

Acknowledgements

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In this book, I have tried to address flaws and limitations of the original text while streamlining my argument and making it more accessible to a broader audience of computational and non-computational literary scholars. I will not reproduce the dissertation’s acknowledgements here, but I would like to thank again Peer Trilcke and Rocco Coronato not only for supervising my doctoral research, but also for providing valuable comments and suggestions for the preparation of this manuscript. Much of the computational work presented here would not have been possible without the help of members of the DraCor group, notably Daniil Skorinkin, Ingo Börner, and Carsten Milling. As always, I remain deeply grateful to my family and friends for their support throughout these years.

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1 <https://doi.org/10.25932/publishup-69516>.

All errors and omissions remain of course my responsibility. All quotations from primary and secondary sources in languages other than English, unless otherwise specified, were translated by me.

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Many things have changed since the day of my thesis defence, both personally and professionally. To some extent, that day represented a false start, or a 'false movement', to borrow the expression a disillusioned critic used to describe the latest turn in digital humanities.² And yet, in both cases, I would argue that something has eventually moved forward. Theories may indeed be grey, as an early modern devil once remarked, but the golden tree of life keeps growing.

2 See Moretti (2022).