JOHANN GOTTFRIED VON HERDER

Philosophical Writings

TRANSLATED AND EDITED BY MICHAEL N. FORSTER

University of Chicago



Contents

Introduction Chronology	<i>page</i> vii	
Chronology Further reading		xxxvi xxxix
Part I	General Philosophical Program	
	How Philosophy Can Become More Universal and Useful for the Benefit of the People (1765)	3
Part II	Philosophy of Language	
	Fragments on Recent German Literature (1767–8) [excerpts on language] Treatise on the Origin of Language (1772)	33 65
Part III	Philosophy of Mind	
	On Thomas Abbt's Writings (1768) [selections concerning psychology] On Cognition and Sensation, the Two Main Forces	167
	of the Human Soul (1775) [preface] On the Cognition and Sensation of the	178
	Human Soul (1778)	187

Contents

Part IV	Philosophy of History	
	On the Change of Taste (1766)	247
	Older Critical Forestlet (1767/8) [excerpt on history] This Too a Philosophy of History for the Formation	257
	of Humanity [an early introduction]	268
	This Too a Philosophy of History for the Formation of Humanity (1774)	272
Part V	Political Philosophy	
	Letters concerning the Progress of Humanity (1792)	
	[excerpts on European politics] Letters for the Advancement of Humanity (1793–7)	361
	[excerpts concerning freedom of thought and expression] Letters for the Advancement of Humanity (1793–7)	370
	[excerpt on patriotism] Letters for the Advancement of Humanity (1793–7) –	374
	Tenth Collection	380
Index		425