

Modern Studies in Philosophy

The Philosophy of
SOCRATES



Modern Studies in Philosophy is a series of anthologies presenting contemporary interpretations and evaluations of the works of major philosophers. The editors have selected articles designed to show the systematic structure of the thought of these philosophers, and to reveal the relevance of their views to the problems of current interest. These volumes are intended to be contributions to contemporary debates as well as to the history of philosophy; they not only trace the origins of many problems important to modern philosophy, but also introduce major philosophers as interlocutors in current discussions.

Modern Studies in Philosophy is prepared under the general editorship of Amelie Oksenberg Rorty, Livingston College, Rutgers University.

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MODERN STUDIES IN PHILOSOPHY

AMELIE OKSENBERG RORTY, GENERAL EDITOR

The Philosophy of
SOCRATES

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PREFACE

I am proud to present here five new studies of the philosophy of Socrates by Professors R. E. Allen, M. F. Burnyeat, A. R. Lacey, George Nakhnikian, and A. D. Woozley; and to reprint previously published essays by Professors S. Marc Cohen, Kenneth J. Dover, Richard Robinson, Gerasimos Santas, and James J. Walsh. I am grateful to each of these authors for his collaboration; and to the following publishers for permission to reproduce previously published material: the *Journal of the History of Philosophy* and the *Review of Metaphysics*; also to the Columbia University Press, the Oxford University Press, and Routledge and Kegan Paul.

For works which regrettably could not be included in this volume, the reader is referred to the bibliography at the end. Though some are old, a reassuringly large number fall within the last two decades, attesting the continuing vitality of Socratic studies, which seem to be pursued more intensively today in the English-speaking world than at any previous period of philosophical and classical scholarship.

I wish to make special acknowledgment of the help of Paul H. Drymalski, my editor at Anchor Books, and of his assistant Ronnie Shushan, for her generous cooperation. I am also grateful to Robert Van Gulick, Princeton, '70, who prepared the index and helped in many other ways.

My wife died suddenly while this book was in press. I dedicate my essay to her memory. I do so because of what our love meant to my work. The best insight in this essay—that Socrates' ultimate failure is a failure in love—grew out of what I learned about love from her.

Gregory Vlastos

Princeton, April 1970