

Hans-Georg Gadamer

Gesammelte Werke

Band 1: Hermeneutik I: Wahrheit und Methode: Grundzüge einer philosophischen Hermeneutik

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Gadamer's main work, »Truth and Method,« will be published in 2010, exactly 50 years after the first edition, in a slightly corrected version as an inexpensive student edition. This is seen as one of the few standard works of German post-war philosophy which has achieved worldwide recognition. The huge reaction to this is surprising for many reasons, among other things because in this work an important new theory is presented in intimations only using the author's own conceptual instruments; in fact the author is careful when touching on ancient themes in the philosophical approach to the world.

The main question in the work is: What actually happens when we understand? Gadamer focuses on the historical dimensions of understanding, including his famous rehabilitation of »prejudice.« In addition to the systematic excursus, the book contains an intellectual history of hermeneutics, which is convincing in its virtuosity in dealing with a variety of inspirational figures such as Hegel, Dilthey, Husserl and Heidegger. The amiability and objectivity with which Gadamer invites his readers to a discussion are what account for the enormous influence of this exemplary textbook.

Hans-Georg Gadamer **Hans G. Gadamer**, (1900–2002); 1918–19 Studium der Philosophie in Breslau; 1919–22 Studium in Marburg; 1922 Promotion bei Paul Natorp; 1928 Habilitation bei Martin Heidegger; 1928–37 Privatdozent für Philosophie in Marburg; 1937 a.o. Professor in Marburg; 1939 Ruf nach Leipzig; 1945 Dekan der philosophischen Fakultät in Leipzig, 1946 Rektor der Universität Leipzig; 1947 Ruf nach Frankfurt am Main; 1949 Ruf nach Heidelberg; 1951 Mitglied der Heidelberger Akademie der Wissenschaften; 1968 Emeritierung und Präsident der Heidelberger Akademie der Wissenschaften; Weiterführung der Lehrtätigkeit, auch in Amerika und Italien.

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