

# Time, Memory, Institution: Merleau-Ponty's New Ontology of Self (Series In Continental Thought)

From Ohio University Press



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This collection is the first extended investigation of the relation between time and memory in Maurice Merleau-Ponty's thought as a whole as well as the first to explore in depth the significance of his concept of institution. It brings the French phenomenologist's views on the self and ontology into contemporary focus. *Time, Memory, Institution* argues that the self is not a self-contained or self-determining identity, as such, but is gathered out of a radical openness to what is not self, and that it gathers itself in a time that is not merely a given dimension, but folds back upon, gathers, and institutes itself.

Access to previously unavailable texts, in particular Merleau-Ponty's lectures on institution and expression, has presented scholars with new resources for thinking about time, memory, and history. These essays represent the best of this new direction in scholarship; they deepen our understanding of self and world in relation to time and memory; and they give occasion to reexamine Merleau-Ponty's contribution and relevance to contemporary Continental philosophy.

This volume is essential reading for scholars of phenomenology and French philosophy, as well as for the many readers across the arts, humanities, and social sciences who continue to draw insight and inspiration from Merleau-Ponty.

**Contributors**: Elizabeth Behnke, Edward Casey, Véronique Fóti, Donald Landes, Kirsten Jacobson, Galen Johnson, Michael Kelly, Scott Marratto, Glen Mazis, Caterina Rea, John Russon, Robert Vallier, and Bernhard Waldenfels



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#### Review

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- Leonard Lawlor, author of Early Twentieth-Century Continental Philosophy
- "The rich and impressive essays in *Time, Memory, Institution* make a new and significant contribution to the field, dealing with works of Merleau-Ponty's that have only recently become available in English."
- Jack Reynolds, author of Merleau-Ponty and Derrida: Intertwining Embodiment and Alterity

#### About the Author

David Morris is a professor of philosophy at Concordia University in Montreal. He holds a PhD from the University of Toronto and is the author of "The Sense of Space" and numerous articles and book chapters on Merleau-Ponty and phenomenology.

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