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This is a further volume in a series of companions to major philosophers. Each volume contains specially commissioned essays by an international team of scholars together with a substantial bibliography and will serve as a reference work for students and nonspecialists. One aim of the series is to dispel the intimidation such readers often feel when faced with the work of a difficult and challenging thinker.

This is one of the most comprehensive and up-to-date surveys of the philosophy of Sartre, by some of the foremost interpreters in the United States and Europe. The essays are both expository and original, and cover Sartre's writings on ontology, phenomenology, psychology, ethics, and aesthetics, as well as his work on history, commitment, and progress; a final section considers Sartre's relationship to structuralism and deconstruction. Providing a balanced view of Sartre's philosophy and situating it in relation to contemporary trends in Continental philosophy, the volume shows that many of the topics associated with Lacan, Foucault, Lévi-Strauss, and Derrida are to be found in the work of Sartre, in some cases as early as 1936. A special feature of the volume is the treatment of the recently published and hitherto little studied posthumous works.

New readers and nonspecialists will find this the most convenient, accessible guide to Sartre currently available. Advanced students and specialists will find a conspectus of recent developments in the interpretation of Sartre.

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PIERRE VERSTRAETEN is Professor of Philosophy at Brussels University. He is the author of *Violence et éthique, esquisse pour une morale dialectique à travers le théâtre de Sartre* (Gallimard, 1972). He has published numerous articles on Sartre's thought. He was co-director with Sartre of the collection *Bibliothèque de Philosophie* at Gallimard.

CHRONOLOGICAL BIOGRAPHY

- 1905 June 21. Birth of Jean-Paul-Charles-Aymard Sartre in Paris, 13, rue Mignard, XVI^e.
- 1906 Father dies.
- 1906–11 Lives with mother and grandparents in Meudon.
- 1911–15 Moves to Paris, 1, rue Le-Goff, v^e.
- 1913 Lycée Montaigne.
- 1915 Lycée Henri IV.
- 1917 Mother remarries (Joseph Mancy).
The family moves to La Rochelle, where Sartre is unhappy at school.
- 1920 Returns to Lycée Henri IV.
- 1921–2 Baccalauréat.
- 1922–4 Lycée Louis-Le-Grand to prepare entrance to École Normale Supérieure.
- 1923 Publishes short story “L’Ange du morbide” and several chapters of “Jésus la Chouette” in *La Revue sans titre*.
- 1924–9 École Normale Supérieure.
- 1928 Fails *agrégation*.
- 1929 Meets Simone de Beauvoir.
Passes *agrégation* in first place, having reconciled himself to presenting more traditional philosophical ideas.
- 1929–31 Military service.
- 1931–6 Teaches philosophy at *lycée* in Le Havre. Starts first version of *La Nausée*.
- 1933–4 Obtains grant to study at the French Institute in Berlin, where he discovers phenomenology, writes *La*

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- Transcendance de l'ego* and a second version of *La Nausée*.
- 1935 Tries mescaline, which produces depression and hallucinations.
- 1936 Publication of *L'Imagination* (Alcan).
 He and Simone de Beauvoir incorporate Olga Kosakiewicz into their life together to form a *ménage à trois*. Its failure is recounted in de Beauvoir's novel *L'Invitée*.
 Gallimard refuses *Melancholia* (*La Nausée*).
- 1936–7 Teaches in Laon.
- 1937 *La Nausée* accepted by Gallimard after some pressure.
- 1937–9 Teaches in Lycée Pasteur in Paris.
- 1938 Writes *La Psyché*, from which *L'Esquisse d'une théorie des émotions* is drawn.
 Publication of *La Nausée*.
- 1939 Publication of *Le Mur* and *L'Esquisse*.
 Conscripted on September 2 to 70th Division in Nancy, later transferred to Brumath and then Morsbronn. Meanwhile working on *L'Age de raison* and *L'Être et le néant*.
- 1940 Publication of *L'Imaginaire*.
 Prix du Roman Populiste for *Le Mur*.
 Imprisoned in Padoux, then Nancy, then Stalag XII D in Trèves.
 Teaches Heidegger to fellow prisoners.
 Writes and directs *Bariona* in prisoner-of-war camp.
- 1941 Obtains his freedom from prisoner-of-war camp by dint of posing as a civilian.
 Finds a short-lived intellectual Resistance group, Socialisme et Liberté, with Merleau-Ponty.
 Teaches in Lycée Condorcet until 1944.
- 1943 Publication of *Les Mouches* and *L'Être et le néant*.
 Writes articles of literary criticism on, among others, Camus, Blanchot, and Bataille.
- 1944 Meets Genet.
 Sets up editorial board for *Les Temps modernes*.
- 1945 Publication of *Huis clos*, *L'Age de raison*, *Le Sursis*.
 Refuses Legion of Honor.

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- Goes to the United States as a special representative of *Combat* (Camus's journal) and *Le Figaro*, and again later in the year to give a series of lectures in American universities.
- The first number of *Les Temps modernes* appears.
- Gives the (in)famous lecture "L'Existentialisme est un humanisme." This is at the start of the great vogue for existentialism and of Sartre's notoriety.
- 1946 Publication of *L'Existentialisme est un humanisme*, *Morts sans sépulture*, *La Putain respectueuse*, *Réflexions sur la question juive*, *Les Jeux sont faits*.
 First quarrel with Camus.
- 1947 Publication of *Situations I*, *Baudelaire*, *Théâtre I*.
Qu'est-ce que la littérature? is serialized in *Les Temps modernes*.
- 1948 Publication of *Les Mains sales*, *Situations II*, *L'Engrenage*.
 Participates in the founding of the Rassemblement Démocratique Révolutionnaire (RDR)
 The Catholic Church puts all Sartre's works on the Index.
 Sartre is working on his *Morale* and a long study of Mallarmé (parts of both will be published posthumously).
- 1949 Publication of *La Mort dans l'âme*, *Situations III*, *Entretiens sur la politique*.
 Disaffection with and abandonment of RDR.
 Controversy with Mauriac.
 Visits Guatemala, Panama, Curaçao, Haiti, and Cuba.
- 1950–1 Publication of *Le Diable et le Bon Dieu* (1951).
 Studies history and economy and rereads Marx.
 Part of the study of Genet is published in *Les Temps modernes*.
 Sartre and Merleau-Ponty denounce the Soviet concentration camps.
 Travels in Sahara and Black Africa.
 Significant differences of opinion with Merleau-Ponty over the Korean war.

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- 1952–5 Publication of *Saint Genet, comédien et martyr* (1952), *Kean* (1954).
 For the next four years Sartre's concerns are primarily political; he writes *Les Communistes et la paix*; signs a manifesto against the Cold War; forbids a production of *Les Mains sales* in Vienna; speaks on behalf of the peace movement; visits Heidegger; protests against the execution of the Rosenbergs (1953); participates in an extraordinary meeting of the World Council for Peace in Berlin (1954); visits the Soviet Union and describes his experiences there in *Libération* and *L'Unità*; is named vice-president of the France–USSR association; visits China (1955); returns to the Soviet Union.
- 1956 Publication of *Nekrassov*.
 The Soviet intervention in Hungary is condemned by Sartre who leaves the France–USSR association, writes *Le Fantôme de Staline*, and produces a special number of *Les Temps modernes* devoted to the Hungarian question.
- 1957 Begins writing the *Critique de la raison dialectique*.
 Protests against the Algerian war and torture.
- 1958–9 Writes a commentary on Henri Alleg's *La Question* for *L'Express* and the journal is seized. Various subsequent issues of *Les Temps modernes* are also seized. Participates in demonstrations against de Gaulle; speaks at an antifascist rally; gives a press conference on the violation of human rights in Algeria.
- 1960–6 Publication of *Les Séquestrés d'Altona* and *Critique de la raison dialectique*. Visits Cuba, meets Castro and Che Guevara.
 Gives lecture on theater in the Sorbonne.
 Visits Yugoslavia, meets Tito, gives a lecture in Belgrade.
 Participates in further debates on Algeria, signs manifestos, gives press conferences.
- 1962 Further political activity. Visits Poland and the Soviet Union; meets Khrushchev.

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- John Huston's film *Freud* is released. Sartre's scenario has been changed and he withdraws his name from the titles.
- 1963 Publication of *Les Mots*.
 Participates in political press conferences, gives an antiapartheid lecture, visits Czechoslovakia.
- 1964 Publication of *Situations IV, V, and VI*.
 Speaks at UNESCO Kierkegaard conference and at Conference on Ethics in Gramsci Institute in Rome. Is awarded and refuses the Nobel Prize (about £25,000).
- 1965 Publication of *Situations VII, Les Troyennes*. Refuses to lecture in Cornell University in States. Visits the USSR.
 Supports Mitterrand as presidential candidate.
- 1966 Publishes extracts from his study of Flaubert in *Les Temps modernes*.
 Joins the Russell Tribunal investigating American war crimes in Vietnam.
 Gives series of lectures in Japan.
- 1967 Lectures in Egypt, meets Nasser, visits refugee camps. Travels in Israel in a less formal capacity.
 Correspondence with de Gaulle over the Russell Tribunal.
 Sartre and Aragon refuse to participate in the Tenth Congress of Soviet Writers in protest against the Sinyavsky–Daniel trial.
 Supports Israel over opening of the Gulf of Aqaba.
 Gives lecture on Vietnam in Brussels.
- 1968 Supports student movement in May uprising.
 Accuses Communist party of betraying the May revolution.
 Condemns intervention of Soviet troops in Czechoslovakia.
- 1969 Sartre's mother dies.
 Protests against expulsion of thirty-four students from University of Paris.
 Asks for release of Régis Debray.
 Gives television interview on Vietnam War.

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- 1970 Signs declaration on Biafra.
 Takes over as editor of *La Cause du peuple*, whose previous two editors have been imprisoned.
 Meets Pierre Victor, with whom he later collaborates in ethical discussions.
 Participates in founding of Secours Rouge.
 Is made nominal director of several minor publications of the extreme Left.
 Blames the State as employer for fatal accidents at Lens colliery.
- 1971 Publication of *L'Idiot de la famille*, vols. I and II. Has mild heart attack.
 Supports a hunger strike in favor of political prisoners. Participates in abortive occupation of Sacré Cœur.
 Breaks off relations with Cuba over Padilla affair.
 Demonstrates against racism.
 Signs petition asking for right to emigrate for Soviet citizens.
- 1972 Publication of *Situations VIII* and *IX* and of *L'Idiot de la famille*, vol. III.
 Start of film on his life and works by Astruc and Contat. Disaffection with oversimple line of class-hatred of *La Cause du peuple*.
 Agrees to edit new daily paper, *Libération*.
- 1973 Further, more serious heart attack.
 Moves from boulevard Raspail to boulevard Edgar-Quinet. Semiblindness after two hemorrhages in his good eye.
 Pierre Victor reads to Sartre, who can no longer see sufficiently well.
- 1974 Takes side of Israel in war of Yom Kippur.
 Publication of *On a raison de se révolter*.
 Abstains in presidential elections.
 Gives up editorship of various left-wing journals on health grounds.
 Meets Marcuse for discussion about the situation of the intellectual.

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- Starts autobiographical dialogues on tape with S. de Beauvoir.
 With three others Sartre prepares a series of television programs on the last seventy years of history. The project is never produced.
 Dissociates from UNESCO as a protest in defense of the State of Israel.
 Goes to Stuttgart to meet the terrorist A. Baader and denounces his conditions of imprisonment.
- 1975 Visits Portugal.
 Signs petitions condemning Soviet repression.
 In an interview with M. Contat declares himself in favor of "libertarian socialism."
 Decides to reduce his public activities and spend more time on the preparation for the book on ethics, *Pouvoir et liberté*, with Pierre Victor.
- 1976 Publication of *Situations X*.
Sartre par lui-même (film) appears.
 Accepts doctorate from University of Jerusalem.
 Signs various political petitions and articles.
- 1977 Publication of *Sartre* – text of the film.
 Takes up position against the "nouveaux philosophes," and also declares "Je ne suis plus Marxiste" (in an interview in *Lotta continua*).
 Calls on Israel to respond to President Sadat's peace initiative.
- 1978 Goes to Israel to try to further the peace initiative.
 Participates in film on S. de Beauvoir.
 Appeals for return to France of D. Cohn-Bendit.
- 1979 Participates in Israeli–Palestinian conference organized by *Les Temps modernes* in Foucault's house. Extract from *Mallarmé* appears in *Obliques*.
 Participates in press conference for Boat People from Vietnam.
- 1980 Continues interviews with Pierre Victor.
 Supports boycott of Olympic Games in Moscow.
 March 20 hospitalized for edema of the lungs.
 April 13 goes into a coma and dies on April 15.

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April 19. Funeral procession from hospital to cemetery of Montparnasse, where his ashes are buried.

Further biographical details may be obtained from the seventy-page chronology introducing the Pléiade edition of Sartre's *Oeuvres romanesques; Les Écrits de Sartre*, ed. M. Contat and M. Rybalka; F. Jeanson, *Sartre dans sa vie*, Seuil, 1974; S. de Beauvoir, *La Force de l'âge, La Force des choses, Tout Compte fait, La Cérémonie des adieux*; A. Cohen-Solal, *Sartre 1905–1980*; R. Hayman, *Writing Against: A Biography of Sartre*, 1986.

ABBREVIATIONS

For full bibliographical details, see the Bibliography.

AS	<i>Confrontation, 20, Après le sujet qui vient</i>
BN	<i>Being and Nothingness</i> (Sartre)
CDG	<i>Carnets de la drôle de guerre</i> (Sartre)
CDR	<i>Critique of Dialectical Reason</i> (Sartre)
CM	<i>Cahiers pour une morale</i> (Sartre)
CRD	<i>Critique de la raison dialectique</i> (Sartre)
E	<i>Écrits</i> (Lacan)
EN	<i>L'Être et le néant</i> (Sartre)
Enc	<i>The Logic of Hegel</i> (Hegel)
Enz	<i>Enzyklopädie</i> (Hegel)
GøS	<i>Genèse et structure</i> (Hippolyte)
GS	<i>Gesammelte Schriften</i> (Dilthey)
IF	<i>L'Idiot de la famille</i> (Sartre)
Im	<i>L'Imaginaire</i> (Sartre)
M	<i>Marges</i> (Derrida)
MC	<i>Les Mots et les choses</i> (Foucault)
Méd	<i>Méditations Cartésiennes</i> (Husserl)
OR	<i>Œuvres romanesques</i> (Sartre)
ORR	<i>On a raison de se révolter</i> (Sartre)
Ph Sp	<i>Phenomenology of Spirit</i> (Hegel)
PS	<i>La Pensée sauvage</i> (Lévi-Strauss)
Sc L	<i>Science of Logic</i> (Hegel)
SG	<i>Saint Genet</i> (Sartre)
Sit II–X	<i>Situations, Vols. II–X</i> (Sartre)
SM	<i>Search for a Method</i> (Sartre)
TE	<i>La Transcendance de l'ego</i> (Sartre)
VP	<i>La Voix et la phénomène</i> (Derrida)