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Review of What Happened in and to Moral Philosophy in the Twentieth Century? edited by Fran O'Rourke

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What Happened in and to Moral Philosophy in the Twentieth Century? Philosophical Essays in Honor of Alasdair MacIntyre

What Happened in and to Moral Philosophy in the Twentieth Century? Philosophical Essays in Honor of Alasdair MacIntyre. Univ. of Notre Dame. Jun. 2013. 544p. ed. by Fran O'Rourke. notes. index. ISBN 9780268037376. \$70. PHIL

Originally presented at University College Dublin in 2009, these essays celebrate the 80th birthday of Scottish philosopher Alasdair MacIntyre (*After Virtue*), an influential proponent of virtue theory. The book's first section reflects upon MacIntyre's work, the second considers alternative approaches to ethics, and the third engages in a metaethical inquiry into a wide array of concepts in moral philosophy. O'Rourke (philosophy, Univ. Coll. Dublin; *Human Destinies: Philosophical Essays in Memory of Gerald Hanratty*) admirably provides a comprehensive, although incomplete, historical account of trends in 20th-century moral philosophy, in both the analytic and continental traditions. The selection will appeal to students of the history of philosophy and to continental philosophers examining moral philosophy. However, analytic philosophers and nonacademic readers will find much of the essays' nonhistorical aspects arduous and largely irrelevant. Given that MacIntyre straddles analytic and continental philosophy, these deficits are unfortunate.

VERDICT An informative and compelling tribute, but otherwise largely inaccessible to those outside of the European continental tradition.