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INTRODUCTIONS TO NIETZSCHE

Friedrich Nietzsche (1844–1900) is one of the most important philosophers of the last two hundred years, whose writings, both published and unpublished, have had a formative influence on virtually all aspects of modern culture. This volume offers introductory essays on all of Nietzsche's completed works and also his unpublished notebooks. The essays address such topics as his criticism of morality and Christianity, his doctrines of the will to power and the eternal recurrence, his perspectivism, his theories of tragedy and nihilism, and his thoughts on ancient and modern culture. Written by internationally recognized scholars, they provide the interested reader with an up-to-date and authoritative overview of the thought of this fascinating figure.

ROBERT B. PIPPIN is the Evelyn Stefansson Nef Distinguished Service Professor of Philosophy, and the Chair of the John U. Nef Committee on Social Thought, at the University of Chicago. His publications include *The Persistence of Subjectivity* (Cambridge, 2005), *Hegel's Practical Philosophy* (Cambridge, 2008), *Nietzsche, Psychology and First Philosophy* (2010), *Hollywood Westerns and American Myth* (2010), and *Hegel on Self-Consciousness: Desire and Death in Hegel's Phenomenology of Spirit* (2010).

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Note to the reader

The essays in this volume originally appeared as introductions to the editions of Nietzsche's works which are published in the series Cambridge Texts in the History of Philosophy. They were brought together in this single volume in order to give the interested reader a rich and wide-ranging overview of Nietzsche's philosophical thought. The Press is grateful to the authors of these essays for permission to reproduce them. The select bibliography, which is conveniently organized by theme, has been created especially for the volume and aims to offer a useful resource to accompany the essays.

Chronology of Nietzsche's life and works

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 1844 | Friedrich Wilhelm Nietzsche born on 15 October in Röcken, in the Prussian province of Saxony |
| 1849 | His father dies (at the age of 36) |
| 1858–64 | Attends the classics-oriented boarding-school Schulpforta; plays the piano and composes |
| 1864 | Enters Bonn University to study classical languages and literatures |
| 1869 | Associate professor of classical philology (before even completing his Ph.D.) at the Swiss university at Basel |
| 1870 | Full professor at Basel; enlists as a medical orderly in the Franco-Prussian War, contracting serious illnesses |
| 1872 | First book <i>The Birth of Tragedy</i> appears (and is met with scholarly derision) – his only major classical studies publication |
| 1873–4 | Publishes the first three <i>Untimely Meditations</i> , including the essays <i>On the Uses and Disadvantages of History for Life</i> and <i>Schopenhauer as Educator</i> |
| 1876 | Writes a fourth <i>Meditation</i> in homage to Wagner, but his enthusiasm for Wagner cools |
| 1878 | The first volume of <i>Human, All Too Human</i> (638 aphorisms) appears; Wagner sends him <i>Parsifal</i> , and their estrangement deepens |
| 1879 | Resigns (with pension) from his position at Basel, incapacitated by health problems; begins spending his summers in the Swiss Engadine region, and his winters in northern Italy, living in boarding-houses |
| 1879–80 | Writes two sequels to <i>Human, All Too Human</i> , subsequently published as the two parts of its second volume (another 758 aphorisms) |

Chronology of Nietzsche's life and works

ix

- 1881 Publishes *Daybreak* (575 aphorisms); alternative periods of depression and exhilaration; first summer in Sils Maria, where the idea of “eternal recurrence” comes to him
- 1882 The year of his intense but short-lived relationship with Lou Salomé, which ends badly; publishes the initial four-part version of *The Gay Science* (342 aphorisms and reflections)
- 1883 The first two parts of *Thus Spoke Zarathustra* are written and published; estrangement from family and friends; depression; resolves against living in Germany; Wagner dies
- 1884 Completes and publishes the third part of *Zarathustra*; breaks with his sister Elizabeth, unable to endure her anti-Semitic, pro-“Teutonic” fiancée Bernard Förster (she marries him the next year, to Nietzsche’s disgust and distress, accompanying him to Paraguay where he sought to found a Teutonic colony)
- 1885 The fourth part of *Zarathustra* is written, but is only privately printed and circulated; condition worsens
- 1886 *Beyond Good and Evil* (296 aphorisms and reflections in nine parts, plus a poem “Aftersong”) is published; new editions of most pre-*Zarathustra* works are prepared and supplied with prefaces
- 1886–7 An expanded second edition of *The Gay Science* is prepared and published, with a new preface and fifth part consisting of 41 additional reflections, and an appendix of poetry, “Songs of Prince Vogelfrei”
- 1887 *On the Genealogy of Morals* appears, consisting of a preface and three “essays” (of 17, 25, and 28 numbered sections, respectively); completes orchestral score for *Hymnus an das Leben*; begins working on magnum opus, to be called *The Will to Power*
- 1888 *The Case of Wagner* is published; and *Twilight of the Idols*, *The Antichrist*, *Nietzsche contra Wagner*, *Dionysian Dithyrambs* (a collection of poems), and *Ecce Homo* are all written; *The Will to Power* project is dropped, in favour of a projected four-part *Revaluation of All Values*; condition deteriorates
- 1889 Collapses in early January in Turin, at the age of 44 (never recovers, living his final eleven years in invalid insanity in the care of his mother and sister); *Twilight of the Idols* is published in January
- 1892 First public edition of the fourth part of *Zarathustra* appears

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x	<i>Chronology of Nietzsche's life and works</i>
1893	Sister returns from Paraguay, and – under the name Elizabeth Förster-Nietzsche – assists their mother in the management of her brother's affairs
1895	<i>The Antichrist</i> and <i>Nietzsche Contra Wagner</i> are published
1897	Mother dies, leaving complete control of his care – and of his literary estate – to Elizabeth, who exploits his growing fame and fosters the assimilation of his thought to right-extremist political purposes during the next four decades
1900	Nietzsche dies, on 25 August, in Weimar
1901	Sister publishes an arrangement of selections from his notebooks of 1883–8 under the title <i>The Will to Power</i> , and in his name
1908	<i>Ecce Homo</i> is finally published
1910–11	First edition of Nietzsche's collected works is published under the supervision of Elizabeth – including a greatly expanded edition of <i>The Will to Power</i>

Richard Schacht