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Sommario/riassunto

This volume represents a collection of studies in cultural history and theory of science from the early modern era to the present. The essays are linked by the conviction that one of the most significant developments in recent scientific historiography consists in its insistence that the relations between science, culture and history be understood and examined reciprocally. Not only does scientific practice take place under conditions shaped by social and cultural forces; it also generates and necessitates its own specific patterns of cultural, social and political activity. Sciences which have evolved into significant social systems produce their own cultures and politics. Through discussion of the common origin of scientific knowledge and the cultures and politics of research, this volume hopes to make a contribution toward a better understanding of the roles of scientific research from its inception in the 17th century up to the dramatic upheavals in the 20th century. With articles by Lorraine Daston, Sven Dierig, Moritz Epple, Evelyn Fox Keller, Mary Jo Nye , Dominique Pestre, Hans-Jörg Rheinberger, Simon Schaffer, Friedrich Steinle, Catherine Wilson, Norton M. Wise and Claus Zittel. Der Band in englischer Sprache versammelt Studien zur Kulturgeschichte und Theorie der Wissenschaften von der Frühen Neuzeit bis zur Gegenwart. Vereinigt sind die Beiträge durch die Überzeugung, dass eine der folgenreichsten Interventionen der jüngeren Wissenschaftsgeschichte darin liegt, dass die Beziehungen zwischen Wissenschaft, Kultur und Gesellschaft auf reziproke Weise verstanden und untersucht werden müssen. Wissenschaftliche Praxis findet nicht nur stets unter sozial und kulturell geprägten Bedingungen statt, sie erzeugt und erfordert auch eigene, spezifische Muster kulturellen, sozialen und politischen Handelns. Die Wissenschaften, die zu sozialen Systemen bedeutender Größe angewachsen sind, schaffen ihre eigenen Kulturen und Politiken. Durch die Diskussion der gemeinsamen Entstehung wissenschaftlichen Wissens und der Kulturen und Politiken der Forschung leistet der Band einen Beitrag zu einem besseren Verständnis der Rollen wissenschaftlicher Forschung von ihrer Formierung im 17. Jahrhundert bis zu den dramatischen Umbrüchen des 20. Jahrhunderts. Mit Beiträgen von Lorraine Daston, Sven Dierig, Moritz Epple, Evelyn Fox Keller, Mary Jo Nye , Dominique Pestre, Hans-Jörg Rheinberger, Simon Schaffer, Friedrich Steinle, Catherine Wilson, Norton M. Wise und Claus Zittel.
