

PREFACE

On bringing this encyclopedia of learning in phenomenology to the public, I want to express my warm thanks to our colleagues who have lent me their support by enlisting in the editorial board of this undertaking, as well as to all our contributors, who by their dedicated effort have made this project happen. The worldwide scope of their expertise and the high level of scholarship make it manifest that phenomenology is present and well grounded around the world.

The fact that the majority of our contributors are longtime participants in the work of the World Phenomenology Institute manifests the Institute's extensive and profound work and makes this encyclopedia of learning in phenomenology its crowning natural accomplishment.

So far unique in its kind, our guide is meant to offer a survey in depth of phenomenological learning. It is meant for the scholar in phenomenology as well as for the scholarly layman. It presents the complete body of learning/scholarship in phenomenology. A Glossary of Terms aids the general reader.

Here is the harvest of a hundred years. In these seven hundred some pages we have traced in in-depth specialized studies the course that the phenomenological inspiration of Edmund Husserl took in his followers and goes on taking. We have done this pinpointing the main assumptions of the Husserlian endeavor, tendencies, and aims while marking the turning points of their unfolding. Great attention is given to the main thinkers who came after Husserl, to their own original developments of his thinking in various directions. Lastly, great attention is paid to the ways in which phenomenology has informed, enlivened, influenced the fields of knowledge whether in the humanities or in the sciences.

We owe the reader some explanation of our roster of subjects and philosophers. I hope that all of the classical phenomenological thinkers of the first wave of phenomenology have been mentioned in appropriate places; we have chosen for a special individual entry only a few, namely, those whose influence remains alive and actual in contemporary phenomenological reflection. From the second wave of the phenomenological efflorescence, we have given an individual entry to all of the thinkers who made a substantial contribution to the field or exercised a major influence in their cultural area, while others have been mentioned in appropriate places in either specialized studies or in an account of phenomenology in

their nation. These may be located using the Index of Names.

As a matter of fact, we are not giving a general survey of phenomenological life in all countries. For that one may consult the last quarter century's issues of our journal *Phenomenological Inquiry* (formerly *Phenomenology Information Bulletin*). Here are covered, first, the most significant areas like Germany, the United States, Belgium, the Netherlands, etc. secondly, those countries that have now emerged from Soviet domination (e.g., Georgia, Latvia, Slovakia), and then places we have not presented before, like India. I hope that all will find themselves in an appropriate entry.

Our view of phenomenology is very inclusive and broad, including all the allegiances of the scholars who feel an affinity with it. However, it should be understood, as I point out briefly in the Introduction, that in this allegiance there are several "circles" or rings to be distinguished, according to the clarity found of an at least immanent awareness of following more or less essentially phenomenology's procedures for achieving legitimate recognitions. Not every type of description complies with the rules of phenomenological description. The all-overriding call of Husserl is that we clarify as closely as possible what we are doing philosophically.

The volume will offer all necessary references for research and probing in phenomenology. But this is not its only or even main task.

Amid the diverse sweep of doctrines, approaches, views that claim allegiance to phenomenology, it is of paramount importance for a researcher or student of phenomenology to have guidelines that he may orient himself/herself in this field, in order to find proper bearings and phenomenology's authentic significance in the history of philosophy, its present aims, and inspirations too for pursuing it further.

It is my hope that owing to the effort of our enthusiastic participants in this substantial work it will be easier to locate phenomenology's place among the philosophical influences feeding our thought and culture and to propel it on a promising, fecund course. The seminal ideas which came to light should stimulate the philosophical imagination and lead to a phenomenological revival.

Thanks are due to the special people who were instrumental in carrying this project to its completion. First of all I owe great appreciation to Dr. Claire Ortiz

Hill, who with her great expertise has prepared the text of the book for publication and lent her judicious advice; Jeff Hurlburt, my assistant, gave invaluable assistance in the logistics of the project, with the aid of Louis Houthakker.

Lastly, I thank Robert J. Wise and Ryan Walther for their editing roles. To all of them I present my warmest thanks.

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