

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank my supervisor, Professor Hilton Hubbard, and my co-supervisor, Trish Cooper, for their support throughout my work on this dissertation – particularly Professor Hubbard, for his tireless responsiveness to my efforts and his unrelenting quest for perfection.

I am also grateful to Dr Lilli Pretorius for her encouragement and friendship, and for helping me to visualise success when I doubted it was possible.

Finally, thank you to those friends and colleagues who never lost faith in me.