

# CONTENTS

1      Introduction: Conspiracy/Theory  
JOSEPH MASCO AND LISA WEDEEN

## **PART I / ORGANIZING FICTIONS**

37      01 Impasse and Genre in American Politics and Literature  
GEORGE SHULMAN

61      02 Where Did AIDS Come from?  
LOCHLANN JAIN

81      03 A False Flag  
JOSEPH MASCO

104      04 Conspiracy Attunement and Context: The Case of the  
President's Body  
ELIZABETH ANNE DAVIS

127      05 Conspiracy, Theory, and the “Post-Truth” Public Sphere  
TIMOTHY MELLEY

## **PART II / ATMOSPHERES OF DOUBT**

149      06 On Uncertainty and the Question of Judgment  
LISA WEDEEN

174      07 Resonant Apophenia  
SUSAN LEPSELTHER

190 08 The Play of Conspiracy in Plato's *Republic*  
DEMETRA KASIMIS

210 09 An Economy of Suspicion: On the "Military-Civilian Divide" and the New American Militarism  
NADIA ABU EL-HAJ

### **PART III / THE FORCE OF CAPITAL**

235 10 Conspiracies of Theory: Of Gold in the Shadow of Deindustrialization  
ROSALIND C. MORRIS

264 11 Adrian Piper and Alien Conspiracies of Bullying and Whistleblowing  
JOSEPH DUMIT

291 12 Humanitarian Profiteering in the Central African Republic as Conspiracy and Rumor  
LOUISA LOMBARD

314 13 Confessions of an Accused Conspiracy Theorist: The Financialization of Higher Education  
ROBERT MEISTER

### **PART IV / THE POLITICS OF ENMITY**

341 14 Conspiracy and Its Curious Afterlives  
FAITH HILLIS

362 15 Comedy of Terrors: National Security Fictions and the Origins of al-Qa'ida  
DARRYL LI

386 16 After Muslims: Authority, Suspicion, and Secrecy in the Liberal Democratic State  
HUSSEIN ALI AGRAMA

425 Epilogue

JOSEPH MASCO AND LISA WEDEEN

435 *Acknowledgments*

437 *References*

483 *Contributors*

485 *Index*

*This page intentionally left blank*