

Contents

Acknowledgments ix

List of Abbreviations of Texts by Merleau-Ponty xiii

Introduction to Merleau-Ponty's Philosophy: "Singing the World" 1

Prelude: Scenes from the Cartesian Theater 11

1. The Sensation Fallacy: Toward a Phenomenology of Perception 26

2. The Secret Life of Things 53

3. Singing the Living Body Electric 74

4. Elemental Alterity: Self and Others 100

5. Later Developments: *Écart*, Reversibility, and the Flesh of the World 124

6. Expression and the Origin of Geometry 146

7. Behold "The Speaking Word": The Expressive Life of Language 171

Conclusion: The Visible and the Invisible 193

Appendix: The Multiple Meanings of Flesh in Merleau-Ponty's Late Writings 201

Notes 205

Bibliography 241

Index 249