Acknowledgements

This research was made possible by a Principal's Postgraduate Research Studentship for which I am grateful to Queen Mary, University of London.

This book is based on my PhD thesis which was guided by my two constructive and diligent supervisors. I am hugely grateful to Alasdair King for encouraging me from the very beginning of this project and continuously supporting me in finding new perspectives and approaches to the material. I am also indebted to Guy Westwell for his attention to detail, his inspiring knowledge of film, and for always being open to discussing any issues and uncertainties.

I would like to thank the following people for helping me access their respective work, which was instrumental in the writing of this book: Dr Kevan Feshami, Dr Marlon Lieber, and Professor Karen Wells. I am grateful to Dr Yannis Tzioumakis and Dr Mark Steven for their productive feedback as external examiners of my PhD thesis.

This book would not exist without Guido Kirsten who I thank for having faith in my research and for always being available for questions and queries. I also want to thank Myrto Aspioti at De Gruyter for being patient with my many editorial questions. I also would like to thank Elisa Cuter, Stella Diedrich, Daniel Fairfax, and Hanna Prenzel for their contribution to the publication of this book.

I cannot thank my family enough for always backing and encouraging me to follow my love for film and writing. I especially want to thank Christine Lindemann and Klaus-Dieter Bremm, who both in their own ways are role models for following one's talents and passions. I am just as grateful to Wolfram Eichler, Astrid Bremm, Gitti Gaul, Klaus Lindemann, Ulgart Höhl, Jens Bremm, Heinz-Jürgen Bremm Otti Lindemann, Ilse Bremm, Mira Faßbach, and Clara Eichler.

My heartfelt thanks go to my friends in Dortmund, Berlin, and London who have encouraged, inspired, and supported my research in various ways—from carrying books from Germany to the UK to discussing films over pints or simply being there in stressful moments: Andreas Meltl, Simon Zirzow, Sasha Danylin, Malte Siemers, Keifer Taylor, Patricia Nilsson, Mattes Teschabai, Felix Weber, Marco Paulus, Jasper Kruse, Daniela Sannwald, Kristina Jaspers, Georg Simbeni, Tashi Petter, and Lisa Duffy. I would like to thank the entire department of Film Studies at Queen Mary, an incredibly friendly bunch of people. Thank you also to Sally and Kevin Pember as well as Anna Koffer for making me feel welcome in the UK!

A very special thank you to Alice Pember, whose consistent good advice, diligent proofreading, and companionship have been a source of great strength and inspiration.