



Philosophical Interventions: Reviews 1986-2011

By Martha C. Nussbaum

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This volume collects the notable published book reviews of Martha C. Nussbaum, an acclaimed philosopher who is also a professor of law and a public intellectual. Her academic work focuses on questions of moral and political philosophy and on the nature of the emotions. But over the past 25 years she has also written many book reviews for a general public, in periodicals such as *The New Republic* and *The New York Review of Books*. Dating from 1986 to the present, these essays engage, constructively and also critically, with authors like Roger Scruton, Allan Bloom, Charles Taylor, Judith Butler, Richard Posner, Catharine MacKinnon, Susan Moller Okin, and other prominent intellectuals of our time. Throughout, her views defy ideological predictability, heralding valuable work from little-known sources, deftly criticizing where criticism is due, and generally providing a compelling picture of how philosophy in the Socratic tradition can engage with broad social concerns. For this volume, Nussbaum provides an intriguing introduction that explains her selection and provides her view of the role of the public philosopher.

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Review

"This kind of serious critical engagement is important, and Martha does it with great power. The reviews also cover a wide range: they show Martha's own remarkable breadth, but also the range of subjects on which a serious and imaginative philosopher has something important to contribute." -- Joshua Cohen, Stanford University

About the Author

Martha C. Nussbaum is Ernst Freund Distinguished Service Professor of Law and Ethics at the University of Chicago. She is the author of *Love's Knowledge, Sex and Social Justice, Animal Rights* (edited with Cass Sunstein), and *From Disgust to Humanity*, among many.

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