



CONTENTS

List of Figures	ix
Acknowledgments	xi
Note on Early Modern Weights and Measures	xv
Abbreviations	xvii
 Introduction	 I
1. Assembling Expertise	17
2. The Alchemist's Personae	40
3. Entrepreneurial Alchemy	73
4. Contracting the Philosophers' Stone	96
5. Laboratories, Space, and Secrecy	119
6. <i>Betrüger</i> on Trial	147
Conclusion: The Problem of Authority	177
 Notes	 181
Selected Bibliography	235
Index	255



FIGURES

1. Distilling furnaces, as depicted in [Peter Kertzenmacher], *Alchimia das ist alle Farben, Wasser, Olea, Salia, und Alumina . . . zubereyten*, 1570 26
2. An alchemist receiving the *donum dei*, as depicted in Thomas Norton, *The Ordinall of Alchimy*, 1652 29
3. Distillation and assaying apparatus, as depicted on the title page of Lazarus Ercker, *Beschreibung allerfürnemisten mineralischen Ertzt unnd Berckwercksarten*, 1580 37
4. Engraving by Philips Galle after Pieter Brueghel the Elder, *The Alchemist*, ca. 1558 41
5. Woodcut depicting alchemical folly in Francesco Petrarca, *Von der Artzney bayder Glück, des guten und widerwertigen*, 1532 52
6. Woodcut accompanying the chapter "De falsariis" in Sebastian Brant, *Stultifera navis*, 1498 58
7. Engraving of Stuttgart ducal gardens by Matthaeus Merian, in Esaias van Hulsen, *Repraesentatio der fürstlichen aufzug und Ritterspil*, 1616 123
8. Pelican and other glassware, from Hieronymus Brunschwig, *Liber de arte Distillandi*, 1512 126
9. Cupels, molds, and balls of ash, from Lazarus Ercker, *Beschreibung allerfürnemisten mineralischen Ertzt unnd Berckwercksarten*, 1580 127
10. An assay balance in parts, from Lazarus Ercker, *Beschreibung allerfürnemisten mineralischen Ertzt unnd Berckwercksarten*, 1580 128
11. Touch needles and touchstones, from Lazarus Ercker, *Beschreibung allerfürnemisten mineralischen Ertzt unnd Berckwercksarten*, 1580 129
12. The execution of Georg Honauer, ca. 1597 157
13. Frontispiece to Michael Maier, *Examen fucorum pseudo-chymicorum*, 1617 165