

Acknowledgments

I would like to express my sincerest gratitude to a number of people who contributed in one way or the other to this book. First and foremost, I am very grateful to Martin Middeke, who was not only the supervisor of my PhD project, but also introduced me to Butler's writings on precariousness. His continuous support and advice have greatly contributed to the genesis of this monograph and have helped to refine my argumentation.

I am also very much indebted to Günter Butzer who agreed to co-supervise my PhD and whose seminars first acquainted me with Foucault's late writings on the ethics of the self. Moreover, thanks are also due to Hubert Zapf, for agreeing to join the board of supervisors at short notice.

My gratitude also goes to Wolfgang Müller for many enlightening discussions on the subject of *flânerie* and particularly for his comments on early conceptualizations of my thesis.

I am very grateful to my colleagues Martin Riedelsheimer, Korbinian Stöckl, Christina Schönberger-Stepien, and Leila Vaziri for their input and many insightful conversations on the topic.

For preparing the manuscript, thanks are also due to Felix Boeger and, in particular, Victoria Müller, whose organizational talent and meticulous proof-reading proved once more priceless.

Moreover, I would like to thank Teresa Herzgsell and Martin Riedelsheimer for reading part of my manuscript and their invaluable advice.

Writing one's thesis during a global pandemic is not an easy thing and it would have been multiple times as hard if it weren't for the support of a number of friends, all of whom deserve to be named here individually: Sina Abel, Annika Becker, Sophia Bocker, Verena Gawert, Korbinian Grabmeier, Marco Milling, Felix Nölte, Rebekka Reinholz, Elisabeth Rowley, Angela Ruf, Johanna Salger, Vanessa Schäfer, Teresa Thoma and, most of all, Iris Schmidt.

Thanks are also due to my parents, Petra Kranz-Watermann, for her support, financial and otherwise, and Hubert Ries, for supplying my ever-growing library with a steady influx of books since my early childhood, thus getting me interested in literature in the first place.

