THE REBIRTH OF DIALOGUE
Bakhtin, Socrates, and the Rhetorical Tradition
JAMES P. ZAPPEN

Offers a fundamental rethinking of the rhetorical tradition as dialogue.

Dialogue has suffered a long eclipse in the history of philosophy and the history of rhetoric but has enjoyed a rebirth in the work of Hans-Georg Gadamer, Martin Buber, and Mikhail Bakhtin. Among twentieth-century figures, Bakhtin took a special interest in the history of the dialogue form. This book explores Bakhtin’s understanding of Socratic dialogue and the notion that dialogue is not simply a way of persuading others to accept our ideas, but a way of holding ourselves, and others, accountable for all of our thoughts, words, and actions. In supporting this premise, Bakhtin challenges the traditions of argument and persuasion handed down from Plato and Aristotle, and he offers, as an alternative, a dialogical rhetoric that restructures the traditional relationship between speakers and listeners, writers and readers, as a mutual testing, contesting, and creating of ideas. The author suggests that Bakhtin’s dialogical rhetoric is not restricted to oral discourse, but is possible in any medium, including written, graphic, and digital.

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James P. Zappen is Associate Professor in the Department of Language, Literature, and Communication at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

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BUDDHIST WOMEN AND SOCIAL JUSTICE
Ideals, Challenges, and Achievements
KARMA LEKshe TSOMO, EDITOR

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Karma Lekshe Tsomo is Assistant Professor of Theology and Religious Studies at the University of San Diego. She is the author of Sisters in Solitude: Two Traditions of Buddhist Monastic Ethics for Women and the editor of Buddhist Women Across Cultures: Realizations, both also published by SUNY Press.

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For a list of contributors, see page 60.
Embodying the Dharma explores the centrality of relic veneration in Asian Buddhist cultures. Long disregarded by Western scholars as a superstitious practice reflecting the popularization of “original” Buddhism, relic veneration has emerged as a topic of vital interest in the last two decades with the increased attention to Buddhist ritual practice and material culture. This volume includes studies of relic traditions in India, Japan, Tibet, Sri Lanka, and Thailand, as well as broader comparative analyses, including comparisons of Buddhist and Christian relic veneration.

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