Preface

The idea behind the breast surgery textbook published more than 10 years ago by my academic teacher, Professor Heinz Bohmert, proved to be fully justified. No comparable presentation of the surgical techniques involved, with detailed descriptions and outstandingly good illustrations (both drawings and photographs), was available at the time.

Due to the extremely rapid development of new techniques and the growing need and demand for plastic surgery of the breast during oncological surgery, the time had come to prepare a new edition. The result is this completely revised and expanded edition, which takes the same approach to the style of illustration, focusing on precise depictions, clear drawings, and detailed accompanying text.

More emphasis has been placed in this edition on aesthetic surgery, particularly in the discussion of augmentation surgery. In addition, considerable importance has also been given to breast-conserving surgery for patients with breast cancer.

The aim of the book is to provide young plastic surgeons with a practical introduction to surgical techniques that are—in the authors’ opinion and in their own experience—promising, practicable, and patient-oriented. Where necessary, critical discussions of strategy, technologies, and indications are also provided.

We are particularly glad to have been able to include a section contributed by Phillip Blondeel—a recognized expert in the perforator flap technique for breast reconstruction. The section contributed by our colleagues Thomas Schoeller and Gottfried Wechselberger may provide a stimulus for differentiated use of the transverse myocutaneous gracilis (TMG) flap.

Finally, we would like to express our thanks to the publishers, who have spared no expense in connection with the generous illustrative materials included and who provided the authors with valuable support; we are particularly grateful in this regard to Ms. Andrea Häberlein.

Christian J. Gabka