

Marcel Studies, Volume 3, Issue No.1

EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

We welcome all of our readers (and especially those coming to the Journal for the first time) to this the third issue of *Marcel Studies*.

In this issue we are very happy to publish an essay by Paul Marcus, a practicing psychoanalyst and established author, who has employed Marcel's ideas widely in his work. In his contribution here, Marcus argues that psychoanalysis has neglected the fact that the mind seems to have a spiritual cast, and in a very interesting set of reflections he explores how Marcelian themes may profitably be employed to enhance the discipline of psychoanalysis.

Our second paper is by promising young scholar, Christopher Ketcham, who brings Marcel's thought into dialogue with a thinker with whom he has much affinity, Emmanuel Levinas. Ketcham compares the notion of the spirit of abstraction in Marcel with the notion of the infinitely different other in Levinas, and argues that both notions are best understood as a form of cognitively dislocated reason, which involves pre-categorizing persons without considering the individual person who stands before me. Ketcham explores also the response of Marcel and Levinas to this phenomenon—that we need to turn the discourse toward a conversation that asks which human rights should apply to all people.

In addition to book reviews by Duygu Dincer and Santiago Ramos, we introduce a new feature in this issue, *News and Views*. This section will feature occasional interviews, briefer reviews, critical notices, and news relating to Marcel scholarship and events, as well as interesting snippets of Marcelana! In our first venture, we are delighted to include an interview about Marcel's work with distinguished Marcel scholar, Thomas Busch, professor emeritus at Villanova University. We also include some fascinating personal memories of Marcel by Hungarian-French philosopher, Miklos Vetö, who knew Marcel well and was a frequent visitor to his home in Paris.

A reminder that *Marcel Studies* is an on-line peer reviewed, international Journal dedicated to furthering understanding and appreciation of the work of Marcel. We welcome submissions from a variety of backgrounds and perspectives on topics and themes that pertain to any aspect of Marcel's thought. We encourage younger scholars especially to submit their work to the Journal. The aim of our Journal is not only to promote, but to encourage, Marcel scholarship, and, keeping in mind also that the Journal is interdisciplinary, one of our goals is to help prospective authors bring their work to publication. All submissions are peer-reviewed; the editors will make a special effort to work with younger

scholars in an attempt to bring the fruits of their scholarship to a worldwide audience.

A reminder also to publishers and authors that we welcome new publications for possible review in our Journal on any topic broadly related to Marcelian themes, or to existentialist thought. All books should be sent to the editor at Rockhurst University.

I wish also to thank all of our readers for their interest and support.

Dr. Brendan Sweetman,
Editor, *Marcel Studies*,
Professor of Philosophy,
Rockhurst University,
November, 2018.

(© All material Gabriel Marcel Society, 2018)