

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

»It takes a village to raise a child.«
Proverb of unclear African origin

Comparable to a child born by a mother and raised by many, a thesis is usually written by one but accomplished only by the help of many. These »many« I would like to thank in the following part.

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»I'm not interested in points or things, their moving and appearing nor the environment –
I am interested in humans!«*

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* Said in one of the first discussions on the subject of this Ph.D. project, translated from German by the present author.

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»Hooray! The child has come of age!«