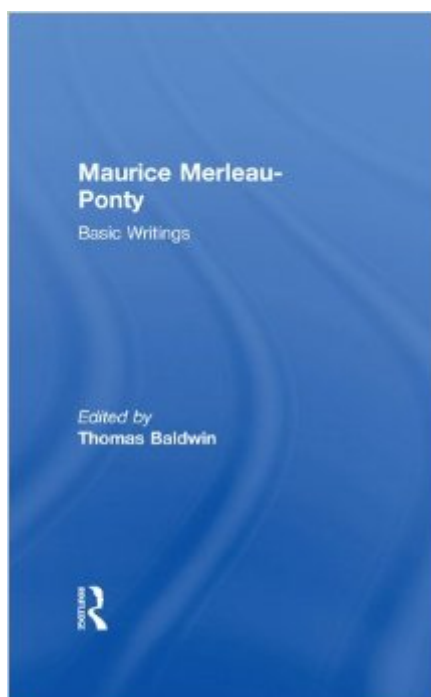


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Maurice Merleau-Ponty: Basic Writings



Synopsis

Merleau-Ponty was a pivotal figure in twentieth century French philosophy. He was responsible for bringing the phenomenological methods of the German philosophers - Husserl and Heidegger - to France and instigated a new wave of interest in this approach. His influence extended well beyond the boundaries of philosophy and can be seen in theories of politics, psychology, art and language. This is the first volume to bring together a comprehensive selection of Merleau-Ponty's writing. Sections from the following are included: The Primacy of Perception, The Structure of Behaviour, The Phenomenology of Perception, The Prose of the World, The Visible and the Invisible, Sense and Non-Sense, The Adventures of the Dialectic. In a substantial critical introduction Thomas Baldwin provides a critical discussion of the main themes of Merleau-Ponty's philosophy, connecting it to subsequent philosophical debates and setting it in the context of the ideas of Bergson, Husserl, Heidegger and Sartre. Each text is also prefaced with an explanation which sets it in its context in Merleau-Ponty's work; and there are extensive suggestions for further reading to enable students to pursue the issues raised by Merleau-Ponty. Thus the book provides the ideal materials for students studying Merleau-Ponty for the first time.

Book Information

File Size: 1664 KB

Print Length: 384 pages

Simultaneous Device Usage: Up to 4 simultaneous devices, per publisher limits

Publisher: Routledge; 1 edition (February 24, 2004)

Publication Date: February 24, 2004

Sold by: Amazon Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B000OI166U

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #774,819 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #107

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Excellent anthology - good selections, editor's and section intros, and a clear translation. Great for a beginning introduction, by giving the prefaces and a good selection of chapters it seems to cover the main ideas.

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