The Inner Philosopher: New Book Turns the Conversation to the Power of Timeless Wisdom

The collaborative effort of Lou Marinoff and Daisaku Ikeda, two great thinkers, The Inner Philosopher is a guided tour of thousands of years of human wisdom.

Cambridge, MA (PRWEB) January 15, 2013 -- Henry Adams characterized philosophy as a series of “unintelligible answers to insoluble problems.” Not true, not by a long shot, as bestselling author Lou Marinoff and Buddhist thinker Daisaku Ikeda abundantly prove in their mind-expanding series of conversations, The Inner Philosopher: Conversations on Philosophy’s Transformative Power (Dialogue Path Press, paper, $12.95). As the subtitle suggests, both Marinoff and Ikeda believe strongly in philosophy’s ability—and responsibility—to heal hearts and, by extension, the world. “Vain is the word of the philosopher,” they quote Epicurus on the cover, “which does not heal any suffering of man.” In sixteen wonderful conversations, Ikeda and Marinoff pull off a beautiful duet, motivational music for the mind, courtesy of two first-rate thinkers harmonizing on the combined wisdom of East and West.

Marinoff, professor and chair of philosophy at The City College of New York and the bestselling author of Plato Not Prozac, and Ikeda, who writes and lectures widely on Buddhism, humanism, and global ethics, share an infectious optimism about humanity’s “improve-ability,” with philosophy playing a starring role. “If your mind shines, your life shines,” says Ikeda, who is the founder of the Ikeda Center for Peace, Learning and Dialogue, and also the founder and president of the Soka Gakkai International, a lay Buddhist organization with twelve million members worldwide. Philosophy, they contend, is also essential for your health. Says Marinoff, “Philosophy, notably Buddhist and Greek philosophy, is the remedy for what the Japanese call ‘lifestyle maladies’—widespread cultural problems afflicting affluent nations. Philosophy has a valuable role to play in treating culturally-rooted epidemics, including obesity, bullying, hedonism, and consumerism.”

The Inner Philosopher ignites the imagination, expanding our conception of what’s possible. “A single book can exert immeasurable influence,” says Ikeda.

“Don’t pick up this book without a highlighter in your hand,” enjoins Betty A. Reardon in her praise for The Inner Philosopher. “These conversations... articulate shimmering complexities that light up the mind.” Tom Morris, author of Philosophy for Dummies, calls Ikeda and Marinoff “ideal guides to the nature and function of wisdom.” Marinoff and Ikeda, formidable intellects both, give a virtuoso performance in these stirring conversations. Music to the ears for anyone with a hope for humanity.

“The Inner Philosopher takes one to the front lines of life’s grand adventure.”
—Wayne Shorter, Grammy-winning jazz composer and saxophonist

The Inner Philosopher
By Lou Marinoff and Daisaku Ikeda

LOU MARINOFF is professor and chair of philosophy at The City College of New York. He is founding president of the American Philosophical Practitioners Association. Marinoff has collaborated with global think tanks and leadership forums, including the Aspen Institute and the World Economic Forum in Davos. He is the internationally bestselling author of Plato Not Prozac, translated into 27 languages.
DAISAKU IKEDA is president of the Soka Gakkai International, a lay Buddhist organization with twelve million members worldwide. He writes and lectures extensively on Buddhism, humanism, and global ethics. More than fifty of his dialogues have been published, including conversations with Mikhail Gorbachev, Linus Pauling, and Arnold Toynbee.

THE INNER PHILOSOPHER is published by Dialogue Path Press, the publishing arm of the Ikeda Center (http://www.ikedacenter.org/). The Ikeda Center, founded by Daisaku Ikeda, is an institute for peace, learning, and dialogue located in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The Center’s books have been used in more than 800 college and university courses. In addition to The Inner Philosopher, Dialogue Path Press’s titles include Creating Waldens: An East-West Conversation on the American Renaissance and Into Full Flower: Making Peace Cultures Happen.

Media contact: Victor Gulotta, Gulotta Communications, Inc.
617-630-9286, http://www.booktours.com, victor(at)booktours(dot)com
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