

John Shannon Hendrix

Robert Grosseteste**Philosophy of Intellect and Vision**

2010. 260 pp. 35,50 €. 14,8 x 21 cm. ISBN: 978-3-89665-524-0.

Robert Grosseteste: Philosophy of Intellect and Vision focuses on two important areas in the philosophy of Robert Grosseteste at the beginning of the thirteenth century: Philosophy of Intellect and Philosophy of Vision. These two areas of Grosseteste's philosophy have not been thoroughly explored, nor their importance established. Robert Grosseteste was the first chancellor of Oxford University, and Bishop of Lincoln 1235–53. This project aims to contribute to the importance of Robert Grosseteste in the history of philosophy. The project also aims to establish groundwork for further development in these two areas of philosophy. The book is based on readings of important manuscripts by Grosseteste: *On Light; On Lines, Angles and Figures; Commentary on the Posterior Analytics*; and *Hexaemeron*. An important part of this project is an examination of the principal sources for Grosseteste's philosophy: the classical philosophers (Plato, Aristotle, Euclid); the Greek commentators on Aristotle (Alexander of Aphrodisias and Themistius); the Arabic commentators on Aristotle (Alfarabi, Avicenna, Averroes); and the Neoplatonic tradition, which includes the *Theology of Aristotle* (based on the *Enneads* of Plotinus), the *Liber de Causis* (based on the *Elements of Theology* of Proclus), and the writings of Pseudo-Dionysius. The examination builds upon the work of Grosseteste scholars such as James McEvoy, Richard William Southern, Alistair Cameron Crombie, and Bruce Stansfield Eastwood. It also builds upon the more general work of scholars

such as Franz Brentano and Herbert A. Davidson. Certain philosophical concepts are developed from previous books which I have written, namely *Aesthetics and the Philosophy of Spirit* and *Platonic Architectonics*. Emphasis is placed in the project on the relation between Grosseteste's philosophies and the previous philosophical influences, as well as subsequent philosophies in the middle ages (particularly the Franciscan School or Oxford School), and the Renaissance to the twentieth century. The philosophies are also considered in relation to the architecture of Lincoln Cathedral. The goal is to demonstrate the importance of Grosseteste in history, and to demonstrate the importance and relevance of the philosophies to the present day, to contribute to contemporary philosophy, and to lay some groundwork for further development in these two important areas of philosophy, Philosophy of Intellect and Philosophy of Vision.

John Hendrix is a Professor at the University of Lincoln. He is also the author of *Architecture as Cosmology: Lincoln Cathedral and English Gothic Architecture*. Previous books include *Architecture and Psychoanalysis*; *Aesthetics and the Philosophy of Spirit: From Plotinus to Schelling and Hegel*; *Platonic Architectonics: Platonic Philosophies and the Visual Arts*; and *Architectural Forms and Philosophical Structures*.

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