

NEW BOOKS

Vladislav Suvák. *Koniec metafyziky a Platón.* (The End of the Metaphysics and Plato). Filozofická fakulta Prešovskej univerzity, Prešov 2002, 391 pp. (In Slovak)

As the author states in his *Preface*, the book is neither an attempt at a systematic explanation of the problems of the end of the metaphysics, nor an analysis or a critique of the theories based on the thesis of the end. Rather it focuses on fragmentary themes and ways marked by the thinkers of the end. The book consists of three main parts, named significantly *Surveying*, *Wandering* and *Travelling*. *Surveying* is a kind of an enlarged introduction, pointing to several important steps we make on the way to understanding the question of the end. A special attention is paid to Plato and further to Comte, Hegel and especially Heidegger, who made the thesis of the end of the metaphysics closely related to Plato. *Wandering* tries to read Plato's parable of the cave in the context of Plato's dialogues. Platonic dialogue comes out as an appropriate background for answering the questions arising from the criticism of Platonism and from the idea of the end of the metaphysics. *Travelling* is then a confrontation of Plato with his own epoch, again through the question of the end of metaphysics, which in classical thought had many parallels.

Silvia Gáliková. *Úvod do filozofie mysle. Prípad psychofyzického problému.* (An Introduction to Philosophy of Mind. A Case of the Mind/Body Problem). Bratislava: Honner, 2001, 138 pp. (In Slovak)

In her book the author focuses on the mind/body problem against the background of which she hopes to shed light on the basic problems of the philosophy of mind, such as the nature of mind, other minds, personal identity, mental causality, mental representation, content, self, rationality, intentionality, consciousness, freedom of will, self-knowledge etc. The respective chapters, though written as independent essays, betray the author's general intentions, namely to conceive of manifold aspects of the mind/body problem as empirical problems, to raise new philosophical questions, to apply the method of critical discussion and argumentation and to reopen the question of the nature of philosophical inquiry. They also show her conviction, that the examination of so called "narrower" questions (such as What is mind?; What is the content of representations?; What is the relationship between mental and physical states of the brain?) is closely related to the search for the answers to "broader" ones, concerning the determination of our action, the human condition, the status of philosophical problems, the difference between good and bad explanations etc.

Oľga Sisáková. *Filozofia hodnôt medzi modernou a postmodernou.* (Philosophy of values between modernity and postmodernity). Filozofická fakulta Prešovskej univerzity, Prešov 2001, 260 pp. (In Slovak)

The objective of the book is not to present axiology as a normative or academic discipline in historical-philosophical perspective. Instead it deals (in its four main sections: I. Value inclinations of modern culture II. Symptoms of the axiological concern in philosophy III. Symptoms of the theoretical concern in philosophy of values IV. A conclusion: Changing of axiological concern in postmodern philosophy) with its particular tendencies and their development, focusing on problems still topical and useful for contemporary philosophical analysis. First of all attention is paid to philosophy of values, i. e. to meta-axiological theory transcending the particular characteristics of values and valuations. From the methodological point of view the book combines historical approach with reconstructing interpretation. The analysis of the axiological concern in philosophy and of the basic issues of the philosophy of values is situated in a culturally and historically complex period between modernity and postmodernity. This position "in between", though insecure, represents adequately the contemporary status of culture and philosophy of values, which as a product of postclassical philosophy absorbed on its way to postmodernity all the collisions of axiosphere.

Lubica Hábová

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