

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-42115-7 — Interpreting Bergson
Edited by Alexandre Lefebvre, Nils F. Schott
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

INTERPRETING BERGSON

Bergson was a preeminent European philosopher of the early twentieth century and his work covers all major branches of philosophy. This volume of essays is the first collection in twenty years in English to address the whole of Bergson's philosophy, including his metaphysics, epistemology, philosophy of science, philosophy of life, aesthetics, ethics, social and political thought, and religion. The essays explore Bergson's influence on a number of different fields, and also extend his thought to pressing issues of our time, including philosophy as a way of life, inclusion and exclusion in politics, ecology, the philosophy of race and discrimination, and religion and its enduring appeal. The volume will be valuable for all who are interested in this important thinker and his continuing relevance.

ALEXANDRE LEFEBVRE is Associate Professor of Government and International Relations and of Philosophy at the University of Sydney. He is author of *Human Rights and the Care of the Self* (2018), *Human Rights as a Way of Life: on Bergson's Political Philosophy* (2013), and *The Image of Law: Deleuze, Bergson, Spinoza* (2008). He is co-editor of *Henri Bergson* (2015, with Nils F. Schott) and *Bergson, Politics, and Religion* (2012).

NILS F. SCHOTT is a lecturer in philosophy at the Collège universitaire de SciencesPo. He is co-editor of *Henri Bergson* (2015, with Alexandre Lefebvre) and *Love and Forgiveness for a More Just World* (2015). He is translator of a dozen volumes in philosophy and related fields.

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-42115-7 — Interpreting Bergson
Edited by Alexandre Lefebvre , Nils F. Schott
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-42115-7 — Interpreting Bergson
Edited by Alexandre Lefebvre, Nils F. Schott
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

INTERPRETING BERGSON

Critical Essays

EDITED BY
ALEXANDRE LEFEBVRE
University of Sydney

NILS F. SCHOTT
Collège universitaire de SciencesPo



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press
 978-1-108-42115-7 — Interpreting Bergson
 Edited by Alexandre Lefebvre, Nils F. Schott
 Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, 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

79 Anson Road, #06–04/06, Singapore 079906

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/9781108421157

DOI: 10.1017/9781108367455

© Cambridge University Press 2020

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.

First published 2020

Printed in the United Kingdom by TJ International Ltd, Padstow Cornwall

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

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

NAMES: Lefebvre, Alexandre, 1979– editor. | Schott, Nils F., editor.

TITLE: Interpreting Bergson : critical essays / edited by Alexandre Lefebvre, University of
Sydney, Nils F. Schott, Collège universitaire de SciencesPo.

DESCRIPTION: New York : Cambridge University Press, 2020. | Includes bibliographical
references and index.

IDENTIFIERS: LCCN 2019030732 (print) | LCCN 2019030733 (ebook) | ISBN 9781108421157
(hardback) | ISBN 9781108367455 (epub)

SUBJECTS: LCSH: Bergson, Henri, 1859–1941.

CLASSIFICATION: LCC B2430.B43 168 2020 (print) | LCC B2430.B43 (ebook) | DDC 194–dc23

LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2019030732>

LC ebook record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2019030733>

ISBN 978-1-108-42115-7 Hardback

Cambridge University Press 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.

Contents

<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>page</i> vii
<i>List of Contributors</i>	viii
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	ix
Introduction	I
<i>Alexandre Lefebvre and Nils F. Schott</i>	
1 Bergson’s Theory of Truth	13
<i>Arnaud François</i>	
<i>Translated by Nils F. Schott</i>	
2 What Was “Serious Philosophy” for the Young Bergson?	27
<i>Giuseppe Bianco</i>	
3 Bergson and Naturalism	48
<i>Stéphane Madelrieux</i>	
<i>Translated by Nils F. Schott</i>	
4 Bergson on the True Intellect	67
<i>Leonard Lawlor</i>	
5 Bergson’s Philosophy of Art	87
<i>Mark Sinclair</i>	
6 Bergson, the Time of Life, and the Memory of the Universe	104
<i>Suzanne Guerlac</i>	
7 Bergson and Philosophy as a Way of Life	121
<i>Keith Ansell-Pearson</i>	
8 Bergson and Social Theory	139
<i>Alexandre Lefebvre and Melanie White</i>	

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-42115-7 — Interpreting Bergson
Edited by Alexandre Lefebvre , Nils F. Schott
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

vi	<i>Contents</i>	
9	Bergson and Political Theory <i>Richard Vernon</i>	155
10	Bergson, Colonialism, and Race <i>Mark William Westmoreland</i>	172
11	Bergson’s Philosophy of Religion <i>Nils F. Schott</i>	193
	<i>Bibliography</i>	211
	<i>Index</i>	226

Figures

- | | | |
|---|--|----------------|
| 1 | Chain of being, Darwinian tree, Bergsonian sheaf | <i>page 63</i> |
|---|--|----------------|

Contributors

KEITH ANSELL-PEARSON is Professor of Philosophy at the University of Warwick.

GIUSEPPE BIANCO is a postdoctoral researcher at Lyon III University.

ARNAUD FRANÇOIS is Professor of Philosophy at the University of Poitiers.

SUZANNE GUERLAC is Professor of French Studies at the University of California, Berkeley.

LEONARD LAWLOR is Edwin Erle Sparks Professor of Philosophy at the Pennsylvania State University.

ALEXANDRE LEFEBVRE is Associate Professor of Government and International Relations, and Philosophy, at the University of Sydney.

STÉPHANE MADELRIEUX is Maître de conférences in Contemporary Philosophy at Lyon III University.

NILS F. SCHOTT is a lecturer in philosophy at the Collège universitaire de SciencesPo.

MARK SINCLAIR is a reader in philosophy at the University of Roehampton.

RICHARD VERNON is Distinguished University Professor of Political Science at Western University.

MARK WILLIAM WESTMORELAND is a doctoral candidate at Villanova University.

MELANIE WHITE is a senior lecturer in social theory at the University of New South Wales.

Abbreviations

To allow for quick reference to Bergson's works, the following abbreviations are used in inline citations. Page references are, first, to the *Œuvres* edited by André Robinet, and, in the case of *Duration and Simultaneity*, the *Mélanges*, and, second, to the authorized translations published in Bergson's lifetime. The bibliography provides detailed information on the translations and on other works by Bergson referred to in the notes.

DS	<i>Durée et simultanéité</i> , 1922; <i>Duration and Simultaneity</i>
DSMR	<i>Les deux sources de la morale et de la religion</i> , 1932; <i>The Two Sources of Morality and Religion</i>
EC	<i>L'Évolution créatrice</i> , 1907; <i>Creative Evolution</i>
ES	<i>L'Énergie spirituelle</i> , 1919; <i>Mind-Energy</i>
ESSAI	<i>Essai sur les données immédiates de la conscience</i> , 1889; <i>Time and Free Will: An Essay on the Immediate Data of Consciousness</i>
MM	<i>Matière et mémoire</i> , 1896; <i>Matter and Memory</i>
PM	<i>La pensée et le mouvant</i> , 1934; <i>The Creative Mind</i>
RIRE	<i>Le rire</i> , 1900; <i>Laughter</i>

Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-42115-7 — Interpreting Bergson
Edited by Alexandre Lefebvre , Nils F. Schott
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)
