

Contents

Introduction
Heike Paul and Sarah Pritz9

I. Sentimental Leadership

“I was honestly just speaking as Robert”
New Forms of Sentimental Leadership in Contemporary German Politics
Julian Müller 29

Sentimental Authority
America’s National Poets Laureate
Harald Zapf 49

The Function of Tears in U.S. Politics
Fact and Fiction
Carmen Birkle 65

Balcony Scenes
The Balustrade as a Dispositif of Political Power
Jan-Henrik Witthaus 85

Back to the Future
State Transformation and Sentimental Repertoires of Belonging in Saudi Arabia
Antonia Thies109

Impolite, Emotive Language and the Making of *Us* vs. *Them*

Responses to a United Thai Nation Party 2023 Election Campaign Video

Saowanee T. Alexander and Duncan McCargo 133

II. The People's Feelings

Sentimental States of the Nation

Remembering Diana, Princess of Wales (and Shakespeare's Richard II)

Christian Krug 163

The Power of Sentimental Cinema and Sentimental Politics

Ava DuVernay's *Selma* (2014)

Elaine Roth 195

"The only thing that matters to her"

Artificial Intelligence and the Sentimentalization of Motherhood in *M3GAN* (2022)

Charleena Schweda 211

'Rally Around the Christmas Tree'

The Sentimental Politics of a Civil Religious Holiday

Sarah Marak and Heike Paul 235

Constructing Recognition, Mobilizing Sentiment

Lucila Quieto's *Filiación* (2013)

Anna Corrigan 251

United by Anger—Divided by Humor?

Staging Strategies of YouTube Creators in Negotiating whether the COVID-19

Pandemic is a Medical or Political Crisis

Vincent Steinbach 271

Music and the Politics of Belonging in Revolutionary Episodes

Egypt since 1952 from a Comparative Perspective

Thomas Demmelhuber 297

Weeping for Chairman Mao Zedong
Sentimental Politics of Tears in China in 1976
Marc Andre Matten 315

A Cultural Sociology of the Sentimental
The Example of ‘Lost Places’
Sarah Pritz 339

Contributors

