Many institutions and individuals made this book possible. Its kernel formed from the insights of Anthony Grafton, William Chester Jordan, Pamela O. Long, Yair Mintzker, and Jennifer Rampling on my early notions of a long historical transformation in Western medicine. I especially thank Tony for his intellectual generosity and steadfast support through the years it took for that kernel to grow into a full manuscript.

Much of this work developed from the resources and support provided by the Society of Fellows in the Humanities at Columbia University and a Molina Fellowship in the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences at the Huntington Library. A College of Liberal Arts New Faculty Semester Release from Teaching Grant and a CLA–History Department Image Subvention from Auburn University were instrumental in the final push. This publication is made possible in part with support from the Barr Ferree Foundation Fund for Publications, Department of Art and Archaeology, Princeton University. For support during early research phases, I also thank the American Council of Learned Societies, the Consortium for History of Science, Technology and Medicine, the Herzog August Bibliothek, and Princeton University.

My exploration of rare books and archives over many years depended on the dedicated librarians and archivists who guided me through collections, including those of the Herzog August Bibliothek, the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, the Stadtbibliothek Braunschweig, the Wellcome Library, the Historical Medical Library of The College of Physicians of Philadelphia, the Huntington Library, Firestone Library, Butler Library, Columbia University Health Sciences Library, Stadtarchiv München, Stadtarchiv Augsburg, Niedersächsisches Landesarchiv Wolfenbüttel, and Stadtarchiv Ulm.

Locating prosthetic artifacts and learning to read them was only possible because of a network of museums and private collections whose curators and staff offered generous access to examine them, shared documentation, and contributed invaluable expertise. Particular thanks goes to Konrad Freiherr von Berlichingen and Schlossmuseum Götzenburg; Tobias Schönauer and the Bayerisches Armeemuseum; Thomas Eser and the Germanisches
Acknowledgements

Nationalmuseum Nürnberg; Alfred Walz and the Herzog Anton Ulrich-Museum; Wolfgang Glüber and Hessisches Landesmuseum Darmstadt; Monique Fuchs and Muséé Historique Strasbourg; Hansjörg Albrecht, Carola Zimmermann, and Museum Neuruppin; Heiko Haine and Museum Eisfeld; Antje Scherner and Museumslandschaft Hessen Kassel; Jürgen Schulte-Hobein and the Sauerland-Museum; and Hans-Christoph Freiherr von Hornstein and his family. I also thank Dirk H. Breiding and the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

I learned much from feedback I received presenting portions of this work in several venues, including the Sixteenth Century Society & Conference, the Renaissance Society of America, the Society for the History of Technology, the History of Science Society, the Society of Fellows Thursday Lecture Series, Yale University, New York University, University of Michigan, University of Minnesota, and the Huntington Library. There are too many individuals to name from the scholarly communities that were so vital to producing this book. For their insight and support during my time in the Society of Fellows I especially thank Donna Bilak, Emily Bloom, Benjamin Breen, Christopher L. Brown, Clarence Coaxum, Julie Crawford, Christopher Florio, Eileen Gillooly, Maria González Pendás, David Gutkin, Arden Hegele, Matthew L. Jones, Joel A. Klein, Lauren Kopajtic, Whitney Laemml, Lan Li, Reinhold Martin, Max Mishler, Carmel Raz, Kavita Sivaramakrishnan, Pamela H. Smith, Tillman Taappe, and Kay Zhang. Of the many others who have touched this project in different ways through the years, from sharing practical advice to creating opportunities for dialogue, I particularly thank Babak Ashrafi, Adam Beaver, Paola Bertucci, Amanda Caspar, Frederic Clark, Maria Pia Donato, Susan Felch, Kristen Gaylord, Brian Hamilton, Mareike Heide, Jessica Keating, Meg Leja, Jebro Lit, Noria Litaker, Melissa Lo, Valeria López Fadul, Howard Louthan, Carolina Malagon, Robyn Radway, Trish Ross, Margaret Schotte, Molly Taylor-Poleskey, Maarten Ultre, Mara R. Wade, Maura Whang, and Amanda Wunder. A special thanks to Ben Tulman and Lauren Woods for their wonderful drawings. My history colleagues at Auburn University provided great encouragement and advice, especially Kate Craig, Ralph Kingston, and Rupali Mishra. My biggest thanks go to Christopher Ferguson, who read chapters, talked through ideas, and provided a combination of intellectual creativity and compassion throughout the disruptions of the pandemic.

Portions of Chapters 2 and 6 first appeared in “Bones of Contention: The Decision to Amputate in Early Modern Germany,” The Sixteenth Century Journal 47:2 (2016): 327–350 and “The Locksmith, the Surgeon, and the Mechanical Hand: Communicating Technical Knowledge in Early Modern Europe,” Technology and Culture 60:1 (2019): 34–64. I thank these publishers for allowing their inclusion here. I also thank my editors at Manchester University Press, Meredith Carroll and Elaine Leong, for their guidance and
support in bringing this book to print. This manuscript additionally benefited from the valuable feedback of the anonymous readers.

Above all, I am grateful for the encouragement of friends and family through many years and constant changes of address. I especially thank Glenn, Jan, and my LRs for their enduring friendship. For her enthusiasm, kindness, and wit in the best and worst of times, Louise will always have my heartfelt gratitude. I wish to give a special thanks for the support, patience, and tireless love of my family—the Georges, Hausses, and Kujawas. As the supreme cheerleaders of this book, my parents Les and Holly showed unwavering faith as it took shape over the years. My final thanks go to my husband, Dave Lucsko, who spent countless hours listening and talking through every idea expressed in these pages and pored over draft after draft with a keen editor’s eye. He dedicated his time, intellect, and heart to the completion of this book; dedicating the result to him is the least I can do to show my gratitude and love.