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0521846269 - The German Tradition of Psychology in Literature and Thought, 1700-1840

Matthew Bell

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THE GERMAN TRADITION OF PSYCHOLOGY IN LITERATURE AND THOUGHT, 1700-1840

The beginnings of psychology are usually dated from experimental psychology and Freudian psychoanalysis in the late nineteenth century. Yet the period from 1700 to 1840 produced some highly sophisticated psychological theorising that became central to German intellectual and cultural life, well in advance of similar developments in the English-speaking world. Matthew Bell explores how this happened, by analysing the expressions of psychological theory in Goethe's *Faust*, Kant's *Critique of Pure Reason*, and in the works of Lessing, Schiller, Kleist, and E. T. A. Hoffmann. This study pays special attention to the role of the German literary renaissance of the last third of the eighteenth century in bringing psychological theory into popular consciousness and shaping its transmission to the nineteenth century. All German texts are translated into English, making this fascinating area of European thought fully accessible to English readers for the first time.

MATTHEW BELL is Senior Lecturer in German and Director of the Comparative Literature Programme at King's College London. He is Honorary Secretary and Treasurer of the English Goethe Society and author of *Goethe's Naturalistic Anthropology: Man and Other Plants* (1994).

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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore, São Paulo

Cambridge University Press
The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 2RU, UK

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9780521846264

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First published 2005

Printed in the United Kingdom at the University Press, Cambridge

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication data

Bell, Matthew

The German tradition of psychology in literature and thought, 1700-1840 / Matthew Bell.
p. cm. – (Cambridge studies in German)

Includes bibliographical references (p. 280) and index.

ISBN 0 521 84626 9

1. German literature – 18th century – History and criticism. 2. German
literature – 19th century – History and criticism. 3. Psychology in literature.

I. Title. II. Series.

PT289.B37 2005

830.9'353'09033-dc22 2004058601

ISBN-13 978-0-521-84626-4 - hardback

ISBN-10 0-521-84626-9 - hardback

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For
Lou
my light
Neu

Genieß ich nun durch dich das weite Licht
Des Tages.

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facilis descensus Averno:
noctes atque dies patet atri ianua Ditis;
sed revocare gradum superasque evadere ad auras,
hoc opus, hic labor est.

Virgil, *Aeneid*, VI, 126–9

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Some of the arguments advanced in Chapter 2 were first published in 'Psychological conceptions in Lessing's dramas', *Lessing Yearbook* 28 (1996), 53–81. Parts of Chapter 5 appeared in 'Sorge, Epicurean psychology, and the classical *Faust*', *Oxford German Studies* 28 (1999) 82–130, and 'The revenge of the *untere Seelenvermögen* in Schiller's plays', *German Life and Letters* 52 (1999) 197–210. I would like to thank the editors and publishers of *Lessing Yearbook*, *Oxford German Studies* and *German Life and Letters* for granting me permission to use the material.

Help comes in many shapes and sizes. The library staff at the Institute of Germanic Studies in London and the Schiller-Nationalmuseum/Deutsches Literaturarchiv in Marbach gave generously of their time and expertise. The professionalism and patience of staff in the Humanities and Rare Books Reading Rooms at the British Library, where most of the research for this book was done, never cease to amaze. The Arts and Humanities Research Board (AHRB) provided funds for a period of research in Marbach. The project was begun, many years ago, while I was a Septcentenary Junior Research Fellow at Balliol College, Oxford. Since then I have been privileged to work with inspiring colleagues and students in the Department of German at King's College London. To the following I am grateful for providing the stimuli to ask questions and the means to answer them: Jeremy Adler, Nick Boyle, Jörg Drews, Howard Gaskill, Simon Glendinning, David Hill, Roger Paulin, Ritchie Robertson, John Whaley, and John Williams. Derek Glass sharpened my ideas on Kleist and E. T. A. Hoffmann: he is sorely missed. John White stopped the project going off the rails at an early stage. It was expertly steered through the Press by Linda Bree, Maartje Scheltens, and Joanna Breeze. Robert Whitelock has been as thorough and scholarly a copy-editor as one could hope for, dispensing order, intelligibility, and good sense. To the editors of the series, Barry Nisbet and Martin Swales, I owe profound thanks for their support and critical judgement. To friends and

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Acknowledgements

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family I owe deep debts of a more or less tangible nature: thanks to my mother and Pete, my father and Christine, Sarah, Simon, John, and Meg. I hope that Florence and Cecily will not begrudge their mother her proper place as dedicatee of this book and are not too disappointed when they discover what sort of book I have been writing.

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- BWL* Georg Büchner, *Werke und Briefe*, ed. Werner Lehmann, Munich: dtv, 1983.
- CPS* Carl Gustav Carus, *Psyche. Zur Entwicklungsgeschichte der Seele*, Pforzheim: Flammer und Hoffmann, 1846.
- CVP* Carl Gustav Carus, *Vorlesungen über Psychologie, gehalten im Winter 1829/30 zu Dresden*, Leipzig: Gerhard Fleischer, 1831.
- DjG* Johann Wolfgang Goethe, *Der junge Goethe*, ed. H. Fischer-Lamberg, 5 vols. Berlin: de Gruyter, 1963–74.
- DVjs* *Deutsche Vierteljahresschrift für Literaturwissenschaft und Geistesgeschichte*.
- FGA* Johann Gottlieb Fichte, *Fichte-Gesamtausgabe der Bayerischen Akademie der Wissenschaften*, ed. R. Lauth and H. Jacob, 29 vols. Stuttgart; Bad Cannstatt: Frommann, 1964–2000.
- Gs* *Gnōthi sauton; oder, Magazin zur Erfahrungsseelenkunde als ein Lesebuch für Gelehrte und Ungelehrte herausgegeben von Carl Philipp Moritz*, ed. Anke Bennholdt-Thomsen and Alfredo Guzzoni, Lindau: Antiqua, 1978–9.
- HA* Johann Wolfgang Goethe, *Werke. Hamburger Ausgabe*, ed. Erich Trunz, 14 vols. Munich: Beck, 1981.
- HFN* E. T. A. Hoffmann, *Fantasie- und Nacht-Stücke*, ed. Walter Müller-Seidel and Wolfgang Kron, Munich: Winkler, 1960.
- HGW* G. W. F. Hegel, *Sämtliche Werke*, 20 vols. Frankfurt am Main: Suhrkamp, 1970.
- HSB* E. T. A. Hoffmann, *Die Serapions-Brüder*, ed. Walter Müller-Seidel and Wulf Segebrecht, Munich: Winkler, 1963.
- HWP* Johann Gottfried Herder, *Werke*, ed. W. Proß, 3 Vols. Munich: Hanser, 1984–7.
- HWS* Johann Gottfried Herder, *Sämmtliche Werke*, ed. B. Suphan, Berlin: Weidmann, 1877–1913.

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- KAA Immanuel Kant, *Gesammelte Schriften, herausgegeben von der Königlich Preussischen Akademie der Wissenschaften*, Berlin: de Gruyter, 1900–.
 KWS Heinrich von Kleist, *Sämtliche Werke und Briefe*, ed. Helmut Sembdner, 2 vols. Munich: dtv, 1993.
 KWW Immanuel Kant, *Werke*, ed. Wilhelm Weischedel, 10 vols. Darmstadt: Wissenschaftliche Buchgesellschaft, 1983.
 LPW G. W. Leibniz, *Philosophical Writings*, ed. G. H. R. Parkinson, London: Everyman, 1973.
 LW Gotthold Ephraim Lessing, *Werke*, ed. Herbert G. Göpfert *et al.*, 8 vols. Munich: Winkler, 1970–9.
 MW Karl Philipp Moritz, *Werke*, 3 vols. ed. Horst Günther, Frankfurt am Main: Insel, 1981.
 NA Friedrich Schiller, *Werke. Nationalausgabe*, ed. Julius Petersen, Hermann Schneider *et al.*, Stuttgart: Böhlau 1943–.
 NS Novalis (Friedrich von Hardenberg), *Schriften*, ed. Paul Kluckhohn and Richard Samuel, 4 vols. Stuttgart: Kohlhammer, 1960.
 PEGS *Publications of the English Goethe Society*.
 ROC Jean-Jacques Rousseau, *Oeuvres complètes*, ed. Bernard Gagnebin and Marcel Raymond, Paris: Gallimard, 1959.
 RR Johann Christian Reil, *Rhapsodien über die Anwendung der psychischen Curmethode auf Geisteszerrüttungen*, Halle: Curtsche Buchhandlung, 1803.
 SSW Friedrich Wilhelm Joseph Schelling, *Sämtliche Werke*, ed. K. F. A. Schelling, 14 vols. Stuttgart: Cotta, 1856–61.
 SuD *Sturm und Drang. Dramatische Schriften*, ed. E. Loewenthal and L. Schneider, 2 vols. Heidelberg: Schneider, 1972.
 SWL Arthur Schopenhauer, *Sämtliche Werke*, ed. Wolfgang Freiherr von Löhneysen, 5 vols. Frankfurt am Main: Suhrkamp, 1986.
 SWS Friedrich Wilhelm Joseph Schelling, *Werke*, ed. M. Schröter, 6 vols. Munich: Beck and Oldenbourg, 1927–8.
 WA Johann Wolfgang Goethe, *Werke, herausgegeben im Auftrage der Großherzogin Sophie von Sachsen*, ed. Erich Schmidt *et al.*, 146 vols. Weimar: Böhlau, 1887–1919.
 WAA Christoph Martin Wieland, *Gesammelte Schriften*, ed. E. Schmidt *et al.*, Berlin: Weidmann, 1909–.
 WGW Christian Wolff, *Gesammelte Werke*, ed. J. Ecole *et al.*, Hildesheim: Olms, 1965–.

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WMS Christoph Martin Wieland, *Werke*, ed. Fritz Martini and Hans
Werner Seiffert, Munich: Hanser, 1964.