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REVIEWS

TITLE INFORMATION

DIALECTICS OF FORCE: ONTOBIA

Battler, Alex

CreateSpace (322 pp.)

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BOOK REVIEW

Battler's unified theory of everything, from the fundamental laws of physics to consciousness and free will.

Though Battler offers a wide view of universal structures—ranging from the development of organic life, the nature of forces, and the underlying nature of consciousness, thought and the mind—there's a marked difference here from many similar books. Battler takes a more philosophical, phenomenological approach—a twist that adds some interesting ideas to the mix. However, this phenomenological aspect isn't that of classic phenomenologists, such as Husserl, but of his predecessors, namely Schelling and Hegel, the latter playing a strong role in Battler's sections on the mind. Central to Battler's thesis is what he calls ontobia—"the property of being that reveals its existence through motion, space, and time." His book starts with an overview of philosophers who dealt with natural science, including Aristotle, Leibniz, Newton and Kant, as well as Spinoza, Locke and Teilhard de Chardin—welcome additions to the usual list of philosophers. The book's second part looks at the idea of force through scientific theories related to quantum physics, the Big Bang and then back again through the Big Crunch. In the third section, Battler then turns his attention toward the organic world, particularly the fields of chemistry and biology, with an emphasis on evolution. Finally, in the fourth section, man arrives as Battler considers the development of consciousness, with references to many well-known thinkers, including Penrose, Searle and Sheldrake, to name a few. For a book of moderate size, the thoroughness is impressive, and even when his ideas run against the grain, the well-argued philosophical combat will satisfy inquisitive readers.

New ideas that will challenge readers and expand their horizons.