

Preface

This preface introduces the essence and aims of a book designed to elucidate Henri Bergson's philosophy for the general public. Originating from two articles published in the "Revue des Deux Mondes" in February 1912, the author expands on these initial sketches by adding continuous notes for further clarification on certain points. The text is candid about its purpose: not to present a comprehensive critical analysis of Bergson's work—deemed premature given Bergson's ongoing contributions—but rather to serve as an introductory guide for those new to his ideas.

The book deliberately avoids the complexities of technical jargon and comparisons with other philosophical doctrines to maintain focus on Bergson's unique perspective. The author advocates for understanding Bergson's philosophy as a "living act" rather than dissecting it as one would a static object. Emphasis is placed on the importance of intuitive understanding over analytical dissection, aligning with Bergson's own methodological recommendations.

In doing so, the preface sets the stage for a nuanced exploration of Bergson's philosophy, intending to make his concepts more accessible to readers unfamiliar with his work. The author hopes this simplified exposition will not only encourage a broader audience to engage with Bergson's ideas but also offer insightful perspectives to professional philosophers. This approach underscores the transformative potential of approaching philosophy as a dynamic and intuitive process, reflecting Bergson's own innovative stance.