

# Acknowledgments<sup>1</sup>

---

This book is itself the result of countless acts of mediation that transcend various limits. I am highly grateful for the different acts of collaboration that I have gotten to experience along the way.

First and foremost, this book would never have exited the printing presses without the favorable conditions of my private life.

Jeanne Jaros has encouraged this wild project from start to finish. She also provided financial security for our young family throughout the process and raised two kids on the side.

My parents always stood for unconditional support despite their marginal understanding of the academic world.

My two employers during the affected time, Sportamt der Stadt Zürich (Manuela Schläpfer and Stephan Wild-Eck) and Infosperber (Urs P. Gasche) provided highly flexible, worker- and research-friendly conditions for me to continually sustain this project with part-time work.

Academically, my primary supervisor Prof. Martin Heusser put me on track by injecting the right thought in my mind at the right time and providing critical feedback as well as institutional support when needed.

- 
- 1 Parts of this book have been previously published in the following papers:  
Sigg, Pascal. "The Disclosure of Difference." In *The Routledge Companion to American Literary Journalism*, edited by William Dow and Roberta Maguire, 498–508. New York: Routledge, 2020.  
Sigg, Pascal. "Witnessing and the Theorization of Reportage." In *Literary Journalism and Social Justice*, edited by Robert Alexander and Willa McDonald, 69–82. Cham: Palgrave Macmillan, 2022.

The fresh eyes, guidance and critical yet always constructive feedback of Prof. Michael C. Frank, my second supervisor, were instrumental to the book's finalization. The regularly held discussions with Frank, Olivia Tjon-a-Meeuw and Alan Mattli at the University of Zurich's English Department helped finetune my argument and sharpen entire paragraphs.

Josh Roiland helped in the very early stages by simply normalizing the possibility of the project. Chris Wilson at Boston College stood for much needed time of deep focus and reflection as he invited me to spend the spring term 2018 in Chestnut Hill. His dear support was perfectly complemented by the dearest possible hospitality of Kit Kilbourn and Scott Shear in Jamaica Plain. The stay itself was only made possible by the generous financial aid of the Emil-Boral-Foundation, which covered living expenses.

In addition, two trips to conferences in Halifax and Vienna as well as two short retreats to Mailly in France were paid for by the University of Zurich.

Anna Tomasulo, Chad Jorgenson and Sean O'Dubhghaill turned my written English into readable prose at various stages of the process.

Further thanks go to the entire community of the International Association of Literary Journalism Studies, which has provided a fertile environment for my research interests and definitely knows how to address social needs.

Finally, I would like to thank the Swiss Science Foundation (SNF) for financing the open access publication of this book, which the team at transcript competently turned into a simply delightful thing.