

AN UNFORGETTABLE PHILOSOPHER: DAVID EVANS (1942-2009)

A native of London, David Evans earned all of his degrees from Cambridge, the highest, but not the last distinction he accessed to, being his election as a Member of the Royal Irish Academy in 1983. The spectrum of his philosophical interests was extremely wide. It ranged from Plato and Aristotle up to Descartes, Locke and Kant, and focused more precisely on moral philosophy. He used to qualify himself as «an analytic historian of philosophy» who brings the apparatus of full scholarly rigour to this discipline and to contemporary philosophical debate. His career had been astonishing. Besides his rapid academic ascension, he became a member of several important learned societies and participated in numerous international committees, among which the Steering Committee of the International Federation of Philosophical Societies (FISP) in the framework of which we had a narrow collaboration during fifteen years, which very soon turned into a close friendship until his death. He had accepted many honorifying invitations to lecture around the world and to participate in international philosophical conferences. His most recent publications directly reflect not only his steady philosophical attitude: Kant's analysis of the Paralogism of Rational Psychology in *Critique of Pure Reason* Edition B (1999); *Beyond Reality: Plato's Good revisited* (2000); *Aristotle on *techne** (2003); *Value Pluralism: the contribution of Aristotle in *Nicomachean Ethics* 5* (2003); *Reason and Violence: arguments from force* (2005), but also the steadiness of his character and the virtue which inspired all his actions. All of these qualities transcend any personal judgments and elevate him to the level of an authentic thorough thinker who experienced philosophy as a way of life.

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