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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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).


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 Zöller) of The Cambridge Companion to Fichte (2016).
**List of Contributors**

**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).


**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).

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Abbreviations and Translations


**Fichte**

**A** 1790: Aphorismen über Religion und Deismus (Aphorisms Concerning Religion and Deism)

**AP** 1799: “Appellation an das Publikum” (“Appeal to the Public”), in Bowman and Estes (2010)

**BdG** 1794: Einige Vorlesungen über die Bestimmung des Gelehrten (Some Lectures Concerning the Scholar’s Vocation), in Breazeale (1988)


**BdM** 1800: Die Bestimmung des Menschen (The Vocation of Human Beings), in Preuss (1988)

**EPW** Fichte: Early Philosophical Writings, in Breazeale (1988)
List of Abbreviations

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)


GWL 1794/95: Grundlage der gesammten Wissenschaftslehre (Foundation of the Entire Wissenschaftslehre), in Heath and Lachs (1982)


SW Johann Gottlieb Fichtes sämmtliche 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
### List of Abbreviations

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<td>WLnm(K)</td>
<td>1798/99: <em>Wissenschaftslehre nova methodo</em>, Krause Nachschrift</td>
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<tr>
<td>VM</td>
<td>1796: Vorlesungen über die Moral, Kollegnachschrift</td>
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**KANT**

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<tr>
<td>G</td>
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