

## ***Everything in Everything. Anaxagora's metaphysics,*** **Anna Marmodoro**

Anaxagoras of Clazomenae (V<sup>th</sup> century BCE) is best known in the history of philosophy for his stance that there is a share of everything in everything. Marmodoro's book focuses on this claim of Anaxagoras' and put forward a novel interpretation of it. The book argues that Anaxagoras put forward this theory of extreme mixture as a solution to the problem of change that he and his contemporaries inherited from Parmenides, that what is cannot come from what is not (and vice versa). For Anaxagoras the fundamental elements of reality are the opposites (hot, cold, wet, dry, etc.), which are instances of physical causal powers. Everything there is in the universe (except *nous*) derives from the composition of the opposites into (phenomenologically emergent) wholes. Every types of whole contains in different proportions every type of opposite. The opposites' extreme mixture is made possible by their omni-presence and hence com-presence in the universe. This in turn is facilitated by the fact that the opposite exist as unlimitedly divided; each of their instances approaches zero extension; thus, they can be scattered everywhere and be in everything. By positing that the ultimate constituents of the universe exist as unlimitedly divided, Anaxagoras is the first *ante litteram* 'gunk lover' in the history of metaphysics. He has a unique conception of gunk and a unique power ontology: power gunk.

The book investigates the nature of power gunk and the explanatory utility of the concept for Anaxagoras for his theory of extreme mixture. Whilst most defenders of an atom less universe nowadays argue for material gunk as a conceptual possibility (only), Anaxagoras argues for power gunk as the ontology of nature. The book also compares Anaxagoras's views with the only other philosophical system in antiquity to be based on gunk: the Stoics.