Luce Irigaray and the Philosophy of Sexual Difference

This book offers a feminist defence of the idea that sexual difference is natural. Providing a new interpretation of the later philosophy of Luce Irigaray, Alison Stone defends Irigaray’s unique form of essentialism and her rethinking of the relationship between nature and culture. She also shows how Irigaray’s ideas can be reconciled with Judith Butler’s performative conception of gender by rethinking sexual difference in relation to German Romantic philosophies of nature. This is the first sustained attempt to connect feminist conceptions of embodiment to German Idealist and Romantic accounts of nature. Not merely an interpretation of Irigaray, this book also presents an original feminist perspective on nature and the body. It will encourage debate on the relations among sexual difference, essentialism, and embodiment.

Luce Irigaray and the Philosophy of Sexual Difference

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Abbreviations

References to all repeatedly cited works by Irigaray are parenthetical and to standard English translations where available. In the case of all citations from translations from the French, English pagination precedes the pagination to the French original, a slash separating the two. I have sometimes amended these translations, without special notice, following the French originals. References to repeatedly cited works by other authors – Judith Butler, G. W. F. Hegel, and F. W. J. Schelling – are also parenthetical. I use the following abbreviations.

Works by Luce Irigaray


Abbreviations


Works by Judith Butler


**Abbreviations**


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**Works by G. W. F. Hegel**


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**Works by F. W. J. Schelling**


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