



Plato's Natural Philosophy: A Study of the Timaeus-Critias

By Thomas Kjeller Johansen

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The Timaeus-Critias is concerned with cosmology and Plato's claim that its central task is to articulate the way in which the cosmos manifests the values of goodness and beauty. This book examines this important dialogue in its entirety using current methods of Platonic scholarship. Arguing that Aristotle's physics is far closer to the Timaeus than usually realized, the study's other prominent findings reinforce the dialogue's essentially moral message, and clarify its literary character.

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Review

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"The authors detailed analyses of the role of necessary conditions, matter, and space in explanations of the nature of sensible particulars, of the soul as structure and embodied existence, and of the causal role of perception in securing empirical knowledge are convincing. Highly recommended."

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"[T]his monograph as a whole is plainly a major contribution to the study of the Timaeus, and will undoubtedly enhance the appreciation of that unduly neglected work."

-John Dillon, School of Classics, Trinity College, Ireland, Ancient Philosophy

About the Author

Dr Thomas Kjeller Johansen is Reader in Philosophy in the University of Edinburgh. He is the author of Aristotle on the Sense-Organ (0521 583381).

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