Rephrasing Heidegger

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This book has helped me more than any other project I have undertaken to appreciate how little academic work is really a solitary undertaking. When a book carries the name of a sole author, we tend to view that one person as the origin of the book, as its single and unique efficient cause. In fact, writing a book is really a common project to which many people contribute. It is rather like a movie or a play: we tend to remember the most visible figures, the so-called stars, and to forget the many others without whom the work could not have been accomplished. It is, in a way, a Heideggerian point: the full drift of the work prefers to conceal itself in the background for the sake of the clear display of the foreground.

Here at least I would like to invite some of the many who have helped me finish this project a moment to share the opening credits with me. I would first like to thank the Dominican University College as a whole for its financial support of the publication of this book. I would also like to thank my colleagues in the Department of Philosophy, particularly Gabor Csepregi, Maxime Allard, Jean-François Méthot, and Francis Peddle, for their friendship and assistance. I am also indebted to my doctoral thesis supervisor, Prof. Dr. Friedrich-Wilhelm von Herrmann, for his formative influence upon my academic style. I have learned much from my students, especially the ones who took the seminar in which I developed the basic ideas for this book.
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