



Rene Descartes A Biography

Paul Strathern



Rene Descartes A Biography:

Descartes: A Biography Desmond M. Clarke, 2006-03-06 Ren Descartes is best remembered today for writing I think therefore I am but his main contribution to the history of ideas was his effort to construct a philosophy that would be sympathetic to the new sciences that emerged in the seventeenth century To a great extent he was the midwife to the Scientific Revolution and a significant contributor to its key concepts In four major publications he fashioned a philosophical system that accommodated the needs of these new sciences and thereby earned the unrelenting hostility of both Catholic and Calvinist theologians who relied on the scholastic philosophy that Descartes hoped to replace His contemporaries claimed that his proofs of God s existence in the Meditations were so unsuccessful that he must have been a cryptic atheist and that his discussion of skepticism served merely to fan the flames of libertinism This is the first biography in English that addresses the full range of Descartes interest in theology philosophy and the sciences and that traces his intellectual development through his entire career

Descartes A. C. Grayling, 2009-05-26 Scientist mathematician traveler soldier and spy Rene Descartes was one of the founders of the modern world His life coincided with an extraordinary time in history the first half of the miraculous seventeenth century replete with genius in the arts and sciences and wracked by civil and international conflicts across Europe But at his birth in 1596 the world was still dominated by medieval beliefs in phenomena such as miracles and spontaneous generation It was Descartes who identified the intellectual tools his peers needed to free themselves from the grip of religious authority and in doing so he founded modern philosophy In this new biography A C Grayling tells the story of Descartes life and places it in his tumultuous times with the unexpected result that an entirely new aspect of the story comes to light

René Descartes Jack Rochford Vrooman, 1992 Descartes: An Intellectual Biography Stephen Gaukroger, 1995-03-30 Descartes is one of the greatest of all thinkers Modern philosophy is generally taken to begin with him His unique contribution to Western thought covers not only philosophy but also science and mathematics his studies in mechanics and optics have provided modern science with tools still used and work still built on today This is the first intellectual biography of Descartes in English Stephen Gaukroger traces his intellectual development from childhood establishes the connections between his intellectual and personal life and placing these in the context of the cultural environment of the time offers a fundamental reassessment of all aspects of his life and work It is usually assumed that there is a little development in Descartes thought but this biography shows evidence of very significant changes of view and a general shift in his concern away from natural philosophy following the condemnation of Galileo by the Church in 1633 Starting with a full account of Descartes early scientific work Dr Gaukroger shows how it informed and influenced his later philosophical studies On this new view Descartes philosophical work was meant not a self contained exercise in epistemology and scepticism but rather as a defence of his physical doctrines against a hostile Church This book allows for the first time a full understanding of Descartes ideas in the context of his life and times It will be welcomed by all readers interested in the

origins of modern thought **René Descartes: The Biography of a French Philosopher, Mathematician, Scientist and Lay Catholic** United Library, 2023-04-30 René Descartes was an influential French philosopher, scientist, and mathematician who revolutionized the fields of geometry, algebra, and philosophy. He is best known for his famous phrase *cogito ergo sum* (I think, therefore I am), which formed a cornerstone of modern philosophical thought. His work on analytic geometry would go on to shape the field of mathematics and played an integral part in the Scientific Revolution. A stalwart adherent to rationalism, Descartes asserted absolute freedom in God's act of creation, allowing him to reject prior authority from other philosophers. *The Meditations on First Philosophy*, he wrote, serves as a standard text amongst university courses around the world today. With contributions such as these to science and knowledge at large, it is no surprise why René Descartes has become regarded by many as one of history's key figures in Western thought, with much still learned from this great thinker even centuries after his death.

Rene Descartes. A Biography. - New York: Putnam (1970). 308 S., 4 Bl. Abb. 8° Jack Rochford Vrooman, 1970 **Descartes** A. C. Grayling, 2005 [Rene Descartes: Oxford Bibliographies Online Research Guide](#) Oxford University Press, 2010-06-01 This ebook is a selective guide designed to help scholars and students of social work find reliable sources of information by directing them to the best available scholarly materials in whatever form or format they appear, from books, chapters, and journal articles to online archives, electronic data sets, and blogs. Written by a leading international authority on the subject, the ebook provides bibliographic information supported by direct recommendations about which sources to consult and editorial commentary to make it clear how the cited sources are interrelated. This ebook is a static version of an article from *Oxford Bibliographies Online: Philosophy*, a dynamic, continuously updated online resource designed to provide authoritative guidance through scholarship and other materials relevant to the study of Philosophy. *Oxford Bibliographies Online* covers most subject disciplines within the social science and humanities; for more information, visit www.oxfordbibliographies.com.

Descartes: An Intellectual Biography Stephen Gaukroger, 1995-03-30 René Descartes (1596–1650) is the father of modern philosophy and one of the greatest of all thinkers. This is the first intellectual biography of Descartes in English; it offers a fundamental reassessment of all aspects of his life and work. Stephen Gaukroger, a leading authority on Descartes, traces his intellectual development from childhood, showing the connections between his intellectual and personal life and placing these in the cultural context of seventeenth-century Europe. Descartes' early work in mathematics and science produced ground-breaking theories, methods, and tools still in use today. This book gives the first full account of how this work informed and influenced the later philosophical studies for which, above all, Descartes is renowned. Not only were philosophy and science intertwined in Descartes' life, so were philosophy and religion. The Church of Rome found Galileo guilty of heresy in 1633, two decades earlier Copernicus' theories about the universe had been denounced as blasphemous. To avoid such accusations, Descartes clothed his views about the relation between God and humanity and about the nature of the universe in a philosophical garb acceptable to the Church. His most

famous project was the exploration of the foundations of human knowledge starting from the proof of one's own existence offered in the formula *Cogito ergo sum* I am thinking therefore I exist Stephen Gaukroger argues that this was not intended as an exercise in philosophical scepticism but rather to provide Descartes scientific theories influenced as they were by Copernicus and Galileo with metaphysical legitimation This book offers for the first time a full understanding of how Descartes developed his revolutionary ideas It will be welcomed by all readers interested in the origins of modern thought

Cogito, Ergo Sum Richard A. Watson, 2005 The Biography Book Daniel S. Burt, 2001-02-28 From Marilyn to Mussolini people captivate people A E's Biography best selling autobiographies and biographical novels testify to the popularity of the genre But where does one begin Collected here are descriptions and evaluations of over 10 000 biographical works including books of fact and fiction biographies for young readers and documentaries and movies all based on the lives of over 500 historical figures from scientists and writers to political and military leaders to artists and musicians Each entry includes a brief profile autobiographical and primary sources and recommended works Short reviews describe the pertinent biographical works and offer insight into the qualities and special features of each title helping readers to find the best biographical material available on hundreds of fascinating individuals *He Freed the Minds of Men: René Descartes* Edwin Palmer Hoyt, 1969 A biography of the seventeenth century French mathematician and philosopher whose revolutionary methods of reasoning greatly influenced future scientific thinking **Descartes** Geneviève Rodis-Lewis, 1999 Relatively compact biography of the seventeenth century French philosopher is determined to reverse the slander of scandal in vogue among Descartes recent biographers and to modify the view of his intellectual development *Rene Descartes* Rajesh Thakur, 2023-10-01 Bibliogr und Literaturverz S 268 278 **Descartes in 90 Minutes** Paul Strathern, 1996 Philosophical thought is deciphered and made comprehensible and interesting to almost everyone **Cogito, Ergo Sum** Richard Watson, 2007 Rene Descartes was a highly influential philosopher mathematician and scientist and is regarded as the Father of modern philosophy and mathematics This is the biography of Descartes and it describes the life of Descartes in the flesh and blood rather than a technical analysis of his philosophical scientific and mathematical ideas Renaissance Humanism, 2014-03-14 By far the best collection of sources to introduce readers to Renaissance humanism in all its many guises What distinguishes this stimulating and useful anthology is the vision behind it King shows that Renaissance thinkers had a lot to say not only about the ancient world one of their habitual passions but also about the self how civic experience was configured the arts the roles and contributions of women the new science the new world and so much more Christopher S Celenza Johns Hopkins University **The A to Z of Descartes and Cartesian Philosophy** Roger Ariew, Dennis Des Chene, Douglas M. Jesseph, Tad M. Schmaltz, Theo Verbeek, 2010-04-06 The A to Z of Descartes and Cartesian Philosophy includes many entries on Descartes's writings concepts and findings Since it is historical there are other entries on those who supported him those who criticized him those who corrected him and those who together formed one of the major

movements in philosophy Cartesianism To better understand the period the authors drew up a brief chronology and to see how Descartes and Cartesianism fit into the general picture they have written an introduction and a biography Since everything cannot be summed up in one volume a bibliography directs readers to numerous other sources on issues of particular interest **A History of Modern Philosophy** Harald Høffding, 1908 **The Encyclopædia Britannica** Hugh Chisholm, 1910

Reviewing **Rene Descartes A Biography**: Unlocking the Spellbinding Force of Linguistics

In a fast-paced world fueled by information and interconnectivity, the spellbinding force of linguistics has acquired newfound prominence. Its capacity to evoke emotions, stimulate contemplation, and stimulate metamorphosis is actually astonishing. Within the pages of "**Rene Descartes A Biography**," an enthralling opus penned by a very acclaimed wordsmith, readers attempt an immersive expedition to unravel the intricate significance of language and its indelible imprint on our lives. Throughout this assessment, we shall delve to the book is central motifs, appraise its distinctive narrative style, and gauge its overarching influence on the minds of its readers.

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