

# The Apollonian

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## GOD IS DEAD

### Friedrich Wilhelm Nietzsche Teaches Philosophy That Offends a Majority of Underinformed People.

By: Kaitlyn Cross

Because of Nietzsche's evocative style and provocative ideas, his philosophy generates passionate reactions. His works remain controversial, due to varying interpretations and misinterpretations of his work. In the Western philosophy tradition, Nietzsche's writings have been described as the unique case of free revolutionary thought, that is, revolutionary in its structure and problems, although not tied to any revolutionary project. The Apollonian and Dionysian is a two-fold philosophical concept, based on certain features of ancient Greek mythology: Apollo and Dionysus. While the concept

is famously related to "The Birth of Tragedy", poet Hölderlin spoke of them before, and Winckelmann talked of Bacchus. One year before the publication of "The Birth of Tragedy", Nietzsche wrote a fragment titled "On Music and Words". In it he asserted the Schopenhauerian judgment that music is a primary expression of the essence of everything. Secondly derivative are lyrical poetry and drama, which represent mere phenomenal appearances of objects. In this way, tragedy is

born from music. Nietzsche found in classical Athenian tragedy an art form that transcended the pessimism found in the so-called wisdom of Silenus. The Greek spectators, by looking into the abyss of human suffering depicted by characters on stage, passionately and joyously affirmed life, finding it worth living.

A main theme in "The Birth of Tragedy" was that the fusion of Dionysian and Apollonian

"Kunsttrieben" ("artistic impulses") forms dramatic arts, or tragedies. He goes on to argue that this fusion has not been achieved since the ancient Greek tragedians. These are principles that were fundamental to the Greek culture. In "Beyond Good and Evil" and "On the Genealogy of Morality", Nietzsche's genealogical account of the development of modern moral systems occupies a central place. For Nietzsche, a fundamental shift took place during human history from thinking in terms of good and bad toward good and evil. The initial form of morality was set by a warrior aristocracy and other ruling castes of ancient civilizations. Aristocratic values of good and bad coincided with and reflected their relationship to lower castes

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### Man Evolved From Apes. Charles Darwin Defends Evolution As Fact.

By: Kyle Hall

Darwin's fame and popularity led to his name being associated with ideas and movements that, at times, had only an indirect relation to his writings, and sometimes went directly against his express comments. Thomas Malthus had argued that population growth beyond resources was ordained by God to get humans to work productively and show restraint in getting families, this was used in the 1850s to justify workhouses and laissez-faire economics. Evolution was by then seen as having social implications, and Herbert Spencer's 1851 book "Social Statics" based ideas of human freedom and individual liberties on his Lamarckian

evolutionary theory. Soon after "The Origin" was published in 1859, critics derided his description of a struggle for existence as "A Malthusian justification for the English industrial capitalism of the time." The term Darwinism was used for the evolutionary ideas of others, including Spencer's "Survival of the Fittest" as free-market progress, and Ernst Haeckel's racist ideas of human development. There was little immediate attention to this announcement of the theory; the president of the Linnean Society remarked in May 1859 that the year had not been marked

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### A New Advocate for Democracy in John Dewey.

By: Nunya Bidnez

Known for his advocacy of democracy, Dewey considered two fundamental elements—schools and civil society—to be major topics needing attention and reconstruction to encourage experimental intelligence and plurality. Dewey asserted that complete democracy was to be obtained not just by extending voting rights but also by ensuring that there exists a fully formed public opinion, accomplished by communication among citizens, experts, and politicians, with the latter being accountable for the policies they adopt. The overriding theme of Dewey's works was his profound belief in democracy, be it in politics, education or communication and journalism. As Dewey himself stated in 1888, while still at the University of Michigan, "Democracy and the one, ultimate, ethical ideal of humanity are to my mind synonymous." Dewey sometimes referred to his philosophy as instrumentalism rather than pragmatism, and would have recognized the similarity of these two schools to the newer school named consequentialism. Dewey sees paradox in contemporary logical theory. Logical positivism also figured in Dewey's thought. About the movement he wrote that it "eschews the

use of 'propositions' and 'terms', substituting 'sentences' and 'words'." Dewey is considered the epitome of liberalism by many historians, and sometimes was portrayed as "dangerously radical." Meanwhile, Dewey was critiqued strongly by American communists because he argued against Stalinism and had philosophical differences with Marx, identifying himself as a democratic socialist. On the other hand, some conservatives have called Dewey "a Soviet apologist". Historians have examined his religious beliefs. Biographer Steven C. Rockefeller traced Dewey's democratic convictions to his childhood attendance at the Congregational Church, with its strong proclamation of social ideals and the Social Gospel. Historian Edward A. White suggested in "Science and Religion in American Thought" (1952) that Dewey's work had led to the 20th century rift between religion and science. Science is the triumph of Western civilisation which has made all its other achievements possible. The enormity of this triumph has very often been reflected onto the historiography of science to produce a story akin to a triumphal progress. From Copernicus onwards, we are told, each generation built on the discoveries of their forerunners to produce a parade of successes with barely a backwards step. This history has been built on two assumptions: that there is something epistemologically unique about science and that reason and rationality are what causes progress in science.

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### Tesla, One Man's Methods Leaves Him Misunderstood.

By: Missy Jones

Nikola Tesla inventor, electrical engineer, mechanical engineer, physicist, and futurist best known for his contributions to the design of the modern alternating current (AC) electricity supply system. Tesla gained experience in telephony and electrical engineering before emigrating to the United States in 1884 to work for Thomas Edison in New York City. He soon struck out on his own with financial

backers, setting up laboratories and companies to develop a range of electrical devices. Tesla exhibited a pre-atomic understanding of physics in his writings. He disagreed with the theory of atoms being composed of smaller subatomic particles, stating there was no such thing as an electron creating an electric charge (he believed that if electrons existed at all, they were some fourth state of matter or "sub-atom" that could only exist in an experimental vacuum.)

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