

EXPLORATIONS IN ANCIENT AND MODERN  
PHILOSOPHY

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

M. F. BURNYEAT

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## *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 He foresaw that a further collection might at some future date assemble publications and perhaps hitherto unpublished papers dating from his tenure of a Senior Research Fellowship at All Souls College, Oxford (1996–2006) and in subsequent retirement.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 III 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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The chapters in this book were previously published as follows:

- 1 ‘*Apology* 30b2–4: Socrates, money, and the grammar of γίγνεσθαι’: *Journal of Hellenic Studies* 123 (2003), 1–25 and ‘On the source of Burnet’s construal of *Apology* 30b2–4: a correction’ 125 (2005), 139–42
- 2 ‘Plato on how not to speak of what is not: *Euthydemus* 283a–288a’: in Monique Canto-Sperber and Pierre Pellegrin, eds., *Le Style de la pensée: Recueil de textes en hommage à Jacques Brunschwig* (Paris, 2002), 40–66
- 3 ‘Platonism in the Bible: Numenius of Apamea on *Exodus* and eternity’: in Ricardo Salles, ed., *Metaphysics, Soul, and Ethics: Themes from the Work of Richard Sorabji* (Oxford, 2006), 43–69
- 4 ‘*Kinēsis* vs. *energeia*: a much-read passage in (but not of) Aristotle’s *Metaphysics*’: *Oxford Studies in Ancient Philosophy* 34 (2008), 219–92
- 5 ‘*De anima* II 5’, *Phronesis* 47 (2002), 28–90
- 6 ‘Aquinas on “spiritual change” in perception’: in Dominik Perler, ed., *Ancient and Medieval Theories of Intentionality* (Leiden/Boston/Cologne, 2001), 129–53
- 7 ‘*Epistēmē*’: in Benjamin Morison and Katerina Ierodiakonou, eds., *Episteme, Etc.: Essays in Honour of Jonathan Barnes* (Oxford, 2011), 3–29
- 8 ‘ΕΙΚΩΣ ΜΥΘΟΣ’, *Rhizai* 2 (2005), 143–65
- 9 ‘Aristotle on the foundations of sublunary physics’: in Frans de Haas and Jaap Mansfeld, eds., *Aristotle: On Generation and Corruption, Book I* (Oxford, 2004), 7–24
- 10 ‘Archytas and optics’: *Science in Context* 18 (2005), 35–53

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

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## *Abbreviations*

- DK H. Diels and W. Kranz, *Die Fragmente der Vorsokratiker*, 10th edn, Berlin 1960–1
- DNB Dictionary of National Biography, Oxford 1885–
- EAMP* M. F. Burnyeat, *Explorations in Ancient Philosophy*, Vols. I–IV, Cambridge 2012–22
- KRS G. S. Kirk, J. E. Raven and M. Schofield, *The Presocratic Philosophers: A Critical History with a Selection of Texts*, 2nd edn, Cambridge 1983
- LSJ H. G. Liddell and R. Scott, *Greek–English Lexicon*, 9th edn rev. H. Stuart Jones, Oxford 1925–40
- OLD A. Souter, C. O. Brink and P. G. W. Glare, *Oxford Latin Dictionary*, Oxford 1968
- RE* A. Pauly, G. Wissowa and W. Kroll, *Real-Encyclopädie der classischen Altertumswissenschaft*, 83 vols., Stuttgart 1893–1980
- SIG* W. Dittenberger, *Sylloge Inscriptionum Graecarum*, 3rd edn., Leipzig 1915–24
- 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*