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Acknowledgements

My journey towards a PhD started in 2004, when Prof. Frans der Ruiter told me that a new doctoral program in music was in the making. After having moved to Germany and finishing my Konzertexamen there in 2009, I thought back to this conversation, decided to take my chances and applied to the docARTES program. I entered the program later that year, and found myself immersed in an environment of highly erudite and creative artists working on topics of which I did not know the existence.

Today, four years later, I look back on one of the most enriching and rewarding experiences of my life. Having finalized the dissertation, I come to the humbling realization that its completion was possible only with the support of a great number of people. I would like to thank all of those who were directly or indirectly involved in this project, and wish to highlight some of the people to whom I am particularly grateful.

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