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### Unrealized promises: the subject of postcolonial discourse and the new international division of labor

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## Acknowledgements

“Only when you write something down do you actually realize what you were thinking when you were trying to think something through.” That was one of the first sentences I mulled over, recently arrived in Amsterdam. If anything, with these years of concentrated writing I have realized an idea that had been “eager to have me think it.” The task was deeply marked by the author of those words, Mieke Bal (2003: 33). In discussing my writing, Mieke taught me how to understand what I was striving to think, to think more playfully, to think more rigorously, and dared me to pursue my own thoughts into uncharted territory. She helped me argue my position better even when it differed from hers. That is why Mieke’s intellectual generosity and ethics are at the core of any autonomous force this dissertation might have.

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