

# CONTENTS

## NOTHING

### 7 The Art of Nothing

**Joanna Borkowska**

*“For me, the zone of nothingness is a sacred space, a kind of pre-creative state that is essential to my work.”*

### 11 *Ex Nihilo Omnis Fit*

**Graham Priest**

*“The claim that nothing is something is genuinely paradoxical. Yet despite this, we seem to be forced to accept this contradictory conclusion.”*

### 17 Nothing Matters

**Bret W. Davis**

*“We may find that the indeterminateness of the nothing is not merely an anaemic privation but rather an amorphous wellspring teeming with as yet undefined possibilities.”*

### 30 But First, Nothing

**Karmen Mackendrick**

*“Before anything can be, there must be made nothing; prior to this contraction, nothing is not – where, after all, would it be?”*

### 36 Seeing Silence

**Mark C. Taylor**

*“When pushed to its limit, thinking finds itself constitutively implicated in that which remains unthinkable.”*

### 42 The Ethics of Extinction and Nothingness

**Joshua Jones**

*“How can we respond to and care for those in an ecological community that is becoming, or has already become, lost?”*

## GENERAL

### 48 What is Alienation?

**Akeel Bilgrami**

*“When we predict what others will do, we relate to them from a disengaged perspective. That is the perspective that pervades alienated social relations.”*

### 53 Animals, Property, and Personhood

**Gary L. Francione**

*“Philosophers who set the tone for animal ethics seem to think that it is clear animals do not have an interest in continuing to live because they do not have the same interests as philosophy professors do.”*

### 64 Transmission

**Chiara Ricciardone with Gwydion Suilebhan**

*“We often don’t know why we believe what we believe most strongly; and we don’t even know that we don’t know it.”*

### 69 Alexandre Kojève and Universal Emancipation

**Jeff Love**

*“Do we accept our servitude, recognizing that all attempts to overcome it end in futility, or do we seek to abolish it, once and for all, in an act of self-erasure?”*

### 76 Otherworldly Science: Margaret Cavendish’s Critique of the Experimental Method

**Peter West**

*“The study of ‘other worlds’ can only be worthwhile if it ultimately helps us to better navigate the world which we currently inhabit.”*

## REVIEWS

### 82 Are We Decent Deep Down?

**David Livingstone Smith** reviews *Humankind: A Hopeful History* by Rutger Bregman

*“A large part of human nature is our capacity to use culture to engineer human nature itself, for good or for ill. We are to a great extent the architects of our own nature.”*

### 88 Searching for Titles

**Kathryn MacKay** reviews *Entitled: How Male Privilege Hurts Women* by Kate Manne

*“A behaviour can express entitlement to women’s bodies, women’s labour,*

*or women's knowledge, without the person engaging in the behaviour ever having a specific thought or sense of being so entitled."*

#### **94** Living with Nonhumans

**Rogelio Luque-Lora** reviews *The Conservation Revolution: Radical Ideas for Saving Nature Beyond the Anthropocene* by Bram Büscher and Robert Fletcher

*"Owing to its inherently expansionary approach, capitalism is necessarily at odds with the finite nature of the material resources it exploits, and hence also with the long-term preservation of the natural world."*

## REGULARS

#### **101** Liquid Philosophy

*Can Philosophy Change the World?*

**Chiara Ricciardone**

*"If philosophy has a role in cultivating change, therefore, it is to go beyond the bounds of what is currently permitted to be thought as a possible world."*

#### **107** Philosophy in the Real World

*On Sharing Pronouns*

**Brian D. Earp**

*"It might seem strange, upon reflection, that any language would force you to state, or reiterate, a person's gender virtually every time you bring them into the conversation."*

