

"Russell Winslow's philosophical study of the discourse of modern and contemporary biology is lucid, measured, precise, and refreshing. Along with incisive discussions of figures ranging from Heidegger and Canguilhem to Foucault and Simondon, he introduces a hermeneutic frame derived from Gadamer that effectively delineates and distinguishes among a series of ontological prejudices that 'subtend' evolutionary and ecological ideas from Darwin to the present moment. *Organism and Environment* provides persuasive arguments for the significant contributions of ecological trends in recent biology to ongoing debates over the cultural meanings of posthumanism."

—Bruce Clarke, Texas Tech University

"The question of 'Life' has never been more pressing than in the current context of climate change, species loss, and what is now called the Anthropocene, all of which force upon us the need to rethink questions of community and ethical responsibility beyond the purview of *homo sapiens*. Referencing new work on the microbiome, developmental systems theory, and epigenetics (just to name a few), *Organism and Environment: Inheritance and Subjectivity in the Life Sciences* is an immensely readable and broadly informed contribution to thinking about these questions anew by moving beyond the neo-Darwinian reductionist paradigm. A welcome—and overdue—contribution to the growing literature on 'posthumanism.'"

—Cary Wolfe, Rice University

Organism and Environment examines the way the contemporary life sciences are heralding a revolution of the most basic philosophical concepts of the Western world. Analyzing recent research in microbiology and evolution theory, Russell Winslow argues that these discourses are adding their voices to a growing chorus that is announcing a disruption, if not an end, to the understanding of the order of the world articulated in humanism. What does it mean to be a living substance? Are there such things as living individuals? How are living beings free? The discourses of microbiology, the medical sciences, and evolution theory are revealing a living organism that escapes the limited frame that Enlightenment humanism has traditionally used to answer these (and other) ontological questions. Appealing to the theoretical lenses provided by Michel Foucault, Hans Georg Gadamer, and Gilles Deleuze, *Organism and Environment* offers an interpretation of the way the contemporary life sciences are giving articulation to a posthuman ontological order.

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