

**'Elizabeth Guffey's search for the origins of the International Symbol of Access takes her on an unexpected path, discovering not only the history of the modern wheelchair but a new perspective on disability at the intersection of design, the body, and space ... and most readers will delight in following her quest.'**

**John Radford**, Emeritus Professor of Critical Disability Studies at York University, Canada

**'Erudite, accessible, and with an impressive breadth of reference, this engaging and highly readable book offers fresh historical and cultural perspectives on the fit/misfit binary. Focusing on how design both creates and responds to different notions of disability, it gives an at times fascinating alternative history of activism and identity through the study of the ISA – the International Symbol of Access.'**

**Kaite O'Reilly**, winner of the Ted Hughes Award 2011

**'Informed and erudite, *Designing Disability* shows how the analysis of a single symbol can act as a gateway to discussions of disability theory and history. Elizabeth Guffey's critical insight augments and develops our understandings of disability experiences and subjectivities.'**

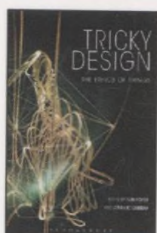
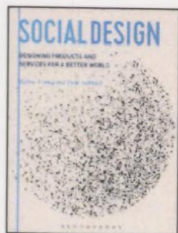
**Stuart Murray**, Director of the Centre for Medical Humanities, University of Leeds, UK

Elizabeth Guffey's original and wide-ranging study of impairment, mobility, and access traces the evolution of the International Symbol of Access (ISA), and provides a design history of the wheelchair, a product which profoundly impacted the lives of many disabled people from the 1930s onwards. Guffey examines the rise of 'barrier-free architecture', and explores how the ISA became widely adopted and a mark of identity for some, especially within the Disability Rights Movement. Addressing debates that have unfurled around the symbol, expressed in guerrilla art, graffiti, and studio practice, Guffey considers new challenges to the relationship between design and disability.

ELIZABETH GUFFEY is Professor of Art and Design History and directs the MA in Modern and Contemporary Art, Criticism, and Theory at the State University of New York, Purchase, USA. She was a founding editor of the journal *Design and Culture*, and is the author of books including *Retro: The Culture of Revival* (2013) and *Posters: A Global History* (2015).

DESIGN

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