

Fichte's *System of Ethics*

The *System of Ethics* was published at the height of Fichte's academic career and marks the culmination of his philosophical development in Jena. Much more than a treatise on ethics narrowly construed, the *System of Ethics* presents a unified synthesis of Fichte's core philosophical ideas, including the principle I-hood, self-activity and self-consciousness, and also contains his most detailed treatment of action and agency. This volume brings together an international group of leading scholars on Fichte, and is the first of its kind in English to offer critical and interpretive perspectives on this work, covering topics such as normativity, belief, justification, desire, duty, and the ethical life. It will be an essential guide for scholars wanting to deepen their understanding of Fichte's ethical thought, as well as for those interested in the history of ethics more broadly.

STEFANO BACIN is Associate Professor in Philosophy at the University of Milan. He is the author of *Il senso dell'etica: Kant e la costruzione di una teoria morale* (2006), *Fichte in Schulpforta (1774–1780)* (2007). He is also the coeditor (with Marcus Willaschek, Georg Mohr, and Jürgen Stolzenberg) of *Kant-Lexikon* (2015) and (with Oliver Sensen) of *The Emergence of Autonomy in Kant's Moral Philosophy* (2019).

OWEN WARE is Associate Professor in Philosophy at the University of Toronto. He is the author of *Kant's Justification of Ethics* (2021) and *Fichte's Moral Philosophy* (2020).

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FICHTE'S
System of Ethics
A Critical Guide

EDITED BY

STEFANO BACIN
University of Milan

OWEN WARE
University of Toronto



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Contributors

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DANIEL BREAZEALE is Professor Emeritus in Philosophy at the University of Kentucky. In addition to numerous articles, he is the author of *Thinking through the Wissenschaftslehre: Themes from Fichte's Early Philosophy* (2013). He is also the editor and translator of J. G. Fichte, *Foundation of the Entire Wissenschaftslehre and Related Writings* (forthcoming) and the coeditor (with Tom Rockmore) of *Fichte and Transcendental Philosophy* (2014) and *Fichte's Addresses to the German Nation Reconsidered* (2016).

BENJAMIN CROWE is Lecturer in Philosophy at Boston University. He is the author of *Heidegger's Religions Origins* (2006) and *Heidegger's Phenomenology of Religion* (2007). He is also the editor and translator of J. G. Fichte, *Lectures on the Theory of Ethics (1812)* (2016).

LUCA FONNESU is Professor of Philosophy at the University of Pavia. He is the author of *Antropologia e idealismo: La destinazione dell'uomo nell'etica di Fichte* (1993), *Storia dell'etica contemporanea: Da Kant alla filosofia analitica* (2006), and *Per una moralità concreta: Studi sulla filosofia classica tedesca* (2010).

DAVID JAMES is Professor of Philosophy at the University of Warwick. He is the author of *Fichte's Social and Political Philosophy: Property and Virtue* (2011), *Rousseau and German Idealism: Freedom, Dependence and Necessity* (2013), and *Fichte's Republic: Idealism, History and Nationalism* (2015). He is also the coeditor (with Günter Zöllner) of *The Cambridge Companion to Fichte* (2016).

DEAN MOYAR is Associate Professor of Philosophy at Johns Hopkins University. He is the author of *Hegel's Conscience* (2011). He is also the editor of *The Routledge Companion to Nineteenth Century Philosophy* (2010) and of *The Oxford Handbook of Hegel* (2017), and the coeditor (with Michael Quante) of *Hegel's Phenomenology of Spirit: A Critical Guide* (2008).

ANGELICA NUZZO is Professor of Philosophy at City University of New York. She is the author of *Kant and the Unity of Reason* (2005), *Ideal Embodiment: Kant's Theory of Sensibility* (2008), *Memory, History, Justice in Hegel* (2012), and *Approaching Hegel's Logic, Obliquely: Melville, Molière, Beckett* (2018).

ULRICH SCHLÖSSER is Professor of Philosophy at the University of Tübingen. He is the author of *Das Erfassen des Einleuchtens: Fichtes Wissenschaftslehre 1804* (2001).

OWEN WARE is Associate Professor in Philosophy at the University of Toronto. He is the author of *Kant's Justification of Ethics* (2021) and *Fichte's Moral Philosophy* (2020).

ALLEN WOOD is Professor Emeritus in Philosophy at Indiana University. He is the author of *Kant's Moral Religion* (1970), *Kant's Rational Theology* (1978), *Karl Marx* (1981), *Hegel's Ethical Thought* (1990), *Kant's Ethical Thought* (1999), and *Fichte's Ethical Thought* (2016). He is also the editor of J. G. Fichte, *Attempt at a Critique of All Revelation* (2010).

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Abbreviations and Translations

References to Fichte appear in the order of abbreviation, volume number, and page number from (1) *J. G. Fichte: Gesamtausgabe der Bayerischen Akademie der Wissenschaften*, 42 volumes, edited by Erich Fuchs, Reinhard Lauth, Hans Jacobs, and Hans Gliwitzky (Stuttgart-Bad Cannstatt: Frommann, 1964–2012), followed by (2) *Johann Gottlieb Fichtes sämtliche Werke*, 8 volumes, edited by I. H. Fichte (Berlin: Veit, 1845–1846).

References to Kant appear in the order of abbreviation, volume number, and page number from the *Akademie Ausgabe, Kants Gesammelte Schriften*, edited by the Berlin Brandenburg Academy of Sciences. The English translations are taken from the Cambridge Edition of the Works of Immanuel Kant, edited by Paul Guyer and Allen Wood.

FICHTE

A	1790: <i>Aphorismen über Religion und Deismus</i> (<i>Aphorisms Concerning Religion and Deism</i>)
AP	1799: “Appellation an das Publikum” (“Appeal to the Public”), in Bowman and Estes (2010)
BdG	1794: <i>Einige Vorlesungen über die Bestimmung des Gelehrten</i> (<i>Some Lectures Concerning the Scholar’s Vocation</i>), in Breazeale (1988)
BEIW	1795: “Ueber Belebung und Erhöhung des reinen Interesse für Wahrheit” (“On Stimulating and Raising the Pure Interest Truth”), in Breazeale (1988)
BdM	1800: <i>Die Bestimmung des Menschen</i> (<i>The Vocation of Human Beings</i>), in Preuss (1988)
EPW	<i>Fichte: Early Philosophical Writings</i> , in Breazeale (1988)

List of Abbreviations

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- ErE 1797: “Erste Einleitung in die Wissenschaftslehre” (“First Introduction to the Wissenschaftslehre”), in Breazeale (1994)
- GA *J. G. Fichte-Gesamtausgabe der Bayerischen Akademie der Wissenschaften* (Reihe/Band: Seite)
- GEWL 1795: *Grundriß des Eigenthümlichen der Wissenschaftslehre in Rücksicht auf das theoretische Vermögen* (*Outline of the Distinctive Character of the Wissenschaftslehre with Respect to the Theoretical Faculty*), in Breazeale (1988)
- GGW 1798: “Ueber den Grund unsers Glaubens an eine göttliche Weltregierung” (“On the Basis of Our Belief in a Divine Governance of the World”), in Breazeale (1994)
- GNR 1796/97: *Grundlage des Naturrechts nach Principien der Wissenschaftslehre* (*Foundations of Natural Right According to the Principles of the Wissenschaftslehre*), in Baur (2000)
- GR 1793: “Recension Gebhard” (“Review of Gebhard”), in Breazeale (2001a)
- GWL 1794/95: *Grundlage der gesammten Wissenschaftslehre* (*Foundation of the Entire Wissenschaftslehre*), in Heath and Lachs (1982)
- RA 1793: “Recension Aenesidemus” (“Review of Aenesidemus”), in Breazeale (1988)
- RC 1793: “Recension Creuzer” (“Review of Leonhard Creuzer, *Skeptical Reflections on the Freedom of the Will* (1793),” in Breazeale (2002b)
- SL 1798: *Das System der Sittenlehre nach den Principien der Wissenschaftslehre* (*The System of Ethics According to the Principles of the Wissenschaftslehre*), in Breazeale and Zöller (2005)
- SW *Johann Gottlieb Fichtes sämtliche Werke* (Band: Seite)
- VBG 1794: *Einige Vorlesungen über die Bestimmung des Gelehrten* (*Some Lectures Concerning the Scholar’s Vocation*), in Breazeale (1988)
- VKO 1792/93: *Versuch einer Critik aller Offenbarung* (*Attempt at a Critique of All Revelation*), in Green (2010)
- WLnm 1796/99: *Wissenschaftslehre nova methodo* (*Foundations of Transcendental Philosophy*), in Breazeale (1992)
- WLnm(H) 1797/98: *Wissenschaftslehre nova methodo*, Halle Nachschrift

- WLnM(K) 1798/99: *Wissenschaftslehre nova methodo*, Krause Nachschrift
 WM 1794: "Ueber die Würde des Menschen" ("On the Dignity of Human Beings"), in Breazeale (1988)
 VM 1796: Vorlesung über die Moral, Kollegnachschrift
 ZwE 1797: "Zweite Einleitung in die Wissenschaftslehre" ("Second Introduction to the Wissenschaftslehre"), in Breazeale (1994)

KANT

- G 1785: *Grundlegung zur Metaphysik der Sitten* (*Groundwork for the Metaphysics of Morals*). Translation in Gregor and Timmermann (2012)
 IaG 1784: "Idee zu einer allgemeinen Geschichte in weltbürgerlicher Absicht" ("Idea for a Universal History from a Cosmopolitan Point of View"). Translated by Allen W. Wood (2007)
 KpV 1788: *Kritik der praktischen Vernunft* (*Critique of Practical Reason*). Translated by Mary J. Gregor (1996)
 KrV A/B 1781/87: *Kritik der reinen Vernunft* (*Critique of Pure Reason*). Translated by Paul Guyer and Allen W. Wood (1998)
 KU 1790: *Kritik der Urteilskraft* (*Critique of the Power of Judgment*). Translated by Eric Matthews (2000)
 MS 1797: *Die Metaphysik der Sitten* (*The Metaphysics of Morals*). Translated by Mary J. Gregor (1996)
 R 1793: *Die Religion innerhalb der Grenzen der bloßen Vernunft* (*Religion within the Boundaries of Mere Reason*). Translated by Allen W. Wood and George di Giovanni (2018)
 WA 1784: "Beantwortung der Frage: Was ist Aufklärung?" ("An Answer to the Question: What Is Enlightenment?"). Translated by Mary J. Gregor (1996)