doctoral thesis that prompted its transformation into this book as well as for their continued support and regular injections of intellectual rigour into the project.

I would also like to thank all those who commented on individual chapters and/or otherwise generously shared their time, energy, and knowledge with me, especially Raymond Geuss, Markus Granziol, Allen W. Wood, Thomas Brobjer, Brendon Simms, Duncan Kelly, Gabriele Klunkert, Keith Ansell-Pearson, Jimena Hurtado, Robert Holub, and Dotan Leshem.

At De Gruyter, I would like to thank Christoph Schirmer for having confidence in this project from the start and for guiding me through the various stages of the editorial process. I am also grateful to the *Monographien und Texte zur Nietzsche-Forschung* (MTNF) Series editors—Christian J. Emden, Helmut Heit, Vanessa Lemm, and Claus Zittel—not only for giving the manuscript a chance but for their incisive comments and helpful advice which allowed me to develop and contextualise the inquiry well beyond the originally envisaged remit. My special thanks go to Vanessa Lemm, whose own work on Nietzsche and political philosophy was an important source of inspiration and whose encouragement gave me the proverbial extra push

to explore the uncharted terrain. I also wish to thank the two anonymous reviewers for De Gruyter, whose valuable and stimulating suggestions helped improve critical parts of the inquiry. In revising my manuscript I was aided by an excellent young editor, Jack Graveney. My big thanks also to Anne Hiller and Adriana Stroe for their expert guidance and editing of the text for publication.

Finally, I wish to thank my family, without whose unfailing support, unimaginable patience, and encouragement this book would not have been possible.

Following the original presentation at the 'Nietzsches Perspektiven Des Politischen Internationaler Kongress' in Naumburg in October 2019, a shorter version of Chapter 5 of this thesis (Nietzsche on Slavery: Overcome or Simply Abolished?) has been published in the International Political Anthropology journal under the title 'Nietzsche on Slavery: Exploring the Meaning and Relevance of Nietzsche's Perspective' (2019; International Political Anthology 12, No. 2; DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.3555282).