

News and Announcements

International Berkeley Conference at the University of Helsinki, Finland 6-9 August 2007

We are approaching the 300th anniversary of such historic contributions to philosophy as George Berkeley's *An Essay towards a New Theory of Vision* (1709), *A Treatise concerning the Principles of Human Knowledge* (1710), and *Three Dialogues between Hylas and Philonous* (1713). Anticipating these major celebrations, distinguished scholars will give a diversified account of Berkeley's works with respect to his broad range of interest. The conference, that will take place at the Department of Philosophy of the University of Helsinki, is organized by Timo Airaksinen, Bertil Belfrage and Ville Paukkonen. The conference is sponsored by the International Berkeley Society. For further information, please contact one of the organizers:

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International Conference on George Berkeley: Religion and Science in the Age of Enlightenment (Gaeta, 27-29 September 2007)

George Berkeley, Bishop of Cloyne (1685-1753), was considered "the most engaging and useful man in Ireland in the eighteenth century." This hyperbolic statement refers both to Berkeley's life and thought; in fact, he always felt himself a pioneer called to think and do *new* things. He was the author of a *new* theory of vision, of the celebrated "*new* principle" of immaterialism, of a "*new* argument" to prove the existence of God, of a bold criticism of Newtonian infinitesimals, of a "*new* method of indivisibles," of *new* proposals to improve Irish economy, of a *novel* panacea (i.e., tar-water). Moreover, he was a very active Christian, one of the most progressive landowners in Southern Ireland, a zealous bishop always residing in his diocese. He planned the foundation of St. Paul's College, in the Bermudas, for the religious and philosophical education of the natives. Berkeley was an empiricist well versed in the sciences, an amateur of the mechanical arts, spending many hours in the foundries learning metallurgical techniques.

The University of Cassino organizes a three-day international conference on Berkeley's contributions to various scientific disciplines, in the context of eighteenth-century science, philosophy and religion.

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