



PROOF

1 Digital Cultures and the Politics of Emotion

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1	<i>Also by Athina Karatzogianni</i>
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Digital Cultures and the Politics of Emotion

Feelings, Affect and Technological Change

Edited by

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and

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Preface and Acknowledgements

Digital Cultures and the Politics of Emotion brings together 16 scholars in an exciting cross-disciplinary dialogue on the role of affect, feelings and emotions in contemporary digital cultures. Most of the authors in the book took part in the two-day international conference, *Affective Fabrics of Digital Cultures: Feelings, Technologies, Politics*, which took place in Manchester, UK, in June 2010. The event was sponsored by the Leverhulme Trust and by Research Institute for Cosmopolitan Cultures, the University of Manchester. We would like to thank them wholeheartedly for making our encounter possible. We would also like to thank colleagues and postgraduate students from the University of Manchester (Adam St Clair, Andie Soco, Ashley Brown, Caitriona Devery, Elisa Coati, Jeanette Edwards, Nina Glick-Schiller, Rachel Gibson and Viktor Leggio) for supporting the conference and making it a truly welcoming and productive event.

Back in 2010, the conference created a spark of vibrant intellectual exchanges, leading to ongoing conversations among young and established scholars from many countries and disciplines. Although only some of the conference participants appear in this book, we would like to thank all the speakers (Anne-Marie Fortier, Alessandra Micalizzi, Amparo Lasen, Antonio García, Bjorn Nansen, Daniel Ashton, Elena Casado, Elisabetta Risi, Liam Berriman, Estrid Sørensen, Galina Miazhevich, Ivaylo Ditchchev, Jane Vincent, Jenny Sundén, Jessica Ringrose, Jette Kofoed, Jussi Parikka, Kate Crawford, Larissa Hjorth, Mark Coté, Michael Goddard, Rebecca Coleman, Ruben Blanco, Sally Wyatt, Signe Pildal Hansen, Smiljana Antonijevic, Soyoung Yoon, Stamatia Portanova, Stefan Dormans, Stephen Hutchings, Susanna Paasonen, Tapio Mäkelä, Tomoko Tamari and Una Chung) for their insightful contributions to thinking about the relations between the affective, the digital and the political. This book would not have happened if it were not for all their papers, comments, thoughts and ideas, and for their powerful intellectual energy that spilled from the panels into lunches, drinks and the conference dinner, during which we all had the opportunity to engage with each other's lives, beyond working together in a truly fascinating manner. Athina remembers especially sitting between Patricia and Ann-Marie during dinner and the feeling of literally being immersed in between two worlds of academic study

1 and intense dialogue. Thinking back at it, the spirit of the book can be
2 found in such interactions and intersections of the academics coming
3 from widely diverse disciplinary backgrounds.

4 And of course, it was the conference that created our collaboration
5 as co-editors: Adi was the conference organiser and Athina was one of
6 the invited plenary speakers. From there onwards, we jointly walked
7 the journey of editing this book, sharing ideas, drafts and tasks; talk-
8 ing about emotions and politics, about the digital and the affective.
9 Normally editing a volume can be a lonely business, however in this
10 case, our collaboration ensured that we had each other to fall back on
11 for advice and humour, thus avoiding the usual stress involved in this
12 kind of enterprise.

13 Our main thanks, however, goes to all the contributors to the book
14 (Angelina Karpovich, Debra Ferreday, Eugénie Shinkle, Julia Rone,
15 Karenza Moore, Kerstin Leder Mackley, Laura-Zoë Humphreys, Luciana
16 Parisi, Melissa Gregg, Michaela Quadraro, Mihirini Sirisena, Patricia
17 Ticineto Clough and Tobias Raun), for their innovative ideas, their
18 commitment to the project, and their hard work. All contributors were
19 involved in an internal peer review process, engaging with each other's
20 work, which has added a further collaborative aspect to the project.
21 We would also like to extend our gratitude to Ben R. Butler for kindly
22 giving us permission to use his painting, 'George and the Virtual', for
23 the book cover.

24 Lastly, the book addresses a new emerging field out of the intersec-
25 tions of digital media, cultural studies, and the politics of emotion and
26 affect, and as such we are welcoming comments and discussions of
27 the contributions in this volume by its readers. We can be reached at
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29
30 *Athina Karatzogianni and Adi Kuntsman*
31 *Hull and Manchester*
32 *May 2011*
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Notes on Contributors

Patricia Ticineto Clough is Professor of Sociology and Women's Studies at the Graduate Center and Queens College of the City University of New York. Her books include *The End(s) of Ethnography* (Sage 1992); *Feminist Thought* (Blackwell, 1995); *Autoaffection: Unconscious Thought in the Age of Teletechnology* (University of Minnesota Press, 2000); *The Affective Turn: Theorizing the Social* (co-edited with Jean Halley, Duke University Press, 2007) and *Beyond Biopolitics: Essays on the Governance of Life and Death* (co-edited with Craig Willse, Duke University Press, 2011). Patricia's work has drawn on theoretical traditions concerned with technology, affect, unconscious processes, timespace and political economy.

Debra Ferreday is Lecturer in Sociology at Lancaster University, UK. Her first book, *Online Belongings* (Peter Lang, 2009), explores the relationship between fantasy, technology and subjectivity in digital culture. She has published widely on media, culture, gender and queer theory, exploring a heterogeneous archive which includes anorexic bodies and representations, cross-dressing, performance, haunting, fashion, sex work, mental illness, the non-human, and new media. Her next book, *Rethinking Femininity* (Berg, forthcoming 2013), examines the historically problematic yet intimate relationship between femininity and feminism.

Melissa Gregg works in the Department of Gender and Cultural Studies at the University of Sydney. Her books include *Cultural Studies' Affective Voices* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2006), *The Affect Theory Reader* (with Gregory J. Seigworth, Duke University Press, 2010) and *Work's Intimacy* (Polity, 2011). Melissa's research examines changes to professional and personal life, particularly as these manifest in emerging practices of technology and media use in work and home space. Her writing investigates the relationship between work, love and intimacy – with an emphasis on geography, class and gender.

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Adi Kuntsman is Simon Research Fellow at the Department of Anthropology, the University of Manchester, UK. Adi is the author of *Figurations of Violence and Belonging: Queerness, Migranhood and Nationalism in Cyberspace and Beyond* (Peter Lang, 2009), the editor of 'War, Conflict and Commemoration in the Age of Digital Reproduction' (special issue of *Digital Icons*, 2010), and the co-editor of *Out of Place: Interrogating Silences in Queerness/Raciality* (with Esperanza Miyake, Raw Nerve Books, 2008). Adi's research interests include affect and emotions; migration, diaspora and nationalism; queer politics; war, violence and digital media.

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41

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38 BA (Hons) in Sociology from the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka.
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