

# CONCEPTIONS OF THE MIND

*Essays in Honor  
of George A. Miller*

Edited by  
**GILBERT HARMEAN**



# Conceptions Of The Human Mind Essays In Honor Of George A Miller

**Richard A. Carlson**



## **Conceptions Of The Human Mind Essays In Honor Of George A Miller:**

**Conceptions of the Human Mind** Gilbert Harman, 2013-05-13 This volume is a direct result of a conference held at Princeton University to honor George A Miller an extraordinary psychologist A distinguished panel of speakers from various disciplines psychology philosophy neuroscience and artificial intelligence were challenged to respond to Dr Miller s query What has happened to cognition In other words what has the past 30 years contributed to our understanding of the mind Do we really know anything that wasn t already clear to William James Each participant tried to stand back a little from his or her most recent work but to address the general question from his or her particular standpoint The chapters in the present volume derive from that occasion

**Dictionary of Modern American Philosophers** John R. Shook, 2005-01-01 The Dictionary of Modern American Philosophers includes both academic and non academic philosophers and a large number of female and minority thinkers whose work has been neglected It includes those intellectuals involved in the development of psychology pedagogy sociology anthropology education theology political science and several other fields before these disciplines came to be considered distinct from philosophy in the late nineteenth century Each entry contains a short biography of the writer an exposition and analysis of his or her doctrines and ideas a bibliography of writings and suggestions for further reading While all the major post Civil War philosophers are present the most valuable feature of this dictionary is its coverage of a huge range of less well known writers including hundreds of presently obscure thinkers In many cases the Dictionary of Modern American Philosophers offers the first scholarly treatment of the life and work of certain writers This book will be an indispensable reference work for scholars working on almost any aspect of modern American thought

**Philosophy of Mind: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives - Third Edition** Peter A. Morton, Myrto Mylopoulos, 2020-03-19 This book introduces students to the principal issues in the philosophy of mind by tracing the history of the subject from Plato and Aristotle through to the present day Over forty primary source readings are included Extensive commentaries from the editors are provided to guide student readers through the arguments and jargon and to offer necessary historical context for the readings The new third edition examines some of the most exciting recent developments in the field including advances in theories about the mind s relation to action and agency Previous editions of this book published under the title A Historical Introduction to the Philosophy of Mind have been praised and widely taught for more than two decades

**The Conscious Mind** David J. Chalmers, 1997 Writing in a rigorous thought provoking style the author takes us on a far reaching tour through the philosophical ramifications of consciousness offering provocative insights into the relationship between mind and brain

**Spectator in the Cartesian Theater** Peter Slezak, 2023-08-01 The Cartesian Theater is Dennett s famous metaphor for the idea that a homunculus or little man watches the screen on which our thoughts appear However contrary to much academic teaching and scholarship Spectator in the Cartesian Theater Where Theories of Mind Went Wrong since Descartes shows that Descartes was not guilty of this fallacy for which he has been blamed In his

physiological writings neglected by philosophers Descartes explained that the pseudo explanation arises not from what is included in our theory of consciousness but rather from what is missing We fail to notice that the theory is incomplete because we are intuitively doing part of the explanatory work That is we are the spectators in the Cartesian Theater With detailed critiques Peter Slezak shows that Searle s Chinese Room Argument Kripke s theory of proper names Davidson s semantics of natural language and Kosslyn s theory of visual imagery rely on what is intuitively meaningful to us rather than what follows from the theory Slezak offers a novel solution to the elusive logic of the Cogito argument showing it to be akin to the Liar Paradox Since Descartes perplexity is our own this shows how the subjective certainty of consciousness and the mind body problem can arise for a physical system An intelligent computer would think that it isn t one

A Theory of Sentience Austen Clark, 2000 Austen Clark offers a general account of the forms of mental representation that we call sensory To sense something one must have some capacity to discriminate among sensory qualities but there are other requirements What are they and how can they be put together to yield full blown sensing Drawing on the findings of current neuroscience Clark proposes and defends the hypothesis that the various modalities of sensation share a generic form that he calls feature placing Sensing proceeds by picking out place times in or around the body of the sentient organism and characterizing qualities features that appear at those place times Such feature placing is a primitive kind probably the most primitive kind of mental representation Once its peculiarities have been described many of the puzzles about the intentionality of sensation and the phenomena that lead some to label it pseudo intentional can be resolved The hypothesis casts light on many other troublesome phenomena including the varieties of illusion the problem of projection the notion of a visual field the location of after images the existence of sense data and the role of perceptual demonstratives A Theory of Sentience will interest anyone interested in the topics of sensation representation or phenomenal consciousness

*Experienced Cognition* Richard A. Carlson, 1997-09-01 This volume presents a theoretical framework for understanding consciousness and learning Drawing on work in cognitive psychology and philosophy this framework begins with the observation that to be conscious is literally to have a point of view From this starting point the book develops a descriptive scheme that allows perceptual symbolic and emotional awareness to be discussed in common theoretical terms compatible with a computational view of the mind A central theme is our experience of ourselves as agents consciously controlling activities situated in environments In contrast to previous theories of consciousness the experienced cognition framework emphasizes the changes in conscious control as individuals acquire skills The book is divided into four parts The first introduces the central themes and places them in the context of information processing theory and empirical research on cognitive skill The second develops the theoretical framework emphasizing the unity of perceptual symbolic and emotional awareness and the relation of conscious to nonconscious processes The third applies the experienced cognition framework to a variety of topics in cognitive psychology including working memory problem solving and reasoning It also includes

discussions of everyday action skill and expertise focusing on changes in conscious control with increasing fluency The last concludes the book by evaluating the recent debate on the cognitive unconscious and implicit cognition from the perspective of experienced cognition and considering the prospects for a cognitive psychology focused on persons This book addresses many of the issues raised in philosophical treatments of consciousness from the point of view of empirical cognitive psychology For example the structure of conscious mental states is addressed by considering how to describe them in terms of variables suitable for information processing theory Understanding conscious states in this way also provides a basis for developing empirical hypotheses for example about the relation of emotion and cognition about the apparent mindlessness of skilled activity and about the nature and role of goals in guiding activity Criticisms of the computational view of mind are addressed by showing that the role of first person perspectives in cognition can be described and investigated in theoretical terms compatible with a broadly conceived information processing theory of cognition

*Change and Development* Eric Amsel, K. Ann Renninger, Ann Renninger, 2013-05-13 This book and the symposium on which it was based were designed to cross the boundaries of subdiscipline and theoretical orientation to address four critical issues in understanding development explanation of change and development the nature and process of change forms of variability in performance and the promotion of change through application The chapters suggest that change and development in target systems from cells to selves may not be explainable assessable or promotable without careful reference to the context social and otherwise of the system and that the process of change and development may involve variability of the system in addition to periods of stability Together the chapters harken back to the spirit of the grand theory Instead of proposing a grand theory they provide an excellent foundation for considering the importance of an individual's or particular group's context and variability and discussions to facilitate thinking about what still needs to be worked out

**The Bloomsbury Encyclopedia of**

**Philosophers in America** John R. Shook, 2016-02-11 For scholars working on almost any aspect of American thought The Bloomsbury Encyclopedia to Philosophers in America presents an indispensable reference work Selecting over 700 figures from the Dictionary of Early American Philosophers and the Dictionary of Modern American Philosophers this condensed edition includes key contributors to philosophical thought From 1600 to the present day entries cover psychology pedagogy sociology anthropology education theology and political science before these disciplines came to be considered distinct from philosophy Clear and accessible each entry contains a short biography of the writer an exposition and analysis of his or her doctrines and ideas a bibliography of writings and suggestions for further reading Featuring a new preface by the editor and a comprehensive introduction The Bloomsbury Encyclopedia to Philosophers in America includes 30 new entries on twenty first century thinkers including Martha Nussbaum and Patricia Churchland With in depth overviews of Waldo Emerson Margaret Fuller Noah Porter Frederick Rauch Benjamin Franklin Thomas Paine and Thomas Jefferson this is an invaluable one stop research volume to understanding leading figures in American thought and the development of American

intellectual history      Developmental Psychology Penney Upton, 2011-05-12 Covering core topics such as the development of attachment social relations cognitive and language development and social and cultural contexts of development this introductory text addresses the core knowledge domain of developmental psychology It provides concise and focused coverage of the central concepts research and debates while developing students higher level skills Key chapters cover development across the lifespan including the prenatal period infancy childhood adolescence and adulthood while activities help readers build the underpinning generic critical thinking and transferable skills they need to become independent learners and to meet the requirements of their programme of study

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