

FEMINIST TECHNOSCIENCES

Rebecca Herzig and Banu Subramaniam, *Series Editors*

Praise for *Risky Bodies & Techno-Intimacy*

“A work of intricacy and importance. Patel writes poetically, erotically about the risk that inhabits our everyday through the mundane and the fantastical—behaviour and thought of habit, montages and transitions of lived and imagined technae, mobile materialities, technologies of the flesh, political economies, capitalised cultures. It weaves a potent, perilous tale of adventure and minute discoveries, countermonumental, contingent, sexy. Seductive and absorbing.” —BRINDA BOSE, Jawaharlal Nehru University

“Geeta Patel is a deep thinker. In *Risky Bodies* she takes us with her on a rich and complex journey to show us how techno-intimacies work. Patel navigates with technology, philosophy, gender, finance, and more, creating conversations that will continue for some time.”

—DEBORAH G. JOHNSON, University of Virginia

“Patel discovers new avenues into the ordinary, while offering ingenious methods of aggregating heterogeneous elements under the dark clouds of risk and emergence.” —DAVID L. ENG, author of *The Feeling of Kinship: Queer Liberalism and the Racialization of Intimacy*

“Patel subjects our theoretical habits to poetic, generous scrutiny, initiating a conversation bridging the arts, sciences, and humanities. Interweaving histories of science, technology, time, economics, literature, and the future, this book offers chilling visions of who will live, to what forces we will assign sovereignty, and how we will die.” —KAVITA PHILIP, author of *Civilizing Natures: Race, Resources, and Modernity in Colonial South India*

“In stunning analyses of a range of archival genres, from the gendered origins of financial forms, to cinematic texts and the aesthetics of temporality and history in South Asia, Patel provides moving meditations on the critical impasses that haunt our intellectual lives.”

—ANJALI ARONDEKAR, University of California, Santa Cruz

Risky Bodies & Techno-Intimacy

REFLECTIONS ON SEXUALITY,
MEDIA, SCIENCE, FINANCE

Geeta Patel

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON PRESS
Seattle & London

Copyright © 2016 by Geeta Patel

Published in the United States in 2017 by the University of Washington Press

21 20 19 18 17 5 4 3 2 1

Printed and bound in the United States of America

Typeset by Manmohan Kumar

Cover design by Katrina Noble

Risky Bodies & Techno-Intimacy was originally published in India in 2016 by Women Unlimited (an associate of Kali for Women), www.womenunlimited.net.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording, or any information storage or retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher.

University of Washington Press

www.washington.edu/uwpress

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data on file

ISBN 978-0-295-74248-9 (hardcover)

ISBN 978-0-295-74249-6 (paperback)

ISBN 978-0-295-74250-2 (ebook)

To my lover, wife, mistress

