# Contents

List of illustrations viii  
Notes on contributors x  
Foreword xiii  
Acknowledgements xvi  

Introduction 1  
GRAHAM ST JOHN  

## PART I  
Techno culture spirituality 17  

1 The difference engine: liberation and the rave imaginary 19  
GRAHAM ST JOHN  

2 Ephemeral spirit: sacrificial cyborg and communal soul 46  
HILLEGONDA C. RIETVELD  

## PART II  
Dance, rapture and communion 63  

3 Rapturous ruptures: the ‘instituant’ religious experience of rave 65  
FRANÇOIS GAUTHIER  

4 ‘Connectedness’ and the rave experience: rave as new religious movement? 85  
TIM OLAVESON
5 The flesh of raving: Merleau-Ponty and the ‘experience’ of ecstasy 107
   James Landau

6 Entheogenic dance ecstasis: cross-cultural contexts 125
   Des Tramacchi

7 The ‘natural high’: altered states, flashbacks and neural tuning at raves 145
   Melanie Takahashi

PART III
Music: the techniques of sound and ecstacy 165

8 Selecting ritual: DJs, dancers and liminality in underground dance music 167
   Morgan Gerard

9 Sounds of the London Underground: gospel music and Baptist worship in the UK garage scene 185
   Ciaran O’Hagan

10 Gamelan, techno-primitivism, and the San Francisco rave scene 197
    Gina Andrea Fatone

PART IV
Global tribes: the technomadic counterculture 211

11 Techno millennium: dance, ecology and future primitives 213
    Graham St John

12 Global nomads: techno and New Age as transnational countercultures in Ibiza and Goa 236
    Anthony D’Andrea