



# Retrieving Realism

*By Hubert Dreyfus*

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For Descartes, knowledge exists as ideas in the mind that represent the world. In a radical critique, Hubert Dreyfus and Charles Taylor argue that knowledge consists of much more than the representations we formulate in our minds. They affirm our direct contact with reality—both the physical and the social world—and our shared understanding of it.

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## Retrieving Realism By Hubert Dreyfus Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #84651 in eBooks
- Published on: 2015-06-11
- Released on: 2015-06-11
- Format: Kindle eBook

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## **Editorial Review**

### Review

This book is a spirited defense of a sensible yet profound idea all too often ignored in mainstream philosophy, namely, that our grip on the world is deeply rooted in contingent interpretations and practices, but that those modes of access to reality do not preclude our *sometimes* coming to see it as it really is 'in itself.' *Retrieving Realism* is a passionate plea that we cannot escape seeing ourselves as being in direct contact with a world that vastly transcends us. (Taylor Carman, Barnard College)

Two major philosophers are joining forces in order to offer an alternative account to the prevailing picture of the human mind and its cognitive powers. The book will obviously be on the reading list of all who seriously concern themselves with issues in contemporary philosophy when it is, like here, at its best. (Vincent Descombes, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris)

Compact and engaging, *Retrieving Realism* is more approachable than its weighty subject matter might predict...[An] adventurous combination of arguments and mixing of philosophical cultures. (Peter Godfrey-Smith *Boston Review* 2015-09-14)

### About the Author

Hubert Dreyfus is Professor Emeritus of Philosophy at the University of California, Berkeley.

Charles Taylor is Professor Emeritus in the Department of Philosophy at McGill University.

## **Users Review**

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#### **John Solorio:**

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**Curtis Monahan:**

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