

PREFACE

This volume began to materialize when Hubertus Büschel organized a conference on “Global Histories of Psychiatry” at the University of Groningen in 2018. He remains grateful to all conference participants for their papers and debates. Initial versions of several chapters here—those by Büschel, Matthew Heaton, Richard Hölzl, Richard Keller, Sloan Mahone, and Jonathan Sadowsky, as well as the keynote by Nancy Rose Hunt—were part of those proceedings. Nancy also organized a panel on madness for the 8th European Conference on African Studies in Edinburgh. This 2019 session, sponsored by the International Africa Institute, London, included early versions of the chapters by Romain Tiquet and Nana Quarshie.

Hubertus is most grateful to his German funders, notably the German Research Foundation, for the conference funding and much more, including our index. Here, we extend many thanks to Eric and Doreen Anderson and their colleagues at Arc Indexing for their meticulous and intellectual labor on the index. The thorough work of Finn Patrick Bourke and Manyakhalé Diawara, both of the University of Kassel, as well as Tancrede Pagés of the United Nations University Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies in Bruges, provided precious editorial assistance for this volume. As the English-language speaker of our editorial pair, Nancy took the lead in critique and editing, working with the chapter authors, and not only by our French- and German-language speakers. She also worked closely with Finn (a master’s student of Irish origin), an outstanding assistant and proofreader whose painstaking copyediting and bibliographic work led to important improvements in legibility and quality. Enthusiastic,

Finn never lost patience with the countless tasks at hand. We thank him wholeheartedly.

We extend much gratitude to our anonymous readers, selected by Duke University Press, for their critical readings of this book in manuscript form. We are also grateful to Achille Mbembe for his immediate enthusiasm before our book proposal. Sincere thanks go too to our always astute editor at Duke, Elizabeth Ault, for her eagerness, dedication, and speed. The entire team at Duke has been enormously helpful, efficient, and skilled, and that includes Benjamin Kossak and Christopher Robinson, as well as John Donohue of Westchester Publishing Services, for their editorial and copyediting services.

Many other colleagues and friends helped along the way as readers and those who inspired. Nancy extends much gratitude to Steven Feierman, Jean Comaroff, Patricia Hayes, and Todd Meyers for their alert readings and advice. She also remembers fondly her 2018 weeks in Paris (before and after going to Agadez), where she was trying out her first ideas about Africa's psychiatric historiography and its "trauma zones" from the Great Lakes to the Sahel. Without Nicholas Henckes, to whom I am most grateful, none of this would have happened in the same beautiful, critical way. Lastly, we thank Professor Todd Meyers for that precarious deep-winter errand, camera in tow, into transcultural psychiatry archives at McGill University, which provided source documents for chapter 6.

Finally, we are grateful to each other, for the spirited intellectual camaraderie spanning months, with many Zoom sessions, and a convivial interlude over a home-cooked meal in Berlin. Resonant was our outing, arranged by Hubertus, into the Vienna Forest and the town of Maria Gugging, whose psychiatric history stretches back to the Maria Gugging Psychiatric Clinic, founded in 1889. There, in the 1950s, the Austrian psychiatrist and writer about schizophrenia and art, Leo Navratil (1921–2006), had his patients make "Zustandsgebundene Kunst": art created during acute clinical states of mental illness and later showed in art contexts. Most of all, wonderful were the critical readings we shared with each other about our own texts, as well as the generosity in time and money for serious engagement with so many theoretical ideas, historiographical approaches, and methods. More than once we had to grapple with a challenging text or passage. These occasions generated small bursts of intellectual and ethical co-thinking, and from there we moved on to our next tasks.