

Cambridge Elements[≡]

Elements in the Philosophy of Søren Kierkegaard

edited by

Rick Anthony Furtak

Colorado College

KIERKEGAARD AND PHENOMENOLOGY

Kevin Hart

Duke University



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press & Assessment
978-1-009-60894-7 — Kierkegaard and Phenomenology
Kevin Hart
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)



Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA, United Kingdom
One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre,
New Delhi – 110025, India
103 Penang Road, #05–06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment,
a department of the University of Cambridge.

We share the University's mission to contribute to society through the pursuit of
education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781009608947
DOI: 10.1017/9781009608916

© Kevin Hart 2025

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions
of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction of any part may take
place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press & Assessment.

When citing this work, please include a reference to the DOI 10.1017/9781009608916

First published 2025

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

ISBN 978-1-009-60894-7 Hardback
ISBN 978-1-009-60890-9 Paperback
ISSN 3033-4977 (online)
ISSN 3033-4969 (print)

Cambridge University Press & Assessment has no responsibility for the persistence
or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this
publication and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain,
accurate or appropriate.

For EU product safety concerns, contact us at Calle de José Abascal, 56, 1º, 28003
Madrid, Spain, or email eugpsr@cambridge.org

Kierkegaard and Phenomenology

Elements in the Philosophy of Søren Kierkegaard

DOI: 10.1017/9781009608916
First published online: August 2025

Kevin Hart
Duke University

Author for correspondence: Kevin Hart, kevin.hart@duke.edu

Abstract: Is Kierkegaard a phenomenologist? Much depends on what we take “phenomenology” to mean, since the word has been stretched in all possible directions since Edmund Husserl wrote his major works. What have phenomenologists made of his writings? This question is easier to answer: He has been a constant reference point for many of them, although there is little agreement about his significance. This Element argues that he is a phenomenologist in the context of discovery, not justification. One finds attention to attunements in Kierkegaard, and one also finds modes of bracketing and reduction. Even so, his styles of thinking phenomenologically differ from those of most writers in this philosophical school. His phenomenology takes a *theological* path, one that leads from “world” to “kingdom,” and one that often turns on what he calls “the moment.”

Keywords: phenomenology, Kierkegaard, theology, European philosophy, acoustics

© Kevin Hart 2025

ISBNs: 9781009608947 (HB), 9781009608909 (PB), 9781009608916 (OC)
ISSNs: 3033-4977 (online), 3033-4969 (print)

Contents

Introduction	1
1 Phenomenologies	1
2 Kierkegaard among the Phenomenologists	19
3 Phenomenology of the Spiritual Life	36
4 Phenomenology of the Kingdom	51
Afterword	62
Abbreviations	63