“What’s not to like? Philosopher Steven Nadler and illustrator Ben Nadler have crafted an absolute gem of a science history, capturing with gravitas and zing the abstruse musings of René Descartes on mind–body dualism, John Locke on empiricist epistemology, and more.”
—Barbara Kiser, Nature

“In the Nadlers’ capable hands, seminal philosophy and the graphic novel combine in serious fun for the learned and laypeople alike.”
—Library Journal, starred review

Heretics!

This entertaining and enlightening graphic narrative tells the exciting story of the seventeenth-century thinkers who challenged authority—sometimes risking excommunication, prison, and even death—to lay the foundations of modern philosophy and science and help usher in a new world. With masterful storytelling and color illustrations, Heretics! offers a unique introduction to the birth of modern thought in comics form—smart, charming, and often funny.

These contentious and controversial philosophers—from Galileo and Descartes to Spinoza, Locke, Leibniz, and Newton—fundamentally changed the way we look at the world, society, and ourselves, overturning everything from the idea that the Earth is the center of the cosmos to the notion that kings have a divine right to rule. More devoted to reason than to faith, these thinkers defended scandalous new views of nature, religion, politics, knowledge, and the human mind.

A brilliant account of one of the most brilliant periods in philosophy, Heretics! is the story of how a group of brave thinkers used reason and evidence to triumph over the authority of religion, royalty, and antiquity.

STEVEN NADLER is the William H. Hay II Professor of Philosophy and Evjue-Bascom Professor in the Humanities at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. His books include Spinoza: A Life, which won the Koret Jewish Book Award, and Rembrandt’s Jews, which was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize. He lives in Madison. BEN NADLER is a graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design and an illustrator. He lives in Chicago. Follow him on Instagram at @bennadlercomics.

2017. 184 pages. 173 color illus. 7 x 10. Pa: 978-0-691-16869-2 $22.95 | £18.95
“In this engaging and accessible book, Kieran Setiya explores questions about what we live for, what it makes sense to regret in the one life we each have, and how to think about the end of it all, and he does so in writing that is at once literary, intimate, and philosophically rigorous.”
—Richard Moran, Harvard University

**Midlife**

How can you reconcile yourself with the lives you will never lead, with possibilities foreclosed, and with nostalgia for lost youth? How can you accept the failings of the past, the sense of futility in the tasks that consume the present, and the prospect of death that blights the future? In this self-help book with a difference, Kieran Setiya confronts the inevitable challenges of adulthood and middle age, showing how philosophy can help you thrive.

**KIERAN SETIYA** is professor of philosophy at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He is the author of *Reasons without Rationalism* (Princeton).

“Elizabeth Anderson is a philosopher on the warpath. Her Tanner Lectures . . . take aim at the unelected, arbitrary and dictatorial power that employers . . . hold over their work-forces.”
—Philip Roscoe, *Times Higher Education*

**Private Government**

One in four American workers says their workplace is a “dictatorship.” Yet that number probably would be even higher if we recognized most employers for what they are—private governments with sweeping authoritarian power over our lives, on duty and off. We normally think of government as something only the state does, yet many of us are governed far more—and far more obtrusively—by the private government of the workplace. In this provocative and compelling book, Elizabeth Anderson argues that the failure to see this stems from long-standing confusions.

**ELIZABETH ANDERSON** is Arthur F. Thurnau Professor and John Dewey Distinguished University Professor of Philosophy and Women's Studies at the University of Michigan.
“An accessible introduction to the work of a philosopher who would not regard being described as ‘accessible’ as an insult…. Despite their brevity, the essays do not shirk the big moral questions.”
—The Economist

“Singer’s work provides a model for how to transition from the ivory tower to the domain of public philosophy.”—Choice

Ethics in the Real World

Peter Singer is often described as the world’s most influential philosopher. His work has helped to launch the animal rights and effective altruism movements and contributed to the development of bioethics. Now, in Ethics in the Real World, Singer shows that he is also a master at dissecting important current events in a few hundred words.

PETER SINGER is the Ira W. DeCamp Professor of Bioethics in the University Center for Human Values at Princeton University and Laureate Professor at the University of Melbourne.

“Brennan presents a variety of strategies by which the quality of the electorate could be improved, while still keeping it large, and demographically representative…. [A] powerful challenge to the conventional wisdom about democracy.”
—Ilya Somin, Washington Post

“Compelling…. This is theory that skips, rather than plods.”—Los Angeles Times

Against Democracy

Most people believe democracy is a uniquely just form of government. They believe people have the right to an equal share of political power and that political participation benefits us. But Jason Brennan says they are all wrong. In this trenchant book, Brennan argues that democracy should be judged by its results—and all too often, it falls short.

JASON BRENNAN is the Flanagan Family Chair of Strategy, Economics, Ethics and Public Policy at the McDonough School of Business at Georgetown University. He is the author of The Ethics of Voting (Princeton), and Why Not Capitalism?
“Do humans have purposes and values? Michael Ruse, after ‘a lifetime’s quest for understanding,’ concludes ‘yes.’ In this book, he journeys from Plato and Aristotle, through St. Augustine and Kant, to Darwin. The exploration is scholarly and profound, as well as eminently readable. There is much to learn from On Purpose and much to relish while reading it.”
—Francisco J. Ayala, University of California, Irvine

On Purpose

Can we live without the idea of purpose? Should we even try to? Kant thought we were stuck with purpose, and even Darwin’s theory of natural selection, which profoundly shook the idea, was unable to kill it. In On Purpose, Michael Ruse explores the history of the idea of purpose in philosophical, religious, scientific, and historical thought, from ancient Greece to the present.

MICHAEL RUSE is the Lucyle T. Werkmeister Professor of Philosophy and Director of the Program in the History and Philosophy of Science at Florida State University.

“Clear, engaging and enlightening.”
—Stephen Gaukroger, Times Literary Supplement

“Justin Smith’s graceful and lucidly argued history of philosophy asks us to rethink our assumptions about both history and philosophy.”
—Marco Roth, editor and cofounder of n+1 magazine

The Philosopher

What would the global history of philosophy look like if it were told not as a story of ideas but as a series of job descriptions—ones that might have been used to fill the position of philosopher at different times and places over the past 2,500 years? The Philosopher does just that, providing a new way of looking at the history of philosophy by bringing to life six kinds of figures who have occupied the role of philosopher in a wide range of societies around the world over the millennia.

JUSTIN E. H. SMITH is university professor of the history and philosophy of science at the Université Paris Diderot—Paris VII.
“Rasmussen brings out the full significance of the warm lifelong friendship and intellectual dialogue between David Hume and Adam Smith.”
—Leo Damrosch, author of Jean-Jacques Rousseau: Restless Genius

The Infidel and the Professor

David Hume is widely regarded as the most important philosopher ever to write in English, but during his lifetime he was attacked as “the Great Infidel” for his skeptical religious views and deemed unfit to teach the young. In contrast, Adam Smith was a revered professor of moral philosophy, and is now often hailed as the founding father of capitalism. The Infidel and the Professor is the first book to tell the fascinating story of the friendship of these towering Enlightenment thinkers—and how it influenced their world-changing ideas.

DENNIS C. RASMUSSEN is associate professor of political science at Tufts University. His books include The Pragmatic Enlightenment. He lives in Charlestown, Massachusetts.

“Imaginative and refreshingly enjoyable.”
—David Harvey, Jacobin

“Marx’s Inferno is the best book of political theory I’ve read that has been written in the last five years.”
—Corey Robin, Brooklyn College and CUNY Graduate Center

Marx’s Inferno

Marx’s Inferno reconstructs the major arguments of Karl Marx’s Capital and inaugurates a completely new reading of a seminal classic. Rather than offering a critique of classical political economy, William Roberts argues that Capital was primarily a careful engagement with the motives and aims of the workers’ movement. Understood in this light, Capital emerges as a profound work of political theory. Placing Marx against the background of nineteenth-century socialism, Roberts shows how Capital was ingeniously modeled on Dante’s Inferno, and how Marx revised republican ideas of freedom in response to the rise of capitalism.

WILLIAM CLARE ROBERTS is assistant professor of political science at McGill University.
“As Bart Schultz argues in this adroit study, the ethical theories of these men, forged in a politically chaotic era, remain relevant in our own. Schultz journeys beyond the caricatures to reveal their deep influence on education, law, and, in Bentham’s case, surprisingly modern thinking about homosexuality.”

—Barbara Kiser, *Nature*

**The Happiness Philosophers**

In *The Happiness Philosophers*, Bart Schultz tells the colorful story of the lives and legacies of the founders of utilitarianism—one of the most influential yet misunderstood and maligned philosophies of the past two centuries. By revealing the fascinating human sides of the remarkable pioneers of utilitarianism, *The Happiness Philosophers* provides a richer understanding and appreciation of their philosophical and political perspectives—one that also helps explain why utilitarianism is experiencing a renaissance today and is again being used to tackle some of the world’s most serious problems.

BART SCHULTZ is senior lecturer in the humanities and director of the Civic Knowledge Project at the University of Chicago.

“In his calm, measured and wise analysis of the virtues and vices of simplicity, Westacott asks why, if almost every sage in history has praised frugal simplicity, we haven’t all embraced it.”

—Julian Baggini, *Financial Times*

**The Wisdom of Frugality**

From Socrates to Thoreau, most philosophers, moralists, and religious leaders have seen frugality as a virtue and have associated simple living with wisdom, integrity, and happiness. But why? And are they right? In this book, Emrys Westacott examines why, for more than two millennia, so many philosophers and people with a reputation for wisdom have been advocating frugality. He explores what simplicity means, why it’s supposed to make us better and happier, and why, despite its benefits, it has always been such a hard sell. The book looks not only at the arguments in favor of living frugally and simply, but also at the case that can be made for luxury and extravagance.

EMRYS WESTACOTT is professor of philosophy at Alfred University in New York.
“On Human Nature is a tour de force of a rare kind. In clear, elegant prose it makes large claims in metaphysics, morals and, by implication, politics.”
—The Economist

On Human Nature

In this short book, acclaimed writer and philosopher Roger Scruton presents an original and radical defense of human uniqueness. Confronting the views of evolutionary psychologists, utilitarian moralists, and philosophical materialists such as Richard Dawkins and Daniel Dennett, Scruton argues that human beings cannot be understood simply as biological objects. We are not only human animals; we are also persons, in essential relation with other persons, and bound to them by obligations and rights. Our world is a shared world, exhibiting freedom, value, and accountability, and to understand it we must address other people face to face and I to I.

ROGER SCRUTON is a writer and philosopher. His many books include The Soul of the World and The Aesthetics of Architecture (both Princeton).

“Living and dying in a world we accept we do not understand may not sound easy, but if Magee is any guide, the reward of doing so is endless and profound wonder.”
—Julian Baggini, Independent

Ultimate Questions

We human beings have a fundamental need to understand who we are and the world we live in. Reason takes us a long way, but mystery remains. In Ultimate Questions, acclaimed philosopher Bryan Magee provocatively argues that we have no way of fathoming our own natures or finding definitive answers to the big questions we all face. The crowning achievement to a distinguished philosophical career, Ultimate Questions is a deeply personal meditation on the meaning of life and the ways we should live and face death.

BRYAN MAGEE has had an unusually multifaceted career as a professor of philosophy, music and theater critic, BBC broadcaster, and member of Parliament. His books, which have been translated into more than twenty languages, include The Story of Philosophy.
“Widdows brings much-needed subtlety to current conversations about the moral and social role of physical appearance in our daily lives.”
—A. W. Eaton, editor of Talk to Her

Perfect Me

The demand to be beautiful is increasingly important in today’s visual and virtual culture. Rightly or wrongly, being perfect has become an ethical ideal to live by, and according to which we judge ourselves good or bad, a success or a failure. Perfect Me explores the changing nature of the beauty ideal, showing how it is more dominant, more demanding, and more global than ever before. If you have ever felt the urge to “make the best of yourself” or worried that you were “letting yourself go,” this book explains why. Perfect Me examines how the beauty ideal has come to define how we see ourselves and others and how we structure our daily practices—and how it enthralls us with promises of the good life that are dubious at best.

HEATHER WIDDOWS is the John Ferguson Professor of Global Ethics in the Department of Philosophy at the University of Birmingham.
“Very few Kant scholars can compete with Yovel’s broad knowledge of the philosopher.”
—Sally S. Sedgwick, University of Illinois at Chicago

### Kant’s Philosophical Revolution

**A Short Guide to the Critique of Pure Reason**

YIRMIYAHU YOVEL

Perhaps the most influential work of modern philosophy, Immanuel Kant’s *Critique of Pure Reason* is also one of the hardest to read, since it brims with complex arguments, difficult ideas, and tortuous sentences. A philosophical revolutionary, Kant had to invent a language to express his new ideas, and he wrote quickly. It’s little wonder that the *Critique* was misunderstood from the start, or that Kant was compelled to revise it in a second edition, or that it still presents great challenges to the reader. In this short, accessible book, eminent philosopher and Kant expert Yirmiyahu Yovel helps readers find their way through the web of Kant’s classic by providing a clear and authoritative summary of the entire work.

**YIRMIYAHU YOVEL** is professor emeritus of philosophy at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and was previously the Hans Jonas Professor of Philosophy at the New School for Social Research.

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"With its ambitious scope, deep coverage, and sophisticated and original analysis, this book offers a great wealth of valuable insights.”
—John Barker, University of Illinois, Springfield

### The Analytic Tradition in Philosophy, Volume 2

This is the second of five volumes of a definitive history of analytic philosophy from the invention of modern logic in 1879 to the end of the twentieth century. Scott Soames, a leading philosopher of language and historian of analytic philosophy, provides the fullest and most detailed account of the analytic tradition yet published. Volume 2 provides an intensive account of the new vision in analytical philosophy initiated by Ludwig Wittgenstein’s *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus*, its assimilation by the Vienna Circle of Moritz Schlick and Rudolf Carnap, and the subsequent flowering of logical empiricism.

**SCOTT SOAMES** is Distinguished Professor of Philosophy at the University of Southern California and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.
“This is without doubt the best advanced epistemology textbook currently available…. Essential reading for students and scholars alike.”
—Duncan Pritchard, University of Edinburgh

Epistemology

In this concise book, one of the world’s leading epistemologists provides a sophisticated, revisionist introduction to the problem of knowledge in Western philosophy. Modern and contemporary accounts of epistemology tend to focus on limited questions of knowledge and skepticism, such as how we can know the external world, other minds, the past through memory, the future through induction, or the world’s depth and structure through inference. This book steps back for a better view of the more general issues posed by the ancient Greek Pyrrhonists. Returning to and illuminating this older, broader epistemological tradition, Ernest Sosa develops an original account of the subject, giving it substance not with Cartesian theology but with science and common sense.

ERNEST SOSA is Board of Governors Professor of Philosophy at Rutgers University.

“This is an excellent introduction to the philosophy of mathematics, with clear and careful coverage of both traditional topics and cutting-edge contemporary debates.”
—Roy T. Cook, University of Minnesota

Philosophy of Mathematics

Mathematics is one of humanity’s most successful yet puzzling endeavors. It is a model of precision and objectivity, but appears distinct from the empirical sciences because it seems to deliver nonexperiential knowledge of a nonphysical reality of numbers, sets, and functions. How can these two aspects of mathematics be reconciled? This concise book provides a systematic yet accessible introduction to the field that is trying to answer that question: the philosophy of mathematics. Sophisticated but clear and approachable, this is an essential introduction for all students and teachers of philosophy.

ØYSTEIN LINNEBO is professor of philosophy at the University of Oslo, and previously held positions in Bristol, London, and Oxford.
“What a delight! *Totally Random* explores some of the strangest features of quantum theory—and introduces some of the most important new devices that exploit quantum weirdness—in a way that is accessible, smart, and funny. An entanglement page-turner!”
—David Kaiser, author of *How the Hippies Saved Physics*

**Totally Random**

*Totally Random* is a comic for the serious reader who wants to really understand the central mystery of quantum mechanics—entanglement: what it is, what it means, and what you can do with it.

Measure two entangled particles separately, and the outcomes are totally random. But compare the outcomes, and the particles seem as if they are instantaneously influencing each other at a distance—even if they are light-years apart. This, in a nutshell, is entanglement, and if it seems weird, then this book is for you. *Totally Random* is a graphic experiential narrative that unpacks the deep and insidious significance of the curious correlation between entangled particles to deliver a gut-feel glimpse of a world that is not what it seems. See for yourself how entanglement has led some of the greatest thinkers of our time to talk about crazy-sounding stuff like faster-than-light signaling, many worlds, and cats that are both dead and alive. Find out why it remains one of science’s most paradigm-shaking discoveries. Use your new understanding of entanglement to do the seemingly impossible, like beat the odds in the quantum casino, or quantum encrypt a message to evade the Sphinx’s all-seeing eye. But look out, or you might just get teleported back to the beginning of the book!

A fresh and subversive look at our quantum world with some seriously funny stuff, *Totally Random* delivers a real understanding of entanglement that will completely change the way you think about the nature of physical reality.

**TANYA BUB** is founder of 48th Ave Productions, a web development company. **JEFFREY BUB** is Distinguished University Professor in the Department of Philosophy and the Institute for Physical Science and Technology at the University of Maryland, where he is also a fellow of the Joint Center for Quantum Information and Computer Science.
“C. C. Tsai’s introductions to the world of Chinese thought and spirituality are masterpieces. His drawings are charming, clever, and engaging; his texts are clear and faithful to the spirit of the originals; and Brian Bruya’s translations are fluid and accurate.”
—Stephen C. Angle, Wesleyan University

The Analects of Confucius

C. C. Tsai is one of Asia’s most popular cartoonists, and his editions of the Chinese classics have sold more than 40 million copies in over twenty languages. This volume presents Tsai’s delightful graphic adaptation of The Analects of Confucius, one of the most influential books of all time and a work that continues to inspire countless readers today.

Tsai’s expressive drawings bring Confucius and his students to life as no other edition of the Analects does. See Confucius engage his students about how to become a leader worth following in a society of high culture, upward mobility, and vicious warfare. Which virtues should be cultivated, what makes for a harmonious society, and what are the important things in life?

The Art of War

Conceived by a Chinese warrior-philosopher some 2,500 years ago, The Art of War speaks to those aspiring to rise through the ranks and help build successful countries. How can that goal best be achieved, and what is the role of warfare, if any, in the process? What are the powers and limits of the general in command? How can you win without going to war? Sunzi’s answers to these and other questions are brought to life as never before by Tsai’s brilliant cartoons, which show Sunzi fighting on dangerous ground, launching a surprise attack, spying on his enemies, and much more.

C. C. Tsai is one of East Asia’s most popular illustrators. His bestselling editions of the Chinese classics have introduced generations of readers to the wisdom of such luminaries as Zhuangzi, Sunzi, and Laozi. Born in Taiwan, Tsai now lives in Hangzhou, China. Brian Bruya is professor of philosophy at Eastern Michigan University, where he teaches Chinese and comparative philosophy. He has translated many of Tsai’s books into English.
From the beginning to the end of this compact but lucid book, Becker skillfully brings to life both the arguments and the intuitive appeal of stoicism.” —Brad Inwood, *Apeiron*

**A New Stoicism**

What would stoic ethics be like today if stoicism had survived as a systematic approach to ethical theory, and if it had coped successfully with the challenges of modern philosophy and experimental science? *A New Stoicism* proposes an answer to that question. Lawrence Becker demonstrates that a secular version of the stoic ethical project, based on contemporary cosmology and developmental psychology, provides the basis for a sophisticated form of ethical naturalism, in which virtually all the hard doctrines of the ancient Stoics can be clearly restated and defended.

**Lawrence C. Becker** is a fellow of Hollins University and professor emeritus of philosophy at the College of William & Mary. He was an associate editor of the journal *Ethics* from 1985–2000.
“Provides valuable insights into an important and timely subject.”
—Michiko Kakutani, New York Times

“Jason Stanley’s How Propaganda Works is a novel and significant contribution that should revitalize political philosophy.”
—Noam Chomsky

How Propaganda Works

Democracy today is fraught with political campaigns, lobbyists, and conservative and liberal media, all using language to influence the way we think and reason about issues. Even so, many of us believe that propaganda and manipulation aren’t problems for us. In How Propaganda Works, Jason Stanley examines how propaganda operates more subtly than we think, how it undermines democracy, and how it has damaged democracies of the past.

JASON STANLEY is the Jacob Urowsky Professor of Philosophy at Yale University. He is the author of Knowledge and Practical Interests, Language in Context, and Know How.

Princeton Readings in Political Thought

This is a thoroughly updated and substantially expanded new edition of one of the most popular, wide-ranging, and engaging anthologies of Western political thinking, one that spans from antiquity to the twenty-first century. In addition to the majority of the pieces that appeared in the original edition, this new edition features exciting new selections from more recent thinkers who address vital contemporary issues, including identity, cosmopolitanism, global justice, and populism. Organized chronologically, the anthology brings together a fascinating array of writings—including essays, book excerpts, speeches, and other documents—that have indelibly shaped how politics and society are understood. Each chronological section and thinker is presented with a brief, lucid introduction, making this a valuable reference as well as reader.

MITCHELL COHEN is professor of political science at Baruch College and the Graduate Center of the City University of New York and editor emeritus of Dissent magazine. His books include The Politics of Opera (Princeton).
“Gaus lays out a vigorous and widely useful exposition of what a philosophy focused on justice needs to do in order to shift from the real of pure moral philosophy . . . to making recommendations about the political world.”
—Christopher Cochrane, Perspectives on Politics

The Tyranny of the Ideal

In his provocative new book, The Tyranny of the Ideal, Gerald Gaus lays out a vision for how we should theorize about justice in a diverse society. Gaus shows how free and equal people, faced with intractable struggles and irreconcilable conflicts, might share a common moral life shaped by a just framework. He argues that if we are to take diversity seriously and if moral inquiry is sincere about shaping the world, then the pursuit of idealized and perfect theories of justice—essentially, the entire production of theories of justice that has dominated political philosophy for the past forty years—needs to change.

GERALD GAUS is the James E. Rogers Professor of Philosophy at the University of Arizona. His books include The Order of Public Reason.
“On Inequality may unsettle those fuzzy-minded liberals who know they are committed to a more equal society but are not sure why. Given Frankfurt’s convincing proof that bourgeois, academic ethics cannot sustain a critique of inequality, these liberals may find themselves turning to intellectual traditions that offer a more radical, systemic critique.”

—Los Angeles Review of Books

**On Inequality**

In this provocative book, the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *On Bullshit* presents a compelling and unsettling response to those who believe that the goal of social justice should be economic equality or less inequality. Harry Frankfurt, one of the most influential moral philosophers in the world, argues that we are morally obligated to eliminate poverty—not achieve equality or reduce inequality. Our focus should be on making sure everyone has a sufficient amount to live a decent life. To focus instead on inequality is distracting and alienating.

HARRY G. FRANKFURT is professor emeritus of philosophy at Princeton University.
“If anything can productively recast the debate between liberals suspicious of perfectionism and traditionalists troubled by indifference and relativism, it is John Bowlin’s brilliant account of the virtue of tolerance.”
—Jennifer A. Herdt, Yale University

**Tolerance among the Virtues**

In a pluralistic society such as ours, tolerance is a virtue—but it doesn’t always seem so. Some suspect that it entangles us in unacceptable moral compromises and inequalities of power, while others dismiss it as mere political correctness or doubt that it can safeguard the moral and political relationships we value. **Tolerance among the Virtues** provides a vigorous defense of tolerance against its many critics and shows why the virtue of tolerance involves exercising judgment across a variety of different circumstances and relationships—not simply applying a prescribed set of rules.

**JOHN R. BOWLIN** is the Robert L. Stuart Associate Professor of Philosophy and Christian Ethics at Princeton Theological Seminary. He is the author of *Contingency and Fortune in Aquinas’s Ethics*. 

“*Fugitive Democracy* is a book that every current and future political theorist and political philosopher should own.”
—Melissa A. Orlie, author of *Living Ethically, Acting Politically*

**Fugitive Democracy**

Sheldon Wolin was one of the most influential and original political thinkers of the past fifty years. *Fugitive Democracy* brings together his most important writings, from classic essays such as “Political Theory as a Vocation,” written amid the Cold War and the conflict in Vietnam, to his late radical essays on American democracy such as “Fugitive Democracy,” in which he offers a controversial reinterpretation of democracy as an episodic phenomenon distinct from the routinized political management that passes for democracy today.

**SHELDON S. WOLIN** (1922–2015) was professor emeritus of politics at Princeton University.

**NICHOLAS XENOS** is professor of political science at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.
A Short History of German Philosophy

This concise but comprehensive book provides an original history of German-language philosophy from the Middle Ages to today. In an accessible narrative that explains complex ideas in clear language, Vittorio Hösle traces the evolution of German philosophy and describes its central influence on other aspects of German culture, including literature, politics, and science. Remarkable for its scope, brevity, and lucidity, this is an invaluable book for students of philosophy and anyone interested in German intellectual and cultural history.

VITTORIO HÖSLE is a German-American philosopher and the Paul Kimball Professor of Arts and Letters at the University of Notre Dame.
“This is a truly original, highly insightful, and highly readable book on a vital yet largely unexplored question: who do we trust, why should we trust, and how should we trust. Let’s stop ignoring the expert problem. This is not a book, but the birth of a branch of applied knowledge.”

—Nassim Nicholas Taleb

**Reputation**

Reputation touches almost everything, guiding our behavior and choices in countless ways. But it is also shrouded in mystery. Why is it so powerful when the criteria by which people and things are defined as good or bad often appear to be arbitrary? Why do we care so much about how others see us that we may even do irrational and harmful things to try to influence their opinion? In this engaging book, Gloria Origgi draws on philosophy, social psychology, sociology, economics, literature, and history to offer an illuminating account of an important yet oddly neglected subject.

**GLORIA ORIGGI**, a Paris-based philosopher, is a senior researcher at the Institut Jean Nicod at the National Center for Scientific Research.

“Montaigne claimed to have portrayed himself ‘naked’ to posterity. Mr. Desan removes the last of his garments.”

—Jeffrey Collins, *Wall Street Journal*

**Montaigne**

One of the most important writers and thinkers of the Renaissance, Michel de Montaigne (1533–92) helped invent a literary genre that seemed more modern than anything that had come before. But did he do it, as he suggests in his *Essays*, by retreating to his chateau, turning his back on the world, and stoically detaching himself from his violent times? In this definitive biography, Philippe Desan, one of the world’s leading authorities on Montaigne, overturns this longstanding myth by showing that Montaigne was constantly concerned with realizing his political ambitions—and that the literary and philosophical character of the *Essays* largely depends on them.

**PHILIPPE DESAN** is the Howard L. Willett Professor in Renaissance Literature and History of Culture at the University of Chicago.
The Beginnings of Philosophy in Greece

MARIA MICHELA SASSI
Translated by Michele Avanti

How can we talk about the beginnings of philosophy today? How can we avoid the conventional opposition of mythology and the dawn of reason and instead explore the multiple styles of thought that emerged between them? In this acclaimed book, available in English for the first time, Maria Michela Sassi reconstructs the intellectual world of the early Greek “Presocratics” to provide a richer understanding of the roots of what used to be called “the Greek miracle.”

MARIA MICHELA SASSI teaches the history of ancient philosophy at the University of Pisa. Her books include The Science of Man in Ancient Greece.

The Concept of Presocratic Philosophy

When we talk about Presocratic philosophy, we are speaking about the origins of Greek philosophy and Western rationality itself. But what exactly does it mean to talk about “Presocratic philosophy” in the first place? How did early Greek thinkers come to be considered collectively as Presocratic philosophers?

In this brief book, André Laks provides a history of the influential idea of Presocratic philosophy, tracing its historical and philosophical significance and consequences, from its ancient antecedents to its full crystallization in the modern period and its continuing effects today.

ANDRÉ LAKS teaches ancient philosophy at the Universidad Panamericana in Mexico City and previously taught at the University of Lille, Princeton University, and the University of Paris-Sorbonne.
“Jonathan Israel reveals an American Revolution radical in its philosophical inspiration, global in its impact, and universal in its conviction that the cause of America is the cause of all humankind.”

—Matthew Stewart, author of *Nature’s God*

**The Expanding Blaze**

*The Expanding Blaze* is a sweeping history of how the American Revolution inspired revolutions throughout Europe and the Atlantic world in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Jonathan Israel, one of the world’s leading historians of the Enlightenment, shows how the radical ideas of American founders such as Paine, Jefferson, Franklin, Madison, and Monroe set the pattern for democratic revolutions, movements, and constitutions in France, Britain, Ireland, the Netherlands, Belgium, Poland, Greece, Canada, Haiti, Brazil, and Spanish America.

**JONATHAN ISRAEL** is professor emeritus of modern history at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton.

“Garff’s new book is the first to render its particular kind of attention to Regine [Olsen], and it goes further than any previous attempt to explore and understand the relationship between Regine and Kierkegaard.”

—Morten Høi Jensen, *Los Angeles Review of Books*

**Kierkegaard’s Muse**

*Kierkegaard’s Muse*, the first biography of Regine Olsen (1822–1904), the literary inspiration and one-time fiancée of philosopher Søren Kierkegaard, is a moving portrait of a long romantic fever that had momentous literary consequences. Drawing on more than one hundred previously unknown letters by Regine that acclaimed Kierkegaard biographer Joakim Garff discovered by chance, the book tells the story of Kierkegaard and Regine’s mysterious relationship more fully and vividly than ever before, shedding new light on her influence on his life and writings.

**JOAKIM GARFF** is associate professor at the Søren Kierkegaard Research Centre at the University of Copenhagen and coeditor of a project to publish definitive new Danish-language editions of all of Kierkegaard’s writings. He lives in Copenhagen.
“I cannot imagine a more accessible account of these deep and difficult ideas.”
—Jon Elster, Columbia University and Collège de France

Ten Great Ideas about Chance
In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, gamblers and mathematicians transformed the idea of chance from a mystery into the discipline of probability, setting the stage for a series of breakthroughs that enabled or transformed innumerable fields, from gambling, mathematics, statistics, economics, and finance to physics and computer science. This book tells the story of ten great ideas about chance and the thinkers who developed them, tracing the philosophical implications of these ideas as well as their mathematical impact.

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