Record Nr. UNINA9910964025003321 Autore Cohen Hermann < 1842-1918.> **Titolo** Ethics of Maimonides / / Hermann Cohen; translated with commentary by Almut Sh. Bruckstein; foreword by Robert Gibbs Madison, Wisc., : University of Wisconsin Press, c2004 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 9786612269059 9781282269057 1282269054 9780299177638 0299177637 [1st ed.] Edizione Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (307 p.) Modern Jewish philosophy and religion Collana Altri autori (Persone) BrucksteinAlmut Sh Disciplina 296.3/6/092 Soggetti Jewish ethics Jewish philosophy Philosophy, Medieval Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Monografia Livello bibliografico Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references (p. 221-243) and index. ""Contents""; ""Foreword""; ""Preface""; ""Introduction""; ""1. Socrates Nota di contenuto and Plato: Founders of Ethics""; ""2. Maimonides: A Radical Platonist""; ""3. The Good beyond Being: Ethico-Political Intricacies of a Medieval Debate""; ""4. Religion as Idolatry: How (Not) to Know God""; ""5. The "Unity of the Heart": On Love and Longing (Where Ethical Method Fails)""; ""6. Practice and Performance: How (Not) to Walk in Middle Ways"": ""7. "He Is (Not) Like You": How Suffering Commands Self or Soul""; ""8. On Eudaemonian Eschatology and Holy History: Zionism as Betraval of the Ideal"" ""9. To Create Messianic Time: A Jewish Critique of Political Utopia""" 10. The Human Face: Anticipating a Future that Is Prior to the Past""; ""Abbreviations""; ""Notes""; ""Bibliography""; ""Index"" Hermann Cohen's essay on Maimonides' ethics is one of the most Sommario/riassunto fundamental texts of twentieth-century Jewish philosophy, correlating

Platonic, prophetic, Maimonidean, and Kantian traditions. Almut Sh. Bruckstein provides the first English translation and her own extensive commentary on this landmark 1908 work, which inspired readings of

medieval and rabbinic sources by Leo Strauss, Franz Rosenzweig, and Emmanuel Levinas. Cohen rejects the notion that we should try to understand texts of the past solely in the context of their own historical era. Subverting the historical order, he interprets the ethical meanings of texts in the light of a future yet to be realized. He commits the entire Jewish tradition to a universal socialism prophetically inspired by ideals of humanity, peace, and universal justice. Through her own probing commentary on Cohen's text, like the margin notes of a medieval treatise, Bruckstein performs the hermeneutical act that lies at the core of Cohen's argument: she reads Jewish sources from a perspective that recognizes the interpretive act of commentary itself.

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Sommario/riassunto

Two characteristics of human beings as a species are the elaboration of our thought through language and symbolism and the pluralistic nature of our systems of social organization. Human Thought and Social Organization shows empirically and precisely, how these two characteristics are related by determining the conceptual structures that are fundamental to human thought and social organization. This book works out the logical-mathematical properties that give these structures their power and importance.