The central question engaged in this book is the following: why does Emerson's cultural legacy continue to influence writers so forcefully? This study examines the way influential 20th-century critics have understood and deployed Emerson as part of their own larger projects aimed at reconceiving America. It examines previously unpublished material and original research on Van Wyck Brooks, Perry Miller, F. O. Matthiessen, and Sacvan Bercovitch along with other supporting thinkers. Emerging from this research is an in-depth account of Emerson's cultural construction as well as an institutional history of American literary studies in the 20th century. This book is also a fine-grained study of how the relationship between a scholar's individual perspective and prevailing cultural conditions merge together to impel critics to redirect the course of a present moment — often experienced as disappointing and unfulfilled — toward a desired future. When an engaged but theoretical mind meets with an impassive history, the response that follows, for some of our most imaginative and brilliant critics, has led, often and suggestively, to a turn toward Emerson.

Max Black's Objection to Mind-Body Identity
Ned Block

This chapter criticizes the property dualism argument. It argues that one version of the argument conflates two different notions of mode of presentation: the “cognitive mode of presentation,” which is defined in
terms of its role in determining reference and/or explaining cognitive significance; and the “metaphysical mode of presentation,” which is a property of the referent in virtue of which the cognitive mode of presentation plays its semantic and cognitive roles. It also examines John Perry's (2001) book, which discusses both Max Black's argument and the Knowledge Argument as well as some arguments drawn from Stephen White's (1986) essay on the topic and arguments inspired by unpublished papers by White.

Calvin and Calvinism within Congregational and Unitarian Discourse in Nineteenth-Century America

David D. Hall

in John Calvin's American Legacy

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Item type: chapter

At the end of the first-ever National Council of Congregational Churches (1865), Congregationalists were reluctant to embrace either the figure of John Calvin or the words that descend from him (Calvinistic, Calvinism). Why? This question animates the chapter. The story starts with the Unitarian controversy of the 1820s and 1830s when newly self-identified "Unitarians" disputed the legitimacy of Calvinism with their orthodox opponents. Thereafter, the chapter turns to the debates at the National Council and, at the end of the century, a New England Congregationalist’s (Williston Walker) study of Calvin. It concludes with the problem of Calvin and Calvinism within American Puritan studies as refracted through the writings of the most significant American student of Puritanism, Perry Miller. The more that nineteenth-century liberal Protestants distanced themselves from the Reformation, the more they caricatured Calvin and Calvinism. Some of the ironies and contradictions of that process will be noted.

Being of Two Minds: Belief with Doubt (1995) *

Nathan Salmon

in Content, Cognition, and Communication: Philosophical Papers II

Published in print: 2007 Published Online: September 2007
DOI: 10.1093/acprof:oso/9780199284726.003.0013
Item type: chapter
This chapter proposes natural definitions for a variety of doxastic notions, including disbelief, doubt, and suspension of judgment. Some plausible axioms are considered. A number of questionable theorems, excluding the prospect of being of two minds, are derived from the union of the proposed definitions and axioms. An alternative basis is proposed. The so-called hidden indexical theory of Mark Crimmins, Stephen Schiffer, and John Perry is criticized.

Separate Strands
Elizabeth Rose

in The Promise of Preschool: From Head Start to Universal Pre-Kindergarten
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Item type: chapter

The education reform movement of the 1980s drew preschool closer to the world of public education, leading to the spread of public pre-kindergarten programs. Research on the long-term benefits of quality preschool for disadvantaged children put preschool education on the national agenda of K-12 education reform and bolstered the fortunes of the Head Start program. At the same time, advocates also pushed child care back onto the federal agenda, prompting unprecedented political debate over children's policy and securing a new federal commitment to supporting child care for low-income families. Some reformers urged bringing preschool “into the education tent,” seeing the public K-12 system as a more secure home for early childhood education. Nevertheless, the relationship between private providers and public school educators was often marked by mistrust and competition.

Mid-Atlantic Musings
Georgios Varouxakis

in European Stories: Intellectual Debates on Europe in National Contexts
Published in print: 2010 Published Online: January 2011
Item type: chapter

Georgios Varouxakis starts the clock at Britain's first flirtation with EEC membership in 1961, outlining some reflections on the role that perceptions of British history have played in shaping the peculiarities of attitudes towards Europe and Britain's relation to it in the twentieth century. He then goes on to analyse the nature and major characteristics
of British intellectuals' debates on the EEC up to the time of the referendum that confirmed Britain's continued membership in 1975, including the virulent Euroscepticism of the “old-guard New Left”. The rest of the chapter then focuses on contemporary intellectual debates on Europe, analysing the specific contributions of individual thinkers such as Tom Nairn and Perry Anderson and discussing the impact of postcolonialism and the Transatlantic relationship on attitudes to Europe. The picture that emerges as far as “intellectuals” are concerned is more complex than the traditional binary distinction between “pro-Europe” and “Eurosceptic”.

IN FAVOR OF THE PROPERTY THEORY

Neil Feit

in Belief about the Self: A Defense of the Property Theory of Content

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Item type: chapter

This chapter sets out the case for the property theory of content. The first section discusses an argument based on John Perry’s famous case of the messy shopper. The second section discusses an argument based on David Lewis’s case of the two gods. In the third section, new arguments for the theory are defended, arguments from psychological internalism and from physicalism. Finally, the fourth section discusses a more general argument — an inference to the best explanation — in favor of the property theory.

Revolution and Counter-Revolution 1789–1793

Anne Stott

in Hannah More: The First Victorian

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Item type: chapter

Hannah More's career as a conduct-book writer continued with her Estimate of the Religion of the Fashionable World (1791). In the early part of 1791, her writing career was disrupted by the elopement from the Park Street school of the Jamaican heiress, Clementina Clerke with Richard Vining Perry. The case became a cause célèbre. As a friend of Edmund Burke, Hannah More approved of his Reflections on the Revolution in France, and she became one of the most successful loyalist
writers of the 1790s. At the end of 1792, she published anonymously her Village Politics, a landmark in the literature of popular loyalism, in response to Thomas Paine's Rights of Man, in which she put Burke's conservative arguments into the mouths of common people. In 1793, she wrote Remarks on the Speech of M. Dupont in order to raise funds for the émigré French clergy.

Perry Miller’s Errand into the Wilderness
Randall Fuller

in Emerson's Ghosts: Literature, Politics, and the Making of Americanists

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Publisher: Oxford University Press
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This chapter traces the process by which Perry Miller came to view Emerson as the molten center in the Ptolemaic universe of American literary history. Accordingly, some of his most important utterances about American culture gather around Emerson and seek to establish a “usable” version of the author as someone who wished above all else to make ideas a force in a world hopelessly immured in an inert materialism. In 1939-40, for instance, as the Harvard campus erupted in a bitterly politicized debate over US intervention in World War II, Miller wrote “From Edwards to Emerson”, a dazzling piece of scholarly synthesis that covertly rebuked campus communists and isolationists while at the same time suggesting the basis for more effective intellectual activism. And as Cold War anxiety coalesced with his own sense that the study of America had been co-opted by an imperial project that in turn led to intellectual constriction and repression, he found himself describing with increasing frequency the Emersonian scholar as a “lone wolf”, an outsider fiercely protective of independent thought while at the same time fated to obscurity, misappropriation, and bitter alienation.

From Madea to Media Mogul
TreaAndrea M. Russworm, Samantha N. Sheppard, and Karen M. Bowdre (eds)

Published in print: 2016 Published Online: January 2018
Publisher: University Press of Mississippi
DOI: 10.14325/

From Madea to Media Mogul examines multi-hyphenate media mogul Tyler Perry’s unique role in contemporary media culture. Unlike the discordant, popular, and limited range of academic responses to
Perry’s work, the essays here are engaged with neither celebrating nor condemning Tyler Perry. This collection demonstrates that there is something inherently political about the intersection between understanding the pleasure as well as displeasure surrounding black popular cultural expression. This intersection is crucial not only to understanding Tyler Perry but also to how we think about race and identity in the 21st Century. The collection is organized around a core set of key concepts, because Perry’s image and productions are an invitation to interrogate and transform some of our most familiar disciplinary terms, such as affect, cinephilia, platforms, mogul, rebrand, and niche. Other concepts that Perry prompts us to reconsider, like the politics of respectability, centrality, exceptionalism, and disguise are informed by cultural studies traditions, while new perspective on terms like chitlin and gospel broaden our grasp on thematic concerns from black cultural traditions. Above all, what this collection aims for in offering this rubric for reading Perry are paradigm-shifting approaches that embrace the unexpected. This is a collection that deliberately brings these diverse approaches and disciplinary traditions together by arguing that Tyler Perry’s productions are unintelligible without them and that these critical perspectives reveal Tyler Perry as perhaps one of the most important figures in American media history.

Traditional Representationalism
J.T. Ismael
in The Situated Self
Published in print: 2007 Published Online: January 2009
Item type: chapter
This chapter begins with a discussion of Frege's model of thought. It then discusses Burge's views about de re beliefs and Perry's thought without representation.

Context and Coordination
J.T. Ismael
in The Situated Self
Published in print: 2007 Published Online: January 2009
Item type: chapter
This chapter discusses “conceptual evolution” and the role of the environment in maintaining an invariant link between thought and the world. It shows how coordination breaks down when one moves into unaccustomed circumstances, and describes a general technique for decoupling thought from context by developing an increasingly articulated representation of the causal fabric in which phenomenal states are embedded. It then recommends a generalization of Perry's vocabulary of unarticulated constituents. Finally, the chapter brings the discussion back around and incorporates this into the general story of how the mind turns the fragile, fleeting links provided by experience into reliable, continuing connections that reach far into the spatial landscape and deeply into the circle of causes.

Evans and the Sense of “I” *

José Luis Bermúdez

in Thought, Reference, and Experience: Themes from the Philosophy of Gareth Evans

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Item type: chapter

This chapter focuses on two enduring features of Gareth Evans's work. The first is his rethinking of standard ways of understanding the Fregean notion of sense, and the second his sustained attempt to undercut the familiar opposition between Russellian and Fregean approaches to understanding thought and language. It begins with some general comments on the Fregean approach to thought and language, identifying three different explanatory tasks that the notion of a thought is called upon to perform. The chapter also explores the distinctive difficulties that indexical expressions in general, and ‘I’ in particular, pose for Fregean approaches to thought and language. The chapter then goes on to consider Perry's proposal to deal with these difficulties by fractionating the notion of a thought so that there is no single thing that performs the three functions identified earlier in the chapter. The chapter then considers Evans's own account of the sense of ‘I’. It is argued that it is a requirement upon an account of the sense of ‘I’ that it respect the symmetry constraint, so that what I say in a given context using ‘I’ should be the same as what you might say in that same context using ‘you’. A development of Evans's account that meets the symmetry constraint is proposed.
Conclusion
Mary Burke

in 'Tinkers': Synge and the Cultural History of the Irish Traveller

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Item type: chapter

The conclusion posits that the ‘tinker’ trope continues to appeal to those seeking a motif of insurrection or authenticity in a manner that would currently be almost unthinkable in any other First World country with a comparable indigenous minority. However, in light of the growing awareness of the history of this cultural construct, it may soon no longer be possible for a figure identified with an actual contemporary minority to be naively deployed as an apolitical and ahistorical symbol of menace or exoticness. In order to suggest the manner in which the Traveller is beginning to be represented without recourse to either positive or negative stereotype, the conclusion closes with an examination of Perry Ogden’s Pavee Lackeen, a politically-alert but never polemical film that avoids objectifying its Traveller subject. Nevertheless, a true breakthrough in the representation of Travellers will have been reached when Traveller creators of visual images of Travellers by Travellers finally emerge.

‘Jacob and Rachel’: Zachary Macaulay and Selina Mills
Anne Stott

in Wilberforce: Family and Friends

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Item type: chapter

This chapter opens with an account of Selina Mills, the daughter of a Quaker bookseller in Bristol. It shows how she took over the running of the school set up by Hannah More and her sisters. The school was nearly destroyed when an heiress pupil, Clementina Clerke, eloped with the surgeon, Richard Vining Perry. The case came to trial in 1794 when Perry was acquitted of the charge of abducting a minor. The chapter then recounts the early career of Zachary Macaulay showing how his experiences in Jamaica made him an implacable opponent of the slave trade. His period as governor of the Sierra Leone colony is described. His courtship of Selena Mills was frustrated by the hostility of Hannah More and her sister Patty, and also by Selina’s reluctance to go with him to Sierra Leone.
Radical redistricting plans, such as that pushed through by Texas governor Rick Perry in 2003, are frequently used for partisan purposes. Perry’s plan sent twenty-one Republicans (and only eleven Democrats) to Congress in the 2004 elections. Such heavy-handed tactics strike many as contrary to basic democratic principles. This book uses a combination of political science methods and legal studies insights to investigate the effects of redistricting on U.S. House elections. It concludes that partisan gerrymandering poses far less of a threat to democratic accountability than conventional wisdom would suggest. Building on a large data set of the demographics of redrawn districts and subsequent congressional elections, the book looks less at the who and how of gerrymandering and considers more closely the practical effects of partisan redistricting plans. It finds that the redrawing of districts often results in no detrimental effect for district-level competition. Short-term benefits in terms of capturing seats are sometimes achieved but long-term results are uncertain. By focusing on the end results rather than on the motivations of political actors, the book seeks to recast the political debate about the importance of partisanship. It supports institutionalizing metrics for competitiveness that would prove more threatening to all incumbents no matter their party affiliation.

No Restraint: Arguments From Religious Freedom, Equality, and Enrichment

Kent Greenawalt

In this chapter, a challenge to the idea of ecumenical exchange is set forth from explicit religious premises. One made by David Smolin critiques Michael Perry’s ideas on religious dialogue. Based mainly on the conservative traditionalist view, Smolin rejects the idea of a rational reexamination of religious beliefs. Smolin regards liberal Christianity as unstable, because the attempted mix of modernist premises with loyalty to God is bound to result in an increasingly secular identity.
Smolin urges that the very nature of scriptural religions like Christianity, Judaism, and Islam is that they posit an extremely public and accessible revelation of God, from this Christian perspective, the main barrier to acceptance of Christianity is not insufficient understanding but a failure of will stemming from sinful human nature. Perry's reply to this critique presents a shift in position which Perry says that one should not posit an ideal that would render beliefs like David Smolin's an inappropriate basis for political choice. Instead, those beliefs need to be met on their merits.

The Drama of Revolution and Reaction: Marxist History and the Twentieth Century

Alex Callinicos

in Marxist History-writing for the Twenty-first Century

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Item type: chapter

Marx's The Eighteenth Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte was written not as a history but as an insight to the present – as a piece of contemporary political analysis. The The Eighteenth Brumaire aims to explain the political turmoil of 1848 to 1849 that ended in Napoleon's coup d'état. It was part of the first genre of historical writing to take as its object the most important political episodes of the century. The The Eighteenth Brumaire seeks to make sense of some contemporary event by constructing a narrative of it informed by the Marxist theory of history. This chapter considers specific cases of the dynamics of revolution, including the processes through which revolution is prevented and reaction institutionalized. It also discusses Marxist interpretations of the twentieth century, with emphasis on the Marxist thesis proposed by Perry Anderson, Eric Hobshawn, and Francis Fukuyama. Within the framework of Marxist historiography, the chapter measures how Marx's theory of history confronts the present as a historical problem.

Case Studies

Herman Cappelen

in Philosophy without Intuitions

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Item type: chapter
This chapter sets about testing empirically the claim that philosophical practice involves an implicit reliance on intuitions. It does this by examining ten philosophical thought experiments in argumentative context: Perry’s cases in “The Essential Indexical”, Burge’s arthritis cases in “Individualism and the Mental”, Thomson’s violinist, Thomson’s and Foot’s trolley cases, Cohen’s lottery cases, Lehrer’s Truetemp, Goldman’s fake barn cases, Cappelen and Hawthorne’s cases on judgments of taste, Williams’ cases on personal identity, and Chalmers’ zombies. Relying on the diagnostics developed in the previous chapter, it is shown that none of the judgments involved have the special features that methodologists typically take as characteristic of intuitions.

Textualism and Consensualism
Sotirios A. Barber and James E. Fleming

in Constitutional Interpretation: The Basic Questions
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Item type: chapter

The textualist says we can find what the Constitution means by consulting the plain words of the constitutional document. The consensualist consults a current social consensus on what the words of the document mean. This chapter treats these approaches together because both claim to consult conventional understandings of the meanings of the words. It concludes that the textualist and the consensualist reason, not from plain words or social consensus, but from a conception of democracy that is controversial enough to require a philosophic defense — a defense that textualists and consensualists would but cannot responsibly avoid. The chapter also distinguishes a plain words version of textualism from an abstract version of textualism, showing that the latter is equivalent to the philosophic approach. It sketches a preliminary view of the philosophic approach and previews objections that it would be undemocratic, un-American, dangerous, and/or fruitless.