This book is the culmination of nearly ten years of work, on and off. Its publication represents an important moment in my on-going academic and intellectual development, although the writing process feels more poignant than that because it spanned many of the most important events in my life. I have been fortunate to engage with, and learn from, some incredible academics and mentors along the way. It is fitting that, alongside the usual caveat that all errors remain my own, their input and influence is warmly acknowledged.

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