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Nota di contenuto	Dialectic as inter-personal activity: Self-refutation and dialectic in Plato and Aristotle / Luca Castagnoli ; The role of the respondent in Plato and Aristotle / Marja-Liisa Kakkuri-Knuuttila ; Division as a method in Plato / Hallvard Fossheim -- Form and content in the philosophical dialogue: Dialectic and dialogue in the lysis / Morten S. Thaning ; The laches and 'joint search' dialectic / Holger Thesleff ; The philosophical importance of the dialogue form for Plato / Charles H. Kahn ; How did Aristotle read a Platonic dialogue? / Jakob L. Fink -- Dialectical methodology: What is behind the ti esti question? / Vasilis Politis ; Socratic induction in Plato and Aristotle / Hayden W. Ausland ; Aristotle's definition of elenchus in the light of Plato's Sophist / Louis-Andre Dorion ; The Aristotelian elenchus / Robert Bolton ; Aristotle's gradual turn from dialectic / Wolfgang Kullmann.

The period from Plato's birth to Aristotle's death (427-322 BC) is one of the most influential and formative in the history of Western philosophy. The developments of logic, metaphysics, epistemology, ethics and science in this period have been investigated, controversies have arisen and many new theories have been produced. But this is the first book to give detailed scholarly attention to the development of dialectic during this decisive period. It includes chapters on topics such as: dialectic as interpersonal debate between a questioner and a respondent; dialectic and the dialogue form; dialectical methodology; the dialectical context of certain forms of arguments; the role of the respondent in guaranteeing good argument; dialectic and presentation of knowledge; the interrelations between written dialogues and spoken dialectic; and definition, induction and refutation from Plato to Aristotle. The book contributes to the history of philosophy and also to the contemporary debate about what philosophy is.

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