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INTERPRETING AVICENNA

Avicenna is the greatest philosopher of the Islamic world. His immense impact on Christian and Jewish medieval thought, as well as on the subsequent Islamic tradition, is charted in this volume alongside studies which provide a comprehensive introduction to and analysis of his philosophy. Contributions from leading scholars address a wide range of topics including Avicenna's life and works, conception of philosophy, and achievement in logic and medicine. His ideas in the main areas of philosophy, such as epistemology, philosophy of religion, and physics, are also analyzed. While serving as a general introduction to Avicenna's thought, this collection of critical essays also represents the cutting edge of scholarship on this most influential philosopher of the medieval era.

PETER ADAMSON is Professor of Philosophy at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in Munich and at King's College London. He is author of *The Arabic Plotinus: A Philosophical Study of the So-Called "Theology of Aristotle"* (2002) and *Al-Kindī* (2006), and co-editor, with Richard C. Taylor, of *The Cambridge Companion to Arabic Philosophy* (Cambridge, 2004). He has edited numerous collected volumes on philosophy in the Islamic world.

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In memory of David C. Reisman

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Acknowledgments

David C. Reisman, author of the first chapter in this volume, passed away within a few months of writing his contribution. David's untimely death cut short a scholarly career that would have continued to break new ground in delineating Avicenna's ideas, as well as the Avicennan corpus and its reception. More importantly, of course, many of us who work on Avicenna and other topics in the intellectual history of the Islamic world have lost a dear friend. It is hoped that the present volume will form a fitting tribute to the memory of a scholar who accomplished so much in such a short time.

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