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Bio/Matter/Techno/Synthetics: Design Futures for the More Than Human (B/M/T/S) captures and disseminates inspiring voices in contemporary design who are practicing in the fields of architecture, landscape architecture, art, ecology, environmental design, material studies, emerging technologies, media, artificial intelligence, and critical theory. B/M/T/S articulates future-ready visions for a field that is increasingly called upon to participate in ever more complex aesthetic, ethical, environmental and socio-political contexts. B/M/T/S does this by redefining the very origins, principles, and values of design. Despite the propensity of contemporary discourse to favor the search for a hegemonic theory, this collaborative project convenes the work of twenty-two women, all of whom interrogate the origins, methods, and tactics of their respective disciplines. Collectively, B/M/T/S challenges the common place nature of ideas founded in parametricism, object-oriented ontology, parafictional realism, post-digital representations, and corporate functionalism. In exchange, it seeks the confluence of critical, aesthetic, and ethical thought in future speculations on the biological, the material, the technological, and their synthesis. It does this at scales that operate across disciplines and territories.

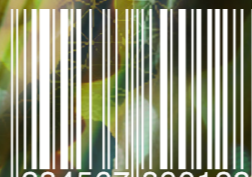
The papers collected in this edited volume speak to bio-design, speculative biology, green walls and pavers, design by decay, sentient materials, photogrammetrees, robotics, nanotechnology, alliesthesia, weaving, chemical droplets, and even Frankenstein. More broadly, ideas and questions that animate the two dozen articles collected in B/M/T/S are grounded in the production and representation of emergent ecologies, non-human agency, machine learning, and responsive computation. This book cultivates an interdisciplinary framework for guiding the much-needed synthesis of design with biology, material studies, and emerging digital technologies.

BIO / MATTER / TECHNO / SYNTHETICS

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Publishing Press Name
www.publishername.com