

Contents

| | |
|--|----------------|
| <i>Acknowledgments</i> | <i>page xi</i> |
| Introduction: <i>The Star of Redemption</i> as “System of Philosophy” | 1 |
| 1. System as Task of Philosophy: “The Oldest System-Program of German Idealism” | 14 |
| I. System and the Philosophy of Rosenzweig’s Time | 16 |
| II. The One and All | 21 |
| III. System and the Dangers of Reduction: Jacobi’s Spinoza-Critique | 26 |
| IV. Kant’s Groundwork for a System of Philosophy | 30 |
| IV.1 The Unanswered Question Regarding Kant’s System | 30 |
| IV.2 The Systematic Implications of the Kantian Subject | 35 |
| V. Absolute Act versus Absolute Being: Fichte’s Self-Positing “I” | 36 |
| VI. Absolute Idealism and the Systematic Standpoint of the “Program” | 41 |
| VII. The System-Program’s Lack of Systematicity | 43 |
| VIII. System as Philosophical Program | 48 |
| IX. Rosenzweig’s Recovery of System as Philosophical Task for His Time | 54 |
| X. “My Real Teacher in Philosophy”: Excursus on Hans Ehrenberg’s Early Project of System and the Neo-Kantian Context | 61 |
| 2. “A Twofold Relation to the Absolute”: The Genesis of Rosenzweig’s Concept of System | 66 |
| I. The Path to a New System-Concept | 69 |
| 1.1 “System Is Not Architecture” | 69 |
| 1.2 System as Dialogue of Absolute Monologues | 77 |
| 1.3 Rosenzweig, Rosenstock, Weizsäcker, and the “Coitus of Two Sciences” | 83 |
| II. “A Twofold Relation to the Absolute”: Rosenzweig’s “Urzelle” | 92 |

| | | |
|------|---|------------|
| II.1 | Nature, Revelation, and the <i>Anamnesis</i> of Freedom | 96 |
| II.2 | Human Freedom in the System: Realizing God as the “One and All” in the “Urzelle” | 102 |
| II.3 | Questions That Remain: From System-Concept to <i>Star</i> | 116 |
| 3. | Alls or Nothings: The Starting-Point of Rosenzweig’s System | 120 |
| I. | Breaking Up the All for the Sake of the All | 120 |
| 1.1 | Fear of Death, Particularity, and the Argument over Nothing | 126 |
| 1.2 | The Particularity of Nothing and the Hope for the All: Rosenzweig’s Alternative to the Systematic Starting-Point of German Idealism | 136 |
| 1.3 | The Particular Nothings of God, World, and Human Being | 144 |
| 1.4 | The Differential as Determinate Nothing: Setting Out on the Path to System between Nihilism and Idealism | 149 |
| II. | Factuality as Method: The Self-Generation of the Elements out of Their Nothings | 157 |
| II.1 | God, World, Human Being: The Elements as Systematic Unities | 157 |
| II.2 | Elemental Stability and Instability: The Need for Relation and the Threat of Falling Back into Nothing | 169 |
| III. | Excursus on Beginning in Difference | 177 |
| 4. | “The Genuine Notion of Revelation”: Relations, Reversals, and the Human Being in the Middle of the System | 181 |
| I. | Reversals into Relations, or, How God, World, and Human Being Realize Themselves in Realizing the All | 188 |
| 1.1 | Elemental Promises in Need of Fulfillment | 188 |
| 1.2 | Reversals into Creation | 194 |
| 1.3 | The Factuality of Creation | 201 |
| 1.4 | Reversals into Revelation | 204 |
| 1.5 | Excursus on the “I” as Medium of Identity within the All | 210 |
| 1.6 | The Factuality of Revelation and the Limits of Factuality Prior to Redemption | 212 |
| 1.7 | Reversals into Redemption | 216 |
| 1.8 | Realizing the All: Redemption and the Futurity of Factuality | 225 |
| II. | Experiencing System from the Middle | 236 |
| II.1 | The Human Being as the Height of Factuality: Reversals, Relations, and Experienced Actuality | 236 |
| II.2 | “Already-Being-There”: Experiencing Creation from the Middle | 239 |

| CONTENTS | | ix |
|----------|--|------------|
| II.3 | The Call to I-Hood and the Call to System: Experiencing Revelation from the Middle | 240 |
| II.4 | Anticipating the Kingdom: Experiencing Redemption from the Middle | 243 |
| II.5 | The Reciprocal Confirmation of Promise and Fulfillment | 244 |
| II.6 | The Unity of the All and the Figure of the Star | 248 |
| III. | Excursus on Questions of Method: Factuality and Reversals, Thought and Experience | 253 |
| 5 | Seeing Stars: The Vision of the All and the Completion of the System | 258 |
| I. | The Immediacy of Vision as Complement to Discursive Knowledge: The Model of Intellectual Intuition | 267 |
| II. | Cyclical Time and the Visualization of the All | 276 |
| III. | Mirroring the All: Jewish and Christian Liturgical Calendars | 283 |
| IV. | Beyond Life? The Possibility of an Immediate Vision of the Redemptive All | 297 |
| V. | The All, the Star, and God's Face: Vision and Life at the End of <i>The Star of Redemption</i> | 304 |
| | Conclusion: The All and the Everyday | 312 |
| | <i>Bibliography</i> | 317 |
| | <i>Index</i> | 331 |