

THE APORETIC TRADITION IN ANCIENT PHILOSOPHY

Ancient philosophers from an otherwise diverse range of traditions were connected by their shared use of *aporia* – translated as ‘puzzlement rooted in conflicts of reasons’ – as a core tool in philosophical enquiry. The essays in this volume provide the first comprehensive study of aporetic methodology among numerous major figures and influential schools, including the Presocratics, Plato, Aristotle, Plutarch, Alexander of Aphrodisias, Academic sceptics, Pyrrhonian sceptics, Plotinus and Damascius. They explore the differences and similarities in these philosophers’ approaches to the source, structure and aim of *aporia*; their views on its function and value; and ideas about the proper means of generating such a state among thinkers who were often otherwise opposed in their overall philosophical orientation. Discussing issues of method, dialectic and knowledge, this volume will appeal to those interested in ancient philosophy and in philosophical enquiry more generally.

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