

Acknowledgements

This book results from a larger research project between TU Dortmund University and the Carl von Ossietzky University Oldenburg which started with an international conference on “Popular Music and Public Diplomacy” in 2015.

We would like to thank institutions and people who made this project possible. The Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), the US Consulate in Düsseldorf, the TU Dortmund Society of Friends, and *Oxford Music & Letters* provided grants that enabled us to finance the initial conference. We would also like to express our gratitude to our colleagues at the English and music departments of TU Dortmund University and the music department of the University of Oldenburg. Walter Grünzweig and Holger Noltze supported the initial conference. Our Conference Advisory Board, consisting of Rebekah Ahrendt, Mark Ferraguto, Damien Mahiet, and Daniel Stein, helped us to plan the conference program. Our panel moderators Eric C. Erbacher, Elena Furlanetto, Randi Gunzenhäuser, Sibylle Klemm, Peter Klose, Iris-Aya Laemmerhirt, Cyprian Piskurek, and Gerold Sedlmayr created an inspiring and productive conference atmosphere. Bileam Kümper managed the technology equanimously while Steven Wulf provided an innovative conference design. Matt Lockaby helped us to refine the book proposal. Terence Kumpf proofread the book manuscript and commented on individual chapters. Finally, we would like to express our gratitude to our students who not only assisted us in organizing the project, but also provided valuable perspectives on the topic. Our assistants Kassandra Beckmann, Tanja Ferreira, Thuy-Vy Nguyen, and Hanna Rodewald supported us tirelessly during the conference. Björn Jeddelloh and Léon Raschen helped us in the final stages of the editing process. Our students’ enthusiasm, reliability, and commitment were fundamental to the success of this project.

Mario Dunkel and Sina A. Nitzsche
Oldenburg and Dortmund, October 2018

