



William Blake as Natural Philosopher, 1788-1795

By Joseph Fletcher

Pub Date: 07 December 2021

Binding: Hardback

Price: £80.00 / \$125.00

ISBN: 9781785279515

Extent: 274 pages

Size: 153 x 229 mm /
6 x 9 inches

BISAC CATEGORY: LITERARY CRITICISM / Subjects & Themes / Nature LITERARY CRITICISM / Poetry, PHILOSOPHY / History & Surveys / General

BISAC CODE: LIT025020

BIC CODE: DCF

RIGHTS

Exclusive: WORLD

William Blake's complex poems and images make formidable demands. The first words that come to mind for most of his struggling reader/viewers may be "religion" or "imagination." But there is a strong critical tradition of approaching Blake's work from the less expected angle of science and philosophy. Writing in the tradition of such foundational critics as Jacob Bronowski and Donald Ault, Joe Fletcher leaves no question that he is their worthy successor. — Morris Eaves, Professor of English and Richard L. Turner Professor of Humanities, Director, A. W. Mellon Graduate Program in the Digital Humanities, the School of Arts & Sciences, University of Rochester, Co-editor of William Blake Archive and Blake/An Illustrated Quarterly

William Blake as Natural Philosopher, 1788-1795 takes seriously William Blake's wish to be read as a natural philosopher, particularly in his early illuminated works, and reveals the way that poetry and visual art were for Blake an imaginative way of philosophizing.

Contents

List of Figures; Acknowledgments; Introduction: "We Who Are Philosophers": Blake's Early Metaphysics; Chapter One A Sense of the Infinite: Leibniz, Hume and Panpsychism in the Early Tractates; Chapter Two Soul Matter: The Marriage of Heaven and Hell and Monist Pantheism; Chapter Three Breathing Dust: Erasmus Darwin and Blake's Regenerative Materialism; Chapter Four "Horrible Forms of Deformity": The Urizen Cycle and Vitalist Materialism; Coda: The Ghost of Pantheism; Bibliography; Index.

About the Author

Joseph Fletcher is Assistant Teaching Professor in the Department of English and Comparative Literature at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he also serves as Managing Editor of the William Blake Archive.

Ordering in North America, Latin America and Caribbean

Ingram Publishers Services (US)
1 Ingram Blvd. Mail stop
#512 Lavergne, TN 37086, United States
Tel: +1 866 400 5351
ips@ingramcontent.com

Ordering in the UK/Rest of the World

Ingram Publishers Services (UK)
1 Deltic Avenue, Rooksley
Milton Keynes, MK13 8LD
United Kingdom
Tel: +44 (0) 1752 202300 | Fax: 01752 202330
IPSUK.Orders@ingramcontent.com

Ordering in Australia

NewSouth Books
C/O Alliance Distribution Services (ADS)
9 Pioneer Avenue
Tuggerah 2259 NSW, Australia
Tel: +61 (02) 4390 1300 | Fax: +1800-66-44-77
ads@alliancedist.com.au