

What recommends this collection of essays, however, is not so much any originality of subject as the context of the history of Western philosophy into which Schulz masterfully fits those subjects. He knows that history thoroughly from Aristotle to Gadamer and Heidegger and applies it judiciously. His best essays are his reassessment of John Cotton in the context of protestant church history, his essay on Emerson's continuing appeal to readers, the several essays in which he connects Thoreau's natural history writings to the philosophy of both George Berkeley and Hans Georg Gadamer, and his essay on Martin Walser's unique assessment of America. These essays are also refreshingly free of post-modern jargon and are always clearly argued. They offer evidence of a distinguished career dedicated to literature and the history of ideas.

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