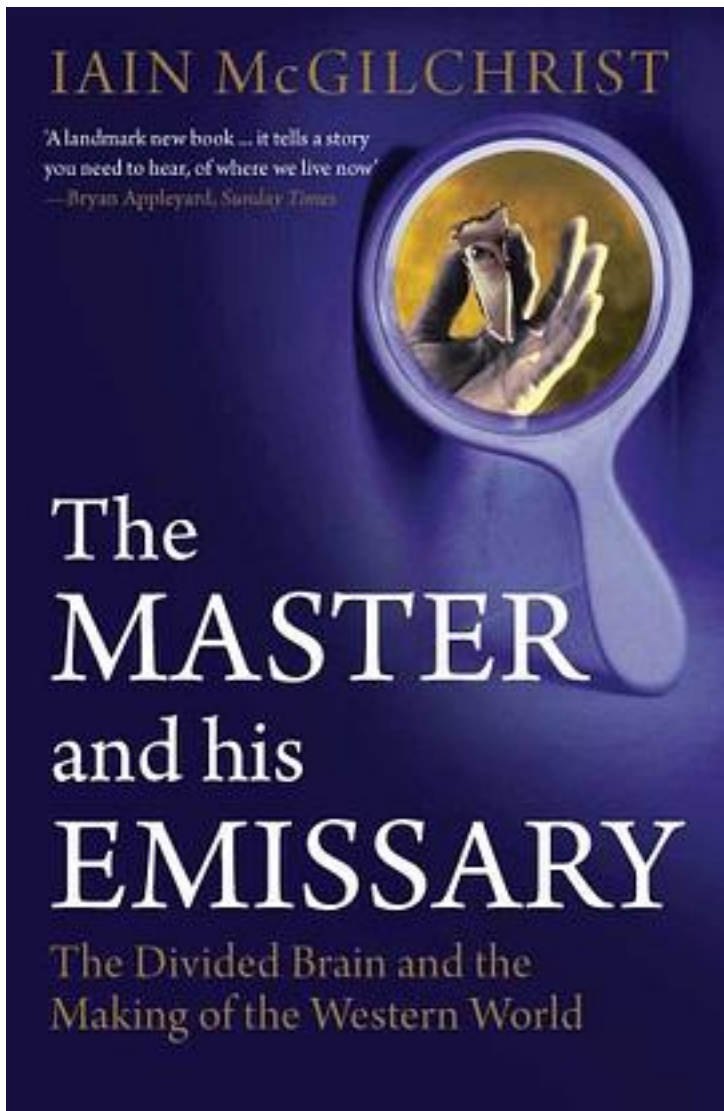


The Master and His Emissary



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著者:Iain McGilchrist

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Why is the brain divided? The difference between right and left hemispheres has been puzzled over for centuries. In a book of unprecedented scope, Iain McGilchrist draws on a vast body of recent brain research, illustrated with case histories, to reveal that the difference is profound - not just this or that function, but two whole, coherent, but incompatible ways of experiencing the world. The left hemisphere is detail-oriented, prefers mechanisms to living things, and is inclined to self-interest, where the right hemisphere has greater breadth, flexibility and generosity. This division helps explain the origins of music and language, and casts new light on the history of philosophy, as well as on some mental illnesses. In the second part of the book, he takes the reader on a journey through the history of Western culture, illustrating the tension between these two worlds as revealed in the thought and belief of thinkers and artists, from Aeschylus to Magritte. He argues that, despite its inferior grasp of reality, the left hemisphere is increasingly taking precedence in the modern world, with potentially disastrous consequences. This is truly a tour de force that should excite interest in a wide readership.

作者介绍:

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标签

neuropsychology

Philosophy

Cultural-Evolution

评论

Left and right brain conflict. Also talking about history and culture. To me, the inference is a little far-fetched because he is overemphasizing the difference between abstraction and experience, or between mind and material, whereas in my opinion, that duality is less important than the significance of evolution of complex beings.

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书评

This book is about the conflict between left and right brain. Also it talks about history and culture. To me, the inference is a little far-fetched because he is overemphasizing the difference between abstraction and experience, or between mind and material...

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