M. F. Burnyeat (1939–2019) was a major figure in the study of ancient Greek philosophy during the last decades of the twentieth century and the first of this. After teaching positions in London and Cambridge, where he became Laurence Professor, in 1996 he took up a Senior Research Fellowship at All Souls College, Oxford, from which he retired in 2006. In 2012 he published two volumes collecting essays dating from before the move to Oxford. Two new posthumously published volumes bring together essays from his years at All Souls and his retirement. The essays in Volume 4 are addressed principally to scholars engaging first with fundamental issues in Platonic and Aristotelian metaphysics and epistemology and in Aristotle’s philosophical psychology. Then follow studies tackling problems in interpreting the approaches to physics and cosmology taken by Plato and Aristotle, and in assessing the evidence for early Greek exercises in optics.

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EXPLORATIONS IN ANCIENT AND MODERN PHILOSOPHY

VOLUME IV

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Plate 4.2 Line of deletion on folio 361’ of Ab = Florence Biblioteca Medicea Laurenziana, ms. Plut. 87,12, f. 361r. Reproduced with permission of MiBACT.

Figure 11.1 House of Augustus, Room of the Perspectival Wall Paintings (Room 11). Drawing by L. Pannuti, from Gianfilippo Carettoni, ‘La decorazione pittorica della Casa di Augusto sul Palatino’, Mitteilungen des Deutschen archäologischen Instituts, Römische Abteilung 90/2 (1983), 373–419, fig. 4 (pp. 386–7).

Figures

Figure 11.3 Sketch illustrating Heron, *Catoptrica*, prop. 18.
From *Heronis Alexandrini opera quae supersunt omnia*, ed. L. Nix and W. Schmidt, ii/1. *Catoptrica* (Leipzig, 1900), fig. 91a (p. 358).

Figure 11.4 Sketch illustrating Heron, *Catoptrica*, prop. 18.
From *Heronis Alexandrini opera quae supersunt omnia*, ed. L. Nix and W. Schmidt, ii/1. *Catoptrica* (Leipzig, 1900), fig. 91b (p. 361).
Preface

Under the title *Explorations in Ancient and Modern Philosophy* (Cambridge University Press, 2012), Myles Burnyeat published two volumes of those of his collected papers that represented work dating from his periods teaching at University College London (1964–78) and the University of Cambridge (1978–96). He foresaw that a further collection might at some future date assemble publications and perhaps hitherto unpublished papers dating from his tenure of a Senior Research Fellowship at All Souls College, Oxford (1996–2006) and in subsequent retirement. Declining health did not allow him to implement that plan. Without any more specific guidance it was eventually left to his literary executors (Angela Hobbs, Malcolm Schofield, and David Sedley) to propose to the Press two further volumes of his collected papers, representing the philosophical work of this later period. The principles governing their choices are sketched in the Introductions to each of the volumes.

It remains to tender warmest thanks to those individuals and bodies who have facilitated the appearance of Volumes ii and iv of *Explorations*: first and foremost Margaret Bent, and for generous financial assistance All Souls College; Oliver Padel; George Boys-Stones, Victor Caston, and James Warren. Michael Sharp at Cambridge University Press has been strongly supportive throughout, and his colleagues Sarah Starkey, Katie Idle, along with Lesley Hay and Franklin Mathews Jebaraj, have been unfailingly helpful in shepherding these volumes through the production process. The editorial work itself was undertaken by Carol Atack, Malcolm Schofield, and David Sedley.

CWA, MS, DNS

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5. ‘De anima 11 5’, *Phronesis* 47 (2002), 28–90
8. ‘ΕΙΚΩΣ ΜΥΘΟΣ’, *Rhizai* 2 (2005), 143–65
10. ‘Archytas and optics’: *Science in Context* 18 (2005), 35–53
Acknowledgements

“‘All the world’s a stage-painting’: scenery, optics, and Greek epistemology’: *Oxford Studies in Ancient Philosophy* 52 (2017), 33–75

Note: To give help in following up references, the original pagination of the reprinted articles is indicated at the top of each page on the inner margin, and the original page divisions are marked in the course of the text by a pair of vertical lines, ||.
Abbreviations


DNB  Dictionary of National Biography, Oxford 1885–


SVF  *Stoicorum Veterum Fragmenta*, Leipzig 1903–24

TLG  *Thesaurus Linguae Graecae*, Irvine CA 2001–

Classical references are abbreviated according to *The Oxford Classical Dictionary* 3rd edn, with the exception of the following:

M  Sextus Empiricus, *Against the Mathematicians*

PH  Sextus Empiricus, *Outlines of Pyrrhonism*