



Kerry Drysdale

# Intimate Investments in Drag King Cultures

The Rise and Fall of a Lesbian Social Scene

- Aims to counter the invisibility that often characterises social sites in the post-liberation rhetoric of LGBTQ histories
- Combines theoretical breadth and depth with detailed ethnographic observation
- Offers access to the insights of those who shaped how Sydney's drag king scene came to be

This book takes the globally recognised phenomenon of drag king performances as an opportunity for critical inquiry into the rise and fall of an urban scene for lesbian and queer women in Sydney, Australia (circa 1999-2012). Exploring how a series of weekly events provided the site for intimate encounters, Drysdale reveals the investments made by participants that worked to sustain the sense of a small world and anchor the expansive imaginary of lesbian cultural life. But what happens when scenes fade, as they invariably do? *Intimate Investments in Drag King Cultures* is unique in capturing the perspective of a scene at the moment of its decline, revealing the process by which a contemporary movement becomes layered with historical significance. Bringing together the theoretical tradition of scene studies with recent work on the affective potentialities of the everyday and the mobile urban spaces they inhabit, this book has appeal to scholars working across gender, sexuality and culture.

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