



Universiteit  
Leiden  
The Netherlands

## **New edge : technology and spirituality in the San Francisco Bay Area**

Zandbergen, A.D.

### **Citation**

Zandbergen, A. D. (2011, May 25). *New edge : technology and spirituality in the San Francisco Bay Area*. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/17671>

Version: Not Applicable (or Unknown)

License: [Licence agreement concerning inclusion of doctoral thesis in the Institutional Repository of the University of Leiden](#)

Downloaded from: <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/17671>

**Note:** To cite this publication please use the final published version (if applicable).

# NEW EDGE

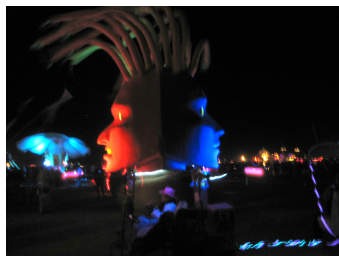
Technology and Spirituality in the San Francisco Bay Area

*New Edge. Technology and Spirituality in the San Francisco Bay Area* is a study of the way that technologists, artists, writers and entrepreneurs in the San Francisco Bay Area negotiate the events that have characterized this region since World War II: the rise of the computer industry and of New Age spirituality. The book argues that some of these negotiations have led to a New Edge culture, consisting of high-tech New Agers seeking to produce ways of being, acting and thinking that transcend the modernist assumption that technoscience and spirituality exclude each other.

As the chapters progress it becomes clear that the assumed tension between technology and spirituality does not explain New Edge life sufficiently. New Edge has grown in relation to several other paradoxes that inform everyday life in one of the most high-technological regions in the world.

Tracing New Edge back to the 1960s counterculture, this dissertation explores how New Edgers negotiate life in a society that calls itself secular but also believes in ultimate truth, that is both in and out of control, that invites passive consumption as well as active engagement, and that celebrates communal living as much as an individualistic 'Do It Yourself' ethic.

Dorien Zandbergen is a teacher and post-doc researcher at the Department of Cultural Anthropology and Development Sociology of the University of Leiden, the Netherlands. She is specialized in the Anthropology of the Information Society.



Dorien Zandbergen

NEW  
EDGE

Dorien Zandbergen

NEW  
EDGE

Technology and Spirituality in the San Francisco Bay Area