Contents

Notes on contributors viii
Acknowledgements xii

Introduction 1
JOY HENDRY AND C. W. WATSON

PART I

Intercultural communication and the anthropologist 17

1 Communicational distortion and the constitution of society: indirection as a form of life 19
NIGEL RAPPORT

2 On the ontological status of honour 34
ROGER JUST

3 Not talking about sex in India: indirection and the communication of bodily intention 51
HELEN LAMBERT

4 Talk, silence and the material world: patterns of indirect communication among agricultural families in northern England 68
PIA CHRISTENSEN, JENNY HOCKEY AND ALLISON JAMES
PART II
Indirection beyond language

5 Eating your words: communicating with food in the Ecuadorian Andes
NICOLE BOURQUE

6 Sunglasses, suitcases and other symbols: intentionality, creativity and indirect communication in festive and everyday performances
SARAH PINK

7 Trust, privacy, deceit and the quality of interpersonal relationships: ‘peasant’ society revisited
.URSULA SHARMA

8 The temple and the theme park: intention and indirection in religious tourist art
TERRY D. WEBB

PART III
Bodily possibilities

9 Dance, dissimulation and identity in Indonesia
FELICIA HUGHES-FREELAND

10 Don’t talk – blend: ideas about body and communication in aikido practise
TAMARA KOHN

PART IV
Intricacies of language explained

11 Licence revoked: when calypso goes too far
JONATHAN SKINNER
12 Indirect speech: heteroglossia, politeness and rudeness in Irula forest festivals
NEIL THIN

13 Straight talk, hidden talk and modernity: shifts in discourse strategy in Highland New Guinea
LISETTE JOSEPHIDES

14 Unwrapping rudeness: inverted etiquette in an egalitarian enclave
PETER PARKES

PART V
English – with diplomacy

15 Ambiguity and verbal disguise within diplomatic culture
ANNABEL BLACK

16 Delay and deception in Thai–British diplomatic encounters of the early nineteenth century
ANDREW TURTON

17 Diplomacy and indirection, constraint and authority
JAMES G. CARRIER

Index