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Mobilizing Metaphor: Art, Culture, and Disability Activism in Canada (Disability Culture and Politics)

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From UBC Press : Mobilizing Metaphor: Art, Culture, and Disability Activism in Canada (Disability Culture and Politics) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mobilizing Metaphor: Art, Culture, and Disability Activism in Canada (Disability Culture and Politics):

Mobilizing Metaphor illustrates how radical and unconventional forms of activism, including art, are reshaping the rich and vibrant tradition of disability mobilization in Canada. The artists, activists, and scholars in Mobilizing Metaphor reveal how their work is distinctive as both art and social action, and how disability activism is as varied as the population it represents. Sketching the shifting contours of Canadian disability politics, the authors challenge perceptions of disability and the politics that surround it, leading us to re-examine how we define oppression and how we enact change.

Mobilizing Metaphor illustrates how artistic and radical efforts are reshaping disability activism in Canada and, in the process, challenging dominant perceptions of disability. Recent changes to Canadian disability policy have seen disability programs hampered by funding cuts and other austerity measures. But this oppression has also given new life to an already vibrant Canadian tradition of disability activism. Until now, research has focused on the legal and policy spheres and overlooked disability activism that expresses itself alongside and outside conventional policy reform, often through a variety of art forms. Here, contributions by disability artists, activists, and academics show how disability art is distinctive as both art and social action. Richly illustrated with photographs and other images, and including an insightful concluding chapter by renowned disability scholar Tanya Titchkosky, this array of artistic, cultural, and radical approaches to disability politics demonstrates that disability activism is as varied as the populations it represents. As the contributors sketch the shifting contours of disability politics in Canada and show how disability oppression is not isolated from other prejudices, they challenge us to re-examine how we enact social and political change. "Mobilizing Metaphor is the essential disabled handbook for living with, through, against, across, and alongside metaphor. Canadian spaces, in this collection, open onto a world of possibility a necessarily and desirably disabled world where metaphors take surprising and unexpected new forms. For anyone thinking about the cultural work generated by the vibrant languages of disability art and activism, Mobilizing Metaphor is required reading." Robert McRuer, author of *Crip Theory: Cultural Signs of Queerness and Disability* and coeditor of *Sex and Disability* "I can't imagine a collection doing a better job of representing the liveliness, complexity, and spread of disability art, culture, and activism in Canada." Jay Timothy Dolmage, author of *Disability Rhetoric* "This book will change how people think about art, about disability, and about Canadian social movements." Sally Chivers, author of *The Silvering Screen: Old Age and Disability in Cinema* "Mobilizing Metaphor is a testament to the thriving of critical disability studies in Canada, and to arts-based activism's coalitional potential to move toward more just futures. The collection brings together multiple perspectives on what contemporary radical acts of knowledge creation and creative protest can do in the world." Petra Kuppers, author of *Disability Culture and Community Performance and Studying Disability Arts and Culture* "A comprehensive look at disability activism and art in Canada and beyond . . . showing the interconnected nature of creativity and politics." Lennard J. Davis, author of *The End of Normal: Identity in a Biocultural Era* About the Author Christine Kelly is an assistant professor in the Department of Community Health Sciences at the University of Manitoba. Michael Orsini is the director of the Institute of Feminist and Gender Studies and a full professor in the School of Political Studies at the University of Ottawa. Contributors: Paula Bath, Drew Danielle Belsky, Eliza Chandler, Nadine Changfoot, Kathryn Church, Diane Driedger, Lindsay Eales, Catherine Frazee, Gabriel Blouin Genest, Melissa Graham, nancy viva davis halifax, Kevin Jackson, Vro Leduc, Alex McClelland, Pamela Moss, Kristin Nelson, Melanie Panitch, Jeffrey Preston, Carla Rice, Jen Rinaldi, jes sachse, Tanya Titchkosky, and Jessica Whitbread