## Beauty, Art, and the Polis

#### American Maritain Association Publications

#### General Editor: Anthony O. Simon

Jacques Maritain: The Man and His Metaphysics Edited by John F.X. Knasas, 1988

**★ ISBN 0-268-01205-9 (out of print)** 

Freedom in the Modern World: Jacques Maritain, Yves R. Simon, Mortimer J. Adler Edited by Michael D. Torre, 1989, Second Printing 1990

★ ISBN 0-268-00978-3

From Twilight to Dawn: The Cultural Vision of Jacques Maritain Edited by Peter A. Redpath, 1990

★ ISBN 0-268-00979-1

The Future of Thomism Edited by Deal W. Hudson and Dennis Wm. Moran, 1992 ★ ISBN 0-268-00986-4

Jacques Maritain and the Jews Edited by Robert Royal, 1994 ★ ISBN 0-268-01193-1

Freedom, Virtue, and the Common Good Edited by Curtis L. Hancock and Anthony O. Simon, 1995 **★ ISBN 0-268-00991-0** 

Postmodernism and Christian Philosophy Edited by Roman T. Ciapolo, 1997

◆ ISBN 0-8132-0881-5

The Common Things: Essays on Thomism and Education Edited by Daniel McInerny, 1999

◆ ISBN 0-9669226-0-3

The Failure of Modernism: The Cartesian Legacy and Contemporary Pluralism Edited by Brendan Sweetman, 1999

◆ ISBN 0-9669226-1-1

Beauty, Art, and the Polis Edited by Alice Ramos, 2000

- ◆ ISBN 0-9669226-2-X
  - ★ Distributed by the University of Notre Dame Press
  - ◆ Distributed by The Catholic University of America Press

# Beauty, Art, and the Polis

Alice Ramos

With an Introduction by Ralph McInerny

A MERICAN MARITAIN ASSOCIATION

Distributed by The Catholic University of America Press

Washington, D.C. 20064

#### Copyright © 2000

#### American Maritain Association

#### All Rights Reserved

#### Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Beauty, art, and the polis / edited by Alice Ramos; with an introduction by Ralph McInerny.

p. cm. — (American Maritain Association publications) Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 0-9669226-2-X (alk. paper)

1. Aesthetics. 2. Neo-Scholasticism. 3. Maritain, Jacques, 1882–1973. 4. Art—Philosophy. I. Ramos, Alice. II. Series.

BH39.B3827 2000 111'.85—dc21

00-021847

Manufactured in the United States of America

Distributed by The Catholic University of America Press

### Contents

	Editor's Note	ix
	Introduction: "A Bracelet of Bright Hair About the Bone" Ralph McInerny	1
PA	RT I THE FOUNDATIONS OF BEAUTY, ART, AND CREATIVITY	Y
	"Radiance": The Metaphysical Foundations of	
	Maritain's Aesthetics	
	John G. Trapani, Jr.	11
	The Agent Intellect and the Energies of Intelligence	
	Donald Haggerty	20
	Form and Fluidity: The Aquinian Roots of	
	Maritain's Doctrine of the Spiritual Preconscious	
	Matthew Cuddeback	34
	Scholastic Hylomorphism and Western Art:	
	From the Gothic to the Baroque	
	Christopher M. Cullen, S.J.	45
	On the Ontological Priority of Ends and Its Relevance	
	to the Narrative Arts	
	Francis Slade	58

Beauty, Mind, and the Universe Alice Ramos	70
Dante, Aquinas, and the Roots of the Modern Aesthetization of Reality Patrick Downey	85
PART II THE ARTS, THE ARTIST, AND INTERPRETATIONS	
Art's Invaluable Uselessness Gregory J. Kerr	99
Portraits of the Artist: Joyce, Nietzsche, and Aquinas Thomas S. Hibbs	117
The Novel as Practical Wisdom Daniel McInerny	138
The Agony and the Ecstasy of the Annunciation in Anne Sexton's "The Fierceness of Female" Carrie Rehak	147
Music and Religion in Gilson's Philosophy of Art Ralph Nelson	160
Maritain on Music: His Debt to Cocteau Stephen Schloesser, S.J.	176
Maritain and Gilson on Painting Desmond J. FitzGerald	190
Incarnate Beauty: Maritain and the Aesthetic Experience of Contemporary Icons  Katherine Anne Osenga	e 200

#### PART III ART, MORALITY, AND THE POLIS

Dangerous Music Wayne H. Harter	211
Epiphany and Authenticity: The Aesthetic Vision of Charles Taylor	22.
Brian J. Braman	224
The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: The Aesthetic in Moral Imagination	
James P. Mesa	237
Is Medicine Today Still an Art? John F. Morris	245
Art: A "Political" Good?  Jeanne M. Heffernan	259
The Arts and Authority Joseph W. Koterski, S.J.	269
Social Justice as a Work of Art in Action Henk E. S. Woldring	287
Contributors	301
Index	306