ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Firstly, I would like to thank Tobias Wendl for unwaveringly supporting me from the very beginning and helping me shape this dissertation project with his encouraging feedback. I greatly admire the constructive and supportive environment he has created for his scholars and am aware of how rare this is. Furthermore, I feel indebted to Tobias Wendl's research colloquium and all its members whose feedback to the presentations of my research were instrumental for its development – especially Craniv Boyd, Katharina Jörder, Melanie Klein, Verena Rodatus and Kerstin Schankweiler.

Moreover, I am enormously grateful to Irene Below, who not only largely influenced my work on Irma Stern through her writings but also generously supplied me with a vast amount of research material she had collected over decades. I am also thankful to Liz Crossley for giving me access to tape interviews she had conducted with contemporaries of Stern as well as to Isabel Wünsche for inviting me into her research project "Global Expressionisms," for her continued interest in my work and for examining this dissertation. Thank you to Karin Gludovatz and Eric de Bruyn for being on the examining board of my defense, and to Laura Hinrichsen and Anne Krichel for helping me prepare for this – and above all, for being such good friends.

My research was facilitated by the generous support of the German Academic Exchange Service and the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom, which I appreciate tremendously. I am particularly grateful for the many encounters with interesting and engaging people through my affiliation with FNF and would like to especially thank Almut-Barbara Renger and Heinz Theisen for their endorsement and advice. I thank Alexandra Büttner and Bettina Müller for the fantastic opportunity of publishing this thesis with arthistoricum.net-ART-Books.

Additionally, I would like to express my gratitude to the people at the South African archives and collections who supported me during and following my three research trips (in alphabetical order):

Elzette de Beer, La Motte Museum,

Linda Brink, Suid-Afrikaanse Akademie vir Wetenskap en Kuns,

Marieta Buys, Patricia Khati and Celeste Reynolds, University of Stellenbosch, Robyn-Leigh Cedras, Rupert Museum,

Nadja Daehnke, Christopher Peter and Kathy Wheeler, Irma Stern Museum,

Azizo da Fonseca, Rock Art Research Institute, University of the Witwatersrand,

Melanie Geustyn, National Library of South Africa,

Stefan Hundt, Sanlam Art Collection,

Gerard de Kamper, University of Pretoria,

Mmutle Arthur Kgokong, Pretoria Art Museum, Clive Kirkwood, University of Cape Town, Sithembile Mkhize, Johannesburg City Library, Bongani Mkhonza, Unisa Art Gallery and Collection, Gabriele Mohale, University of the Witwatersrand, Talia Naicker and Karel Nel, Norval Foundation, Jenny Stretton, Durban Art Gallery, Johan du Toit, Ficksburg High School, Eduard du Plessis, The Walter Battiss Company, Ulrich Wolff, Stellenbosch University Museum, Angela Zehnder, Iziko South African National Gallery, and the staff at the National Library of South Africa in Cape Town, the National Archive and Records Service in Pretoria, the University of Cape Town's Jagger Library.

On a more personal note, I would like to say thank you to Katharina Jörder for becoming a close and very dear friend along this sometimes difficult journey, to Sebastian Hirn for keeping me sane by reminding me that there are other things in life than a PhD, for his care, solicitude and companionship, and to Silke Goebel for her persistently positive outlook, generosity, solidarity and friendship. Thank you to Christopher Purdham for his unquestioning support of me and my endeavours, for his magnanimity and his humour, for humouring me and taking me seriously, for his loyalty and love. Thank you to Alette and Trevor Purdham for welcoming me so warmly and enthusiastically into their family (and for helping me transcribe illegible letters written in Afrikaans). Thank you to Annette and Gerd Hörstmann and to Sebastian Fudali for being the best family I could ever wish for, for giving me courage and trust, for helping me follow my path (even if this was sometimes difficult), for making me the person I am.

Thank you to our fathers, who have given us so much, and who are so painfully missed.