On the 100th anniversary of the first attempt to climb Mt Everest, Margret Grebowicz shows how and why climbing and mountaineering are still important today.

Covering everything from the degradation of Everest, the banning of climbing on Australia's Uluru, UNESCO's decision to name alpinism an Intangible Cultural Heritage, and the untimely and sudden death of Ueli Steck, *Mountains and Desire* chases after what remains of this pursuit – marred by its colonial history, coopted by nationalistic chauvinism and the capitalist compulsion to unlimited growth – and what it means in the twenty-first century.

**Margret Grebowicz** explores the cultural aspects of environmental problems and solutions in her writing and public speaking. She is the author of multiple books and is a philosophy professor at the University of Houston-Downtown, Goucher College in Baltimore, and the University of Tyumen, Russia.