Contents

List of figures v
Notes on contributors viii
Acknowledgments x

Introduction 1
Ahmed Alwishah and Josh Hayes

1 “Aristū ‘inda l-‘Arab,” and beyond 11
Christina D’Ancona

2 The division of the categories according to Avicenna 30
Paul Thom

3 What if that (is) why? Avicenna’s taxonomy of scientific inquiries 50
Riccardo Strobino

4 The Rhetoric and Poetics in the Islamic world 76
Uwe Vagelpohl

5 Al-Fārābī and the Didascalia 92
Frédérique Woerther

6 Aristotle’s ‘physical’ works and the Arabic tradition 105
Paul Lettinck

7 Defining nature: from Aristotle to Philoponus to Avicenna 121
Andreas Lammer

8 Avicenna on self-cognition and self-awareness 143
Ahmed Alwishah

9 Averroes on intentionality and the human experience of the natural world 164
Yehuda Halper
vi

Contents

10 Metaphysics in the orbit of Islam 177
   Calvin Normore

11 The Arabic reception of the *Nicomachean Ethics* 200
   Josh Hayes

12 The shining and the hidden: notes on politics and solitude from the “Greek Prophets” to al-Fārābī 214
   Claudia Baracchi

References 234
Index 261