

Merleau Ponty And The Paradoxes Of Expression

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can god create a stone too heavy for him to lift can time have a beginning which came
first the chicken or the egg riddles paradoxes conundrums for millennia the human
mind has found such knotty logical problems both perplexing and irresistible now roy
sorensen offers the first narrative history of paradoxes a fascinating and eye opening
account that extends from the ancient greeks through the middle ages the
enlightenment and into the twentieth century when augustine asked what god was
doing before he made the world he was told preparing hell for people who ask
questions like that a brief history of the paradox takes a close look at questions like

that and the philosophers who have asked them beginning with the folk riddles that inspired anaximander to erect the first metaphysical system and ending with such thinkers as lewis carroll ludwig wittgenstein and w v quine organized chronologically the book is divided into twenty four chapters each of which pairs a philosopher with a major paradox allowing for extended consideration and putting a human face on the strategies that have been taken toward these puzzles readers get to follow the minds of zeno socrates aquinas ockham pascal kant hegel and many other major philosophers deep inside the tangles of paradox looking for and sometimes finding a way out filled with illuminating anecdotes and vividly written a brief history of the paradox will appeal to anyone who finds trying to answer unanswerable questions a paradoxically pleasant endeavor

this book expounds an analytical method that focuses on paradoxes a method originally associated with deconstructive philosophy but bearing little resemblance to the interpretive techniques that have come to be designated as deconstruction in literary studies the book then applies its paradox focused method as it undertakes a sustained investigation of thomas hobbe s political philosophy hobbes s theory of the advent and purpose of government turns out to reveal the impossibility of the very developments which it portrays as indispensable

paradoxes are arguments that lead from apparently true premises via apparently uncontroversial reasoning to a false or even contradictory conclusion paradoxes threaten our basic understanding of central concepts such as space time motion infinity truth knowledge and belief in this volume roy t cook provides a sophisticated yet accessible and entertaining introduction to the study of paradoxes one that includes a detailed examination of a wide variety of paradoxes the book is organized around four important types of paradox the semantic paradoxes involving truth the set theoretic paradoxes involving arbitrary collections of objects the soritical paradoxes involving vague concepts and the epistemic paradoxes involving knowledge and belief in each of these cases cook frames the discussion in terms of four different approaches one might take towards solving such paradoxes each chapter concludes with a number of exercises that illustrate the philosophical arguments and logical concepts involved in the paradoxes paradoxes is the ideal introduction to the topic and will be a valuable resource for scholars and students in a wide variety of disciplines who wish to understand the important role that paradoxes have played and continue to play in contemporary philosophy

the ancient semantic paradoxes were thought to undermine the rationalist metaphysics of plato and their modern relatives have been used by russell and others to administer some severe logical and epistemological shocks these are not just tricks or puzzles but are intimately connected with some of the liveliest and most basic philosophical disputes about logical form universals reference and predication dr cargile offers here an original and sustained treatment of this range of issues and in fact presents an

unfashionable defence of a platonistic ontology he argues that the paradoxes arise not from mistakes in classical assumptions about truth or from an ontology that includes propositions and properties but from mistakes in describing what propositions and properties are conveyed by particular linguistic expressions the book should interest and may well surprise philosophers and others concerned with semantics and the foundations of logic

covers the entire history of philosophy from the greeks through the middle ages the enlightenment and the twentieth century showing how individual philosophers have each grappled with a particular paradox

exploring shakespeare s intellectual interest in placing both characters and audiences in a state of uncertainty mystery and doubt this book interrogates the use of paradox in shakespeare s plays and in performance by adopting this discourse one in which opposites can co exist and perspectives can be altered and one that asks accepted opinions beliefs and truths to be reconsidered shakespeare used paradox to question love gender knowledge and truth from multiple perspectives committed to situating literature within the larger culture peter platt begins by examining the renaissance culture of paradox in both the classical and christian traditions he then looks at selected plays in terms of paradox including the geographical site of venice in othello and the merchant of venice and equity law in the comedy of errors merchant and measure for measure platt also considers the paradoxes of theater and live performance that were central to shakespearean drama such as the duality of the player the boy actor and gender and the play audience relationship in the henriad hamlet as you like it twelfth night antony and cleopatra the winter s tale and the tempest in showing that shakespeare s plays create and are created by a culture of paradox platt offers an exciting and innovative investigation of shakespeare s cognitive and affective power over his audience

since antiquity opposed concepts such as the one and the many the finite and the infinite and the absolute and the relative have been a driving force in philosophical scientific and mathematical thought yet they have also given rise to perplexing problems and conceptual paradoxes which continue to haunt scientists and philosophers in oppositions and paradoxes john l bell explains and investigates the paradoxes and puzzles that arise out of conceptual oppositions in physics and mathematics in the process bell not only motivates abstract conceptual thinking about the paradoxes at issue but he also offers a compelling introduction to central ideas in such otherwise difficult topics as non euclidean geometry relativity and quantum physics these paradoxes are often as fun as they are flabbergasting consider for example the famous tristram shandy paradox an immortal man composing an autobiography so slowly as to require a year of writing to describe each day of his life he would if he had infinite time presumably never complete the work although no individual part of it would remain unwritten or think of an office mailbox labelled mail for

those with no mailbox if this is a person's mailbox how can they possibly have no mailbox these and many other paradoxes straddle the boundary between physics and metaphysics and demonstrate the hidden difficulty in many of our most basic concepts

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presenting ten diverse and original moral paradoxes this cutting edge work of philosophical ethics makes a focused concrete case for the centrality of paradoxes within morality explores what these paradoxes can teach us about morality and the human condition considers a broad range of subjects from familiar topics to rarely posed questions among them fortunate misfortune beneficial retirement and preferring not to have been born asks whether the existence of moral paradox is a good or a bad thing presents analytic moral philosophy in a provocative engaging and entertaining way posing new questions proposing possible solutions and challenging the reader to wrestle with the paradoxes themselves

dictionary of paradox is a fascinating reference work for scholars students and the general public it describes those paradoxes that are either especially interesting today or that have a continuing interest from the historical point of view each main entry consists of four parts a statement of the paradox an explanation of its paradoxicality a discussion of attempted or accepted resolutions and a list of readings in addition there are other entries explaining terms relating to paradoxes listing alternative names for the main entries or discussing variants of the entries all information is extensively cross referenced

saving truth from paradox is an ambitious investigation into paradoxes of truth and related issues with occasional forays into notions such as vagueness the nature of validity and the gödel incompleteness theorems hartry field presents a new approach to the paradoxes and provides a systematic and detailed account of the main competing approaches part one examines tarski's kripke's and lukasiewicz's theories of truth and discusses validity and soundness and vagueness part two considers a wide range of attempts to resolve the paradoxes within classical logic in part three field turns to non classical theories of truth that restrict excluded middle he shows that there are theories of this sort in which the conditionals obey many of the classical laws and that all the semantic paradoxes not just the simplest ones can be handled consistently with the naive theory of truth in part four these theories are extended to the property theoretic paradoxes and to various other paradoxes and some issues about the

understanding of the notion of validity are addressed extended paradoxes involving the notion of determinate truth are treated very thoroughly and a number of different arguments that the theories lead to revenge problems are addressed finally part five deals with dialethic approaches to the paradoxes approaches which instead of restricting excluded middle accept certain contradictions but alter classical logic so as to keep them confined to a relatively remote part of the language advocates of dialethic theories have argued them to be better than theories that restrict excluded middle for instance over issues related to the incompleteness theorems and in avoiding revenge problems field argues that dialetheists claims on behalf of their theories are quite unfounded and indeed that on some of these issues all current versions of dialetheism do substantially worse than the best theories that restrict excluded middle

in assessing what the paradoxes meant to plato o brien uses certain broad principles of inquiry first he insists any platonic doctrine must be placed in the context of plato s whole philosophy a truism not always honored second the conversations of the dialogue form do not merely embellish plato s philosophical statements but radically affect their expression originally published in 1967 a unc press enduring edition unc press enduring editions use the latest in digital technology to make available again books from our distinguished backlist that were previously out of print these editions are published unaltered from the original and are presented in affordable paperback formats bringing readers both historical and cultural value

merleau ponty and the paradoxes of expression offers a comprehensive reading of the philosophical work of maurice merleau ponty a central figure in 20th century continental philosophy by establishing that the paradoxical logic of expression is merleau ponty s fundamental philosophical gesture this book ties together his diverse work on perception language aesthetics politics and history in order to establish the ontological position he was developing at the time of his sudden death in 1961 donald a landes explores the paradoxical logic of expression as it appears in both merleau ponty s explicit reflections on expression and his non explicit uses of this logic in his philosophical reflection on other topics and thus establishes a continuity and a trajectory of his thought that allows for his work to be placed into conversation with contemporary developments in continental philosophy the book offers the reader a key to understanding merleau ponty s subtle methodology and highlights the urgency and relevance of his research into the ontological significance of expression for today s work in art and cultural theory

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