**The Science of Knowing**

J. G. Fichte’s 1804 Lectures on the *Wissenschaftslehre*

J. G. Fichte

Translated and with an Introduction by Walter E. Wright

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The text is divided into two parts: a doctrine of truth or reason, and a doctrine of appearance. A central feature of the text is its performative dimension. Philosophy, for Fichte, is something we enact rather than any discursively expressible object of awareness; a philosophical truth is not expressible as a set of propositions but is a spontaneous inwardly occurring realization. Therefore, he always regards the expression of philosophy in words as strategic, aiming to ignite philosophy’s essentially inward process and to arouse the event of philosophical insight.

The new translation contains a German-English glossary and an extensive introduction and notes by the translator.

Walter E. Wright is Professor of Philosophy at Clark University.

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J. Claude Evans

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J. Claude Evans is Associate Professor of Philosophy and Environmental Studies at Washington University and is the author of several books, including *Strategies of Deconstruction: Derrida and the Myth of the Voice*.

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Robert J. Cavalier is Associate Teaching Professor of Philosophy at Carnegie Mellon University. He is the coeditor (with James Gouinlock and James P. Sterba) of Ethics in the History of Western Philosophy.

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John Sallis is Edwin Erle Sparks Professor of Philosophy at The Pennsylvania State University at University Park. He has written many books, including Platonic Legacies; Interrogating the Tradition: Hermeneutics and the History of Philosophy (coedited with Charles E. Scott); and Double Truth, all published by SUNY Press.

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Daniel A. Dombrowski is Professor of Philosophy at Seattle University. He is the author of several books, including _Rawls and Religion: The Case for Political Liberalism_, also published by SUNY Press.

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"Gilmore has a distinctive take on the relationship between philosophy and film. Using the work of Stanley Cavell as his basis, Gilmore argues that popular films can be a means by which people can experience the pleasures and rewards of philosophy." — Thomas E. Wartenberg, author of _Unlikely Couples: Movie Romance as Social Criticism_

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Richard A. Gilmore is Associate Professor of Philosophy at Concordia College and the author of _Philosophical Health: Wittgenstein's Method in "Philosophical Investigations."_

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“The brilliant rethinking of the problem of negativity in Hegel and Heidegger is intellectually important. It is convincing, clear, and truly interesting. In addition, it is pivotal to clarifying Heidegger’s contribution to contemporary thought. This reading is also valuable because, implicitly, it shows how mistaken the Frankfurt School is in its response to Heidegger, since this response is largely based on the supposed absence of negativity in his work. Güven’s excellent reading proves that such critiques have no basis in Heidegger’s work.” — Krzysztof Ziarek, author of *Inflected Language: Toward a Hermeneutics of Nearness: Heidegger, Levinas, Stevens, Celan*

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Freya Mathews is Senior Lecturer in Philosophy at La Trobe University, Australia. She is the editor of *Ecology and Democracy* and the author of *The Ecological Self*.

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Georges Naddaf

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Gerard Naddaf is Associate Professor and Chair of Philosophy at York University in Toronto. He is the coauthor (with Dirk L. Couprie and Robert Hahn) of Anaximander in Context: New Studies in the Origins of Greek Philosophy, also published by SUNY Press, and the translator and editor of Plato the Myth Maker by Luc Brisson.

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Philip J. Rossi, SJ

Explores the social ramifications of Kant's concept of radical evil.

In The Social Authority of Reason, Philip J. Rossi, SJ argues that the current cultural milieu of globalization is strikingly reflective of the human condition appraised by Kant, in which mutual social interaction for human good is hamstrung by our contentious "unsociable sociability." He situates the paradoxical nature of contemporary society—its opportunities for deepening the bonds of our common human mutuality along with its potential for enlarging the fissures that arise from our human differences—in the context of Kant's notion of radical evil. As a corrective, Rossi proposes that we draw upon the social character of Kant's critique of reason, which offers a communal trajectory for human moral effort and action. This trajectory still has power to open the path to what Kant called "the highest political good"—lasting peace among nations.

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Philip J. Rossi, SJ is Professor of Theology at Marquette University and the coeditor (with Michael J. Wreen) of Kant's Philosophy of Religion Reconsidered.

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“Stone makes a plausible case for the position that Hegel’s philosophy of nature is not only part of a broader and defensible metaphysics, but also is practically relevant, suggestive, and ‘useful’ to those concerned about environmental philosophy. This book makes an original and important contribution to the scholarship on Hegel’s philosophy of nature.” — Michael Baur, coeditor of The Emergence of German Idealism

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Carl G. Vaught is Distinguished Professor of Philosophy at Baylor University. He has written many books, including the previous two titles in this trilogy, The Journey toward God in Augustine’s Confessions: Books I–VI, and Encounters with God in Augustine’s Confessions: Books VII–IX, both also published by SUNY Press.

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Anne L. Schneider and Helen M. Ingram, editors

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Anne L. Schneider is Dean of the College of Public Programs at Arizona State University. Helen M. Ingram is Professor of Social Ecology and Drew, Chace, and Erin Warmington Chair in the Social Ecology of Peace and International Cooperation at the University of California at Irvine. Schneider and Ingram have published many books, including coauthoring Policy Design for Democracy.

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