Preface to the Seventh Edition

After Philip E. Bishop passed away in April 2010, the publishers of Adventures in the Human Spirit asked me to take over the revision of this, its seventh edition. While I have edited innumerable college textbooks in the arts and humanities during my 20 years as a freelance developmental editor, it is one thing to edit a book and quite something else to assume the responsibility for a book as its author. Over six editions, Philip had refined the most readable one-volume overview of the humanities available. His voice was personable and engaging, his coverage authoritative and judicious.

In updating Philip’s book, I have sought to maintain his readability, clarity, concision, and approachability, and to continue his discerning coverage of music, religion, literature, philosophy, and science. While extending the coverage of recent art and scholarship, we have also entirely recast the book’s design to further engage students with dramatic new chapter-opening spreads, a refreshed color palette, and a clear pedagogical structure.

All 15 chapters have been revised to include:

- New opening learning outcome questions that create clear signposts for study
- New comprehensive timelines that recap events in the chapter
- New review questions for student self-evaluation and chapter review
- New Thought Experiment questions that prompt reflections on the ways in which a subject touches students’ lives
- Enhanced coverage of non-Western high points in the humanities, including ancient and modern Asia, Africa, and the Americas
- More than 140 MyArtsLab links that connect students to Pearson’s formidable on-line resources, and include closer looks at art objects, virtual tours of landmark architecture, historical documents, and extended primary sources
- More than 125 brand-new color illustrations
- A new and totally revised, comprehensive, detailed map program

Along with adding the new Thought Experiment box feature, I have expanded the Global Perspective boxes to enlarge the coverage of non-Western arts and cultures. The popular Key Concept, Critical Question, Write Idea, and Windows on Daily Life features remain.

Students should note that in addition to the MyArtsLab assets, every location mentioned in this text can be explored on the web via Google Earth, a powerful resource for virtual tours of landmark sites worldwide.

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Margaret Manos
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