#### Heidegger and Unconcealment Truth, Language, and History

This book includes ten essays that trace the notion of unconcealment as it develops from Martin Heidegger's early writings to his later work, shaping his philosophy of truth, language, and history. Unconcealment is the idea that what entities are depends on the conditions that allow them to manifest themselves. This concept, central to Heidegger's work, also applies to worlds in a dual sense: first, a condition of entities manifesting themselves is the existence of a world; and second, worlds themselves are disclosed. The unconcealment or disclosure of a world is the most important historical event, and Heidegger believes there have been a number of quite distinct worlds that have emerged and disappeared in history.

Heidegger's thought as a whole can profitably be seen as working out the implications of the original understanding of unconcealment.

Mark A. Wrathall received his Ph.D. in philosophy from the University of California, Berkeley, and is currently professor of philosophy at the University of California, Riverside. He is the author of *How to Read Heidegger* (2005) and the editor of numerous collections, including *A Companion to Heidegger* (2005), *Religion after Metaphysics* (2003), and *A Companion to Phenomenology and Existentialism* (2006).

Cambridge University Press 978-0-521-51816-1 - Heidegger and Unconcealment: Truth, Language, and History Mark A. Wrathall Frontmatter <u>More information</u>

# Heidegger and Unconcealment

## Truth, Language, and History

MARK A. WRATHALL University of California, Riverside



CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore, São Paulo, Delhi, Dubai, Tokyo, Mexico City

Cambridge University Press 32 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10013–2473, USA

www.cambridge.org Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9780521739122

© Mark A. Wrathall 2011

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction of any part may take place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 2011

Printed in the United States of America

A catalog record for this publication is available from the British Library.

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication data Wrathall, Mark A. Heidegger and unconcealment : truth, language, and history / Mark A. Wrathall. p. cm. Includes bibliographical references and index. ISBN 978-0-521-51816-1 (hardback) 1. Heidegger, Martin, 1889–1976. 2. Secrecy. I. Title. B3279.H49W725 2010 193–dc22 2010038588

ISBN 978-0-521-51816-1 Hardback ISBN 978-0-521-73912-2 Paperback

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLS for external or third-party Internet Web sites referred to in this publication and does not guarantee that any content on such Web sites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate. Cambridge University Press 978-0-521-51816-1 - Heidegger and Unconcealment: Truth, Language, and History Mark A. Wrathall Frontmatter <u>More information</u>

For Amy, Hannah, Damon, Madeline, and Nicholas

Cambridge University Press			
978-0-521-51816-1 - Heidegger a	nd Unconcealment:	Truth, Language,	and History
Mark A. Wrathall			
Frontmatter			
More information			

### Contents

Ack	nowledgments	page ix
Cree	dits	xi
Intr	roduction	1
	PART I TRUTH AND DISCLOSURE	
1	Unconcealment	11
	Appendix on Tugendhat	34
2	The Conditions of Truth in Heidegger	
	and Davidson	40
3	On the "Existential Positivity of Our Ability to be Deceived"	57
4	Heidegger on Plato, Truth, and Unconcealment:	
	The 1931–1932 Lecture on <i>The Essence of Truth</i>	72
	PART II LANGUAGE	
5	Social Constraints on Conversational Content:	
	Heidegger on Rede and Gerede	95
	Appendix	116
6	Discourse Language, Saying, Showing	118
7	The Revealed Word and World Disclosure: Heidegger and	
	Pascal on the Phenomenology of Religious Faith	156
	PART III HISTORICAL WORLDS	
8	Philosophers, Thinkers, and Heidegger's Place in the	
	History of Being	177

Cambridge University Press	
978-0-521-51816-1 - Heidegger and Unconcealment: Truth, Language	, and History
Mark A. Wrathall	
Frontmatter	
More information	

viii	Contents	
9	Between the Earth and the Sky: Heidegger on Life After the Death of God	195
10	Nietzsche and the Metaphysics of Truth	212
Wor	rks by Heidegger	243
Ind	ex	<sup>2</sup> 47

#### Acknowledgments

Reflecting on the genesis of this book, it is rather humbling to realize how many people have contributed to its development over many years. My greatest debt is to my intellectual mentor and friend Bert Dreyfus. Bert has generously read every draft that I have sent him, and unfailingly responded with his characteristic vigor and candor. His suggestions, insights, and hard questions have propelled my thinking on Heidegger. While we don't always agree, I always profit from our discussions. I have discussed the ideas contained in this book with a number of philosophers in a variety of settings, including my students and colleagues at Brigham Young University and the University of California, Riverside; at meetings of the International Society for Phenomenological Studies, the American Society for Existential Phenomenology, the Parlement des Philosophes, the Martin-Heidegger-Forschungsgruppe, the British Society for Phenomenology Summer Conference, the American Comparative Literature Association; and at universities around the world, including: the University of California, Berkeley; Brigham Young University, Idaho; Essex University; the University of Exeter; Georgetown University; Chengchi University; National Sun Yat-Sen University; Utah Valley University; the University of Nevada, Reno; Claremont Graduate School; the University of Montana, Missoula; and Södertorn University. I am grateful to all of those institutions for providing me with the opportunity to present my work and, more importantly, to learn from the people in attendance. I couldn't possibly list everyone who has helped me along with questions or suggestions in these settings - not just because the list would be very long, but also because in many instances I don't know their names. With apologies to those whom I will inevitably overlook, however, I would like to specifically thank Bill Blattner, Dave Bohn, Albert Borgmann, Taylor Carman, Dave Cerbone, Simon Critchley, Steve Crowell, Jim Faulconer, Charlie Guignon, Béatrice Han-Pile, Piotr Hoffman, Stephan Käufer, Sean Kelly, Cristina Lafont, Jeff Malpas, Wayne Martin, Lenny Moss, Mark Okrent,

х

#### Acknowledgments

Robert Pippin, Richard Rorty, Hans Ruin, Charles Siewert, Hans Sluga, Charles Taylor, Iain Thomson, Ari Uhlin, and Julian Young. Finally, I am grateful to Beatrice Rehl, Emily Spangler, and Luane Hutchinson at Cambridge University Press for their patience, encouragement, and professionalism.

#### Credits

- Chapter 1 was originally published in *A Companion to Heidegger*, ed. Mark A. Wrathall and Hubert L. Dreyfus (Oxford: Blackwell, 2005), pp. 337–57. Reprinted by permission of Blackwell.
- Chapter 2 was originally published in *The Monist* 82, no. 2 (1999): 304–23. Reprinted by permission of the publisher. © 1999 *THE MONIST: An International Quarterly Journal of General Philosophical Inquiry.* La Salle, Illinois, USA 61301.
- Chapter 3 was originally published in *The Philosophy of Deception*, ed. Clancy Martin (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009), pp. 67–81. Reprinted by permission of Oxford University Press.
- Chapter 4 was originally published in *Inquiry* 47, no. 5 (2004): 443–63. *Inquiry* can be found online at http://www.informaworld.com. Reprinted by permission of Taylor and Francis.
- Chapter 5 was originally published in *Philosophical Topics* 27 (Fall 1999): 25–46. Reprinted by permission of the publisher.
- Chapter 7 was originally published in *The Journal of the British Society for Phenomenology* 37, no. 1 (January 2006): 75–88. Reprinted by permission of the publisher; © 2006 The British Society for Phenomenology.
- Chapter 8 was originally published in *Appropriating Heidegger*, ed. James E. Faulconer and Mark A. Wrathall (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2000), pp. 9–29. Reprinted by permission of Cambridge University Press.
- Chapter 9 was originally published in *Religion After Metaphysics*, ed. Mark A. Wrathall (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003), pp. 69–87. Reprinted by permission of Cambridge University Press.