

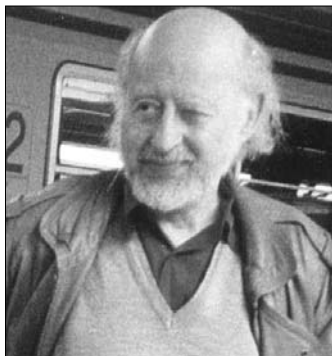
A Collection from

# HERB TANDREE PHILOSOPHY BOOKS

## Language Books from The Working Library of the Linguist Michel Tondowski

41 Languages - 595 Items

LANGUAGE METHODS, DICTIONARIES, AND LITERATURE



*Michel Tondowski*

**Introduction - the Collection:** This is an unusual collection of language materials from the library of a working linguist; there is a surprising, perhaps unique, diversity of languages from most areas of the world. Within the language groups themselves there is usually a good array of language methods and dictionaries. Since Mr. Tondowski worked in the French and German languages, he was a native speaker of these languages, and so often purchased learning methods, etc., of other languages in French and German; therefore, one will find language methods and dictionaries in English, French, and German, and usually the specific language, as well. One advantage of this can be overtly seen in the Japanese section, which includes a number of western language methods of Japanese.

And, finally, we draw your attention to something certainly unique in offerings of this sort: Mr. Tondowski often read the literature of a language in the original, and so we have included these books in the collection.

The collection is organized by language groups in alphabetical order, and within this by methods, dictionaries, and then literature. Occasionally there are books about the language which have their separate sub-section. All items are in very good condition unless otherwise stated, and there is very little marking in the material - *Herb Tandree*.

See Page iii for Biographical Introduction of Michel Tondowski by his wife

**Herb Tandree Philosophy Books**

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*Margaret Tondowski*

## **Introduction - About the Linguist Michel Tondowski (1923 - 1999), by his wife Margaret Tondowski**

Michel Tondowski was born of Polish-Jewish parents in Paris. He often said that he wasn't sure whether his mother tongue was Polish or Yiddish, but, of course, all his schooling up to the age of 13 was in French. He had a great love of this language right up to the end of his life. Two other languages also played an important part in his childhood, due to the visits of his grandparents. His father's family spoke Russian and his mother's family spoke German, since they came from the two different regions of Poland where these language had been imposed.

The family moved to England when he was 13 and Michel soon mastered the English language. He obtained a degree in chemistry at the University of Manchester and then joined the Free French Forces at the end of WWII. Although he had a brief flirtation with medical studies he soon realised that his bent lay more in the realm of the humanities. He read the literature of the languages he already knew and proceeded to learn others - Italian, Spanish, the Scandinavian languages, etc. He worked as a journalist at the French Press Agency in London but became redundant and decided to visit his uncle in Brazil, but not before mastering the Portuguese language. He couldn't envisage going to a country where he wasn't able to speak the language.

On the way back from Brazil (whose climate and social set-up he found disagreeable), he met someone who told him that with his knowledge of languages he should work for an international organisation. On arriving back in Europe he applied for and obtained a job as translator at the O.E.C.E. in Paris.

Although he got married and immediately started a family he continued to travel - they went on holiday to Spain, Italy, Denmark, Holland, Norway, Sweden, Austria, in which countries he was often taken for a native, his ability to reproduce these different languages was so good! Was this partly due perhaps to his excellent ear - he was an accomplished amateur musician?

Now that he had at last some knowledge of most European languages including Hungarian, Czech, Serbo-Croat, and Greek, he was ready for the greater challenge with which an Oriental language presented him. He had long been attracted by the country and culture of Japan so he embarked on an intensive study of the language. When he went there he had to insist on using it - many Japanese prefer to try out their ability to speak a foreign language. But he surprised those who couldn't speak English or French.

He later made two visits to Israel where he could converse in modern Hebrew. He learnt Turkish before visiting Istanbul and finally even some Hindi prior to a visit to India.

This is the library of a man who took great delight in studying and practising so many different tongues and gave a great deal of pleasure to others in so doing.

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## ABOUT THE FIRM OF HERB TANDREE PHILOSOPHY BOOKS

We are an academic bookseller specializing in Western Philosophy and related subjects. Currently the firm holds a stock in the history of philosophy of about 7200 titles; we produce printed catalogues, sell on the internet, and list the books on a joint website with Rachel Lee Rare Books,

[www.philosophy-books.co.uk](http://www.philosophy-books.co.uk)



*Fromehall Mill*

### Where our Premises are located

The book rooms are located in a converted woolmill on the river Frome in the old mill town of Stroud, Gloucestershire, in the southern Cotswolds. Stroud is in a picturesque location at the meeting of five valleys, and can easily be reached by road from the motorways, M5 or M4, or by rail from London, the North, and the Southwest of England.



*View of book rooms,  
Fromehall Mill*

### WE SELL COLLECTIONS:

Herb Tandree Philosophy Books specializes in subject/author collections, and has done so for many years. Our collections are noteworthy, as they augment the bibliographical resources of research libraries with quality materials, and the condition of the items offered is generally very good. All collections have detailed lists which will be sent upon request. Some of the lists can be sent via e-mail attachment in MS Word format.

Further inquiries please contact Herb Tandree at [herb@philosophy-books.co.uk](mailto:herb@philosophy-books.co.uk) or via telephone, fax, or by letter.

#### Collections currently available 2005

1. Moral Philosophy - 350 books
2. The Educational Principles of Rudolf Steiner Pedagogy - 100 books
3. Alistair Cameron Crombie, Materials from his library - 80 items
4. History of the Philosophy of Language - 200 books
5. Logic and the History of Logic - 150 books
6. Language Books, etc. - 41 Languages - from the Working Library of Michel Tondowski - 595 items
7. History and Philosophy of Science - 300 books
8. Philosophy of Religion - 200 Books
9. Continental Philosophers and Philosophy - Recent Titles - 100 books
10. Philosophy of Law - 100 books
11. Philosophy of Mind, Psychology, Philosophical Psychology - 325 books
12. Philosophy of Religion and Theology, late Classical to Modern, books from the Working library of Prof. Emeritus David A. Pailin - 2100 items

#### Forthcoming Collections

1. Bertrand Russell - Books By and About - ca. 350 items [ready 2006];
2. Rudolf Steiner and Anthroposophy - ca. 400 items [ready 2006];
3. Working Library of Dr. O.R. Jones, University of Wales, Aberystwyth - ca. 1200 items [ready late 2005];
4. Working Library of Dr. Gerd Buchdahl, University of Cambridge - ca. 1800 items [ready 2006]

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