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978-1-107-02227-0 - The Conceptual Representation of Consciousness

Thomas Natsoulas

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THE CONCEPTUAL REPRESENTATION OF CONSCIOUSNESS

Consciousness is familiar to us first hand, yet difficult to understand. This book concerns six basic concepts of consciousness exercised in ordinary English. The first is the interpersonal meaning and requires at least two people involved in relation to one another. The second is a personal meaning, having to do with one's own perspective on the kind of person one is and the life one is leading. The third meaning has reference simply to one's being occurrently aware of something or as though of something. The fourth narrows the preceding sense to one's having direct occurrent awareness of happenings in one's own experiential stream. The fifth is the unitive meaning of consciousness and has reference to those portions of one's stream that one self-appropriates to make up one's conscious being. The last is the general-state meaning and picks out the general operating mode in which we most often function.

Thomas Natsoulas is an emeritus professor of psychology at the University of California, Davis, and a fellow of the Association for Psychological Science and the American Psychological Association. He is the author of *Consciousness and Perceptual Experience* (Cambridge University Press, 2013).

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CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781107022270

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First published 2015

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

Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication data

Natsoulas, Thomas.

The conceptual representation of consciousness / Thomas Natsoulas.

pages cm

Includes bibliographical references.

ISBN 978-1-107-02227-0 (hardback)

I. Consciousness. I. Title.

BF311.N3378 2015

153—dc23

2015011598

ISBN 978-1-107-02227-0 Hardback

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*As always for my good friend, wise counselor, and darling
wife Popi Levenderis of Symi, Greece*

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