



The Intuitive Way of Knowing: A Tribute to Brian Goodwin

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The Intuitive Way of Knowing: A Tribute to Brian Goodwin From Floris Books

Professor Brian Goodwin was a visionary biologist, mathematician and philosopher. Born in Canada in 1931, he studied biology at McGill University then for his PhD at Oxford under the eminent biologist Conrad Waddington. Understanding organisms as dynamic wholes, he worked to develop an alternate view to extreme Darwinism based solely on genetic factors. His evolutionary vision was centred more on archetypes than ancestors and cooperation rather than competition. As a scientist Brian's work was groundbreaking and highly influential. He was a pioneer in the field of theoretical biology, and a founding member of the prestigious Santa Fe Institute. He appeared often in debates with prominent figures such as Richard Dawkins, Stephen Jay Gould and Lewis Wolpert. In later years he was made a founding fellow at Schumacher College, Totnes, UK, where he taught holistic science and completed his last book, *Nature's Due: Healing Our Fragmented Culture* (Floris Books 2007). He died in July 2009. This tribute to the life and work of Brian Goodwin has contributions from eminent scholars and academi around the world, dealing with his research on pattern and form in biology and the metaphysical principles that guided him. It also includes an interview with him. The book honours both his work and personal memories of a much loved and respected colleague. Contributors include: Stuart Kauffman, Lewis Wolpert, Fritjof Capra, Margaret Boden, Michael Ruse, Fred Cummings, Mae-wan Ho, Philip Franses, Stephan Harding, Nick Monk, Claudio Stern and Johannes Jaeger

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The Intuitive Way of Knowing: A Tribute to Brian Goodwin From Floris Books Bibliography

- Rank: #1608912 in eBooks
- Published on: 2013-04-25
- Released on: 2013-04-25
- Format: Kindle eBook

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Editorial Review

Review

'Not only is The Intuitive Way of Knowing a wonderful tribute to Brian for those who knew him and also for people like myself who have been greatly influenced by his astoundingly insightful, ground-breaking and also spiritual work (see for example Brian's final book Nature's Due -- Healing Our Fragmented Culture), it is also an excellent introduction to the ways in which scientists such as Brian work with their faculties of intuition (not to be confused in this sense with feeling) in order to truly comprehend organisms and the meaning of living processes.' -- Simon Robinson, Transition Consciousness 'The final part on theoretical biology opens with a brilliant essay from Fritjof Capra... Although the book is technical in parts, it provides an excellent overview of the significant contribution that Brian [Goodwin] made to evolutionary biology and reminds the reader of his remarkable qualities as a man and a teacher. -- David Lorimer, Scientific and Medical Network Review 'Anyone with an interest in evolutionary biology will find a wealth of information covering a broad range of ideas on the subject.' -- David Anstey, New Vision 'This book well documents aspects of Brian Goodwin's life of enquiry, but is of far wider relevance. The questions he was asking are still live questions today and will remain so for years to come. He was a prophet of a transformation in biology that is now under way, but which he did not live to see.' -- Rupert Sheldrake, Temenos Academy Review

From the Inside Flap

Professor Brian Goodwin (1931-2009) was a visionary biologist, mathematician and philosopher. Understanding organisms as dynamics wholes, he worked to develop an alternate view to extreme Darwinism based solely on genetic factors. He was a pioneer in the field of theoretical biology; in later years was made a founding fellow at Schumacher College near Totnes, England, where he taught holistic science and wrote his final book, Nature's Due: Healing our Fragmented Culture (Floris Books 2007).

This new book is a tribute to the life and work of Brian Goodwin. It includes contributions from eminent scholars and academics around the world, addressing his work on pattern and form in biology, and the metaphysical principles that guided him. It also includes an interview with Goodwin which offers new insights into his thinking.

The book honors both his work and personal memories of a much loved and respected colleague.

Contributors include: Stuart Kauffman, Lewis Wolpert, Fritjof Capra, Margaret Boden, Michael Ruse, Fred Cummings, Mae-wan Ho, Philip Franses, Stephan Harding, Nick Monk, Claudio Stern and Johannes Jaeger

About the Author

Chris Chetland is a PhD student at Griffith University. His interests are theory of form and how structure of consciousness limits knowledge, particularly from a Kantian framework. Outside of academia he is an award-winning music producer.

David Lambert is Professor of Evolutionary Biology at Griffith University, Australia. He was previously on the staff at the University of Auckland and Massey University in New Zealand and was a Principal Investigator in the Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution. His interests are in theories of evolutionary biology and currently works in the area of ancient genomics.

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