

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

GREG

By the time these acknowledgments are in print and before your eyes, it will have been thirteen years since the first *Affect Theory Reader* was released in fall 2010. Melissa Gregg and I honestly had no inkling of what was coming. In late fall 2015, when I hosted the Affect Theory: Worldings Tensions Futures conference at my home institution of Millersville University in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, more than seven hundred people (representing nearly every humanities discipline imaginable) submitted abstracts from over twenty-five countries. The whole event was so glorious—packed with such graciousness of spirit and generosity of intellect—that I almost did not want to contaminate its aura by doing another one. But three years later, after the launch of *Capacious: Journal for Emerging Affect Inquiry*, there was a second affect theory conference in Lancaster and then ssass (Society for the Study of Affect Summer School) in August 2019. Every time, it was the same joyous vibes! Something happens at gatherings around affect: an atmosphere of encounter, of receptivity, of connection, of disciplines slipping a bit past their bounds, of academia affectionately lived.

At the wrap event of the *Capacious* conference in August 2018, I told Carolyn that I was thinking about putting together an *Affect*

Theory Reader 2 and wondered if she would want to be coeditor. She did. And then she waited and waited (and wrote a great book called *Revolutionary Routines* and had a baby!) while I tried to get my arms around what kind of shape this project might take. In January 2021, in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, I sent Carolyn a draft of a book proposal that she approved and improved. We shared it with Duke University Press a week or so later. Our invite to contributors went out soon after, and by summer 2021 and into 2022, Carolyn and I were very busy editing chapter submissions, suggesting revisions to authors, and cowriting our introduction. We laugh now at the beast (at almost 22,000 words) that the introduction became, but it was simply a pleasure to write it together. Carolyn has a gift for getting to the point, staying on task, and producing the most remarkable insights by attending to the particulars of an argument (our own, someone else's) and its sweep at the same time. I tend to float and drift as a writer, picking up pieces of ideas, feels, and references, and seeing where they might go/where they might take us, lingering with the potentials for veering into the unanticipated and the otherwise. We found a rhythm and routine for bouncing the writing between us that worked to say something original about affect theory (or so we hope!) without shutting down alternate understandings and approaches. Carolyn put up with my relentless tinkering and fussing over word choice, argument coherence, and writing voice—particularly in the final stretch—with such good humor and a gentle pulling on the reins; there should be a coeditor medal of valor. Seriously.

I cannot fully capture the experience of serving as founding member and coeditor for *Capacious: Journal for Emerging Affect Inquiry*. Mathew Arthur, Wendy Truran, Johnny Gainer, and Bryan Behrenshausen: each of them is an indispensable part of the smartest and most beautiful journal in the world. Objectively so! Best of all, *Capacious* has contributed tangibly to the futures of graduate students and early career researchers. We are small but mighty and will continue to sand off the rough edges of the academic world as much as possible. I couldn't be prouder of what *Capacious* continues to do. Thanks, too, to my Millersville colleagues and administration for participating in reading groups, assisting with the behind-the-scenes work for affect theory conferences (2015 and 2018) and a summer school (2019), and generally indulging my passions. And my ten-

der appreciation to Randy Johnson, who facilitates a weekly online reading group with such grace, intellect, and good humor that it has become impossible to ever imagine leaving.

On a very personal level, Jackie and Kendall are my world. Affect sticks to everything. A final aside: John Turner—Please get in touch. It's been too long and I/we miss you.

CAROLYN

When I learned that there was to be a second *Affect Theory Reader*, I felt a ripple of excited anticipation to see what constellation of wonders the new book would unfold. When Greg invited me to join him as a coeditor of the collection, I was floored. It has been a pleasure to work with Greg, our extraordinary contributors, and the wonderful Duke University Press to bring *The Affect Theory Reader 2* to fruition. My appreciation goes to Melissa Gregg for conceiving the idea for the original reader in the first decade of the new millennium, when contemporary theories and studies of affect were still emergent and percolating, and to Melissa and Greg for curating such an astonishing collection of essays in 2010—which has been so important and generative to my own scholarship and to the work of so many interdisciplinary students, scholars, and practitioners of affect transnationally. I've learned a great deal from Greg in the process of putting together this collection and have been continually astounded by his ingenuity, clarity of thought, and uncanny capacity to translate the most complex theoretical and ethicopolitical dynamics into beautiful words that weave suggestive paths and establish potent connections I never would have expected—not to mention his masterful knowledge of, and infectious zeal for, all things affect. Greg is someone who genuinely loves, and is exceptionally talented at, bringing people together to establish the most generative relations and possibilities, and it has been inspiring to be part of the relations and possibilities underlying and reaching out from this reader. I will certainly miss our frequent and animated Facebook Messenger chats and video calls on all aspects of this collection—both the weighty and the entirely trivial!

My gratitude goes to my dear colleagues and friends and particularly Beckie Coleman, Angharad Closs Stephens, Mónica Moreno Figueroa, and Dawn Lyon for ongoing and vital conversations linked to affect, including so many of the concepts, themes, and issues addressed in

this volume, which have been pivotal to my own thinking and ways of inhabiting the world. Thanks, as ever, to my family for everything. Luis Cereceda and Sadie Cereceda Pedwell were excited to finally meet Greg in person when we held our first preview event for this collection, organized by the wonderful Tony D. Sampson in London, in July 2021.

GREG AND CAROLYN

Our contributors to *The Affect Theory Reader 2* were a dream come true. It was fascinating to read through chapter submissions as they arrived, send along feedback that was always taken into account during revisions, and then place these chapters into different constellations to discover what emerged from their interstices. It was in reaching across the chapters and their brilliant contents that we realized the introduction had to be called “A Shimmer of Inventories”—each contributor brought such a singular intensity to their work. Every one of them stirs up something that challenges and illuminates a particular angle or orthodoxy of affect study. Duke University Press is likewise dreamy and shimmery. Ken Wissoker is simply the best. Our sincere appreciation also to Ryan Kendall for shepherding us through the nuts and bolts of Duke’s forms, contracts, and so forth. Much appreciation also to our project editor, Jessica Ryan, and to Brian Ostrander and colleagues at Westchester Publishing Services. Thanks to the four anonymous reviewers at Duke for very insightful advice on the draft document and the final submission, which strengthened it immensely. We wish to also express our gratitude to the series editors at Anima (Mel Chen, Jasbir Puar, and Ezekiel Dixon-Román) for inviting this book to join their amazing lineup. Delighted to be in such good company! Finally, thanks to Claire Giblin for allowing us again to use one of her gorgeous artworks on the cover.

Last week, Lauren Berlant’s *On the Inconvenience of Other People* arrived at Greg’s house hot off the press from Duke. Lauren, as readers will see, never left our minds while pulling this project together. What to say? Lauren is all-around. Working with the Berlant estate to sort out the publishing of some of her/their final writing was an honor. Ian Horswill and Laurie Shannon are superb at maintaining Lauren’s vibrancy. Thanks also to Katie Stewart for assisting us with securing the rights to publish these final pieces by Lauren Berlant. Other people are not always inconvenient.