

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This project has been one of the most pleasurable of my writing career, and it is a wonderful privilege to join the ranks of those who have contributed to the Short Cuts series. My thanks go to Yoram Allon for making it happen and Ryan Groendyk for seeing it through to the end. I was very fortunate to be able to write this book at a time when interest in the superhero film has never been greater, which gave me the opportunity to present many of my ideas at a range of locations, both within the academic sphere and, just as importantly, outside of it. Thank you to the British Film Institute for the invitation to speak to the public (alongside my colleague Dr. Claire Hines) as part of their New Writings series in December 2018. I would also like to thank the wonderful staff and students at my own institution, Solent University (especially Dr. Stuart Joy) and those at the Lilly Library, Indiana University, where I was lucky enough to be the recipient of their generous Everett Helm Fellowship. The archives at the Lilly Library provided an invaluable insight into the tapestry of the history of the United States, which formed and continues to sustain the superhero phenomenon. Finally, to my loving family: to a father who nurtured my love for film, a mother for all her help and support over the years, and the three people who are the inspiration for all it is that I do, Olga, Harrison, and Wyatt, to whom this book is dedicated with love.



# THE CONTEMPORARY SUPERHERO FILM

