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Nota di contenuto	Book Cover; Title; Contents; List of contributors; Acknowledgements; References to Descartes' works; Introduction; Mechanics and cosmology; Descartes and the natural philosophy of the Coimbra commentaries; Descartes' debt to Beeckman: inspiration, cooperation, conflict; The foundational role of hydrostatics and statics in Descartes' natural philosophy; Force, determination and impact; A different Descartes: Descartes and the programme for a mathematical physics in his correspondence; Causal powers and occasionalism from Descartes to Malebranche The invention of nature: Descartes and RegiusThe influence of Cartesian cosmology in England; Method, optics, and the role of experiment; Neo-Aristotle and method: between Zabarella and Descartes; Figuring things out: figurate problem-solving in the early Descartes; The rainbow: a privileged epistemological model; Descartes opticien: the construction of the law of refraction and the manufacture of its physical rationales, 1618-29; A 'science for honntes hommes': La Recherche de la Verite and the deconstruction of experimental

knowledge

Descartes, experiments, and a first generation Cartesian, Jacques Rohault Physiology; Cartesian physiology; The resources of a mechanist physiology and the problem of goal-directed processes; Btes-machines; Descartes' cardiology and its reception in English physiology; Imagination and representation; Cartesian imagination and perspectival art; From sparks of truth to the glow of possibility; Descartes' theory of visual spatial perception; Symposium on Descartes on perceptual cognition: introduction; Descartes and formal signs; Descartes' startling doctrine of the reverse-sign relation  
The role of inner objects in perception Descartes, Locke, and 'direct realism'; Replies to my fellow symposiasts; Mind and body, thought and sensation; Descartes' intellectual and corporeal memories; The senses as witnesses; Descartes' naturalism about the mental; Descartes and the corporeal mind: some implications of the Regius affair; Perrault's criticisms of the Cartesian theory of the soul; The body and the brain; Life and health in Cartesian natural philosophy; The texture of thought: why Descartes' Meditationes is meditational, and why it matters; Bibliography; Index

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Sommario/riassunto

The most comprehensive collection of essays on Descartes' scientific writings ever published, this volume offers a detailed reassessment of Descartes' scientific work and its bearing on his philosophy. The 35 essays, written by some of the world's leading scholars, cover topics as diverse as optics, cosmology and medicine, and will be of vital interest to all historians of philosophy or science.

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