

# Contents

Acknowledgments xi

## Part 1. Overview

**Chapter 1.** Nodes of Convergence, Material Complexes, and  
Entangled Itineraries 5

**Pamela H. Smith**

**Chapter 2.** Trans-Eurasian Routes of Exchange: A Brief  
Historical Overview 25

**Tansen Sen and Pamela H. Smith**

## Part 2. Entangled Itineraries: Modes of Approach

**Chapter 3.** The Silk Roads as a Model for Exploring Eurasian  
Transmissions of Medical Knowledge: Views from the  
Tibetan Medical Manuscripts of Dunhuang 47

**Ronit Yoeli-Tlalim**

**Chapter 4.** Things (*Wu*) and Their Transformations (*Zaowu*) in  
the Late Ming Dynasty: Song Yingxing's and Huang Cheng's  
Approaches to Mobilizing Craft Knowledge 63

**Dagmar Schäfer**

**Chapter 5.** Curative Commodities between Europe and  
Southeast Asia, 1500–1700 79

**Tara Alberts**

**Chapter 6.** Translating the Art of Tea: Naturalizing Chinese  
Savoir Faire in British Assam 99

**Francesca Bray**

### **Part 3. Material Complexes in Motion**

**Chapter 7.** The Itinerary of Hing/*Awei*/Asafetida across Eurasia,  
400–1800 141

**Angela Ki Che Leung and Ming Chen**

**Chapter 8.** Smoke and Silkworms: Itineraries of Material  
Complexes across Eurasia 165

**Pamela H. Smith, Joslyn DeVinney, Sasha Graft,  
and Xiaomeng Liu**

**Chapter 9.** Itineraries of Images: Agents of Integration in the  
Buddhist Cosmopolis 182

**Tansen Sen**

**Chapter 10.** Itineraries of Inkstones in Early Modern  
China 202

**Dorothy Ko**

## **Part 4. Convergences and the Emergence of New Objects of Knowledge**

**Chapter 11.** Convergences in and around Bursa: Sufism,  
Alchemy, Iatrochemistry in Turkey, 1500–1750 227

**Feza Günergün**

**Chapter 12.** A Wooden Skeleton Emerges in the Knowledge Hub  
of Edo Japan 258

**Chang Che-chia**

Notes 283

Bibliography 327

Contributors 379

Index 383