

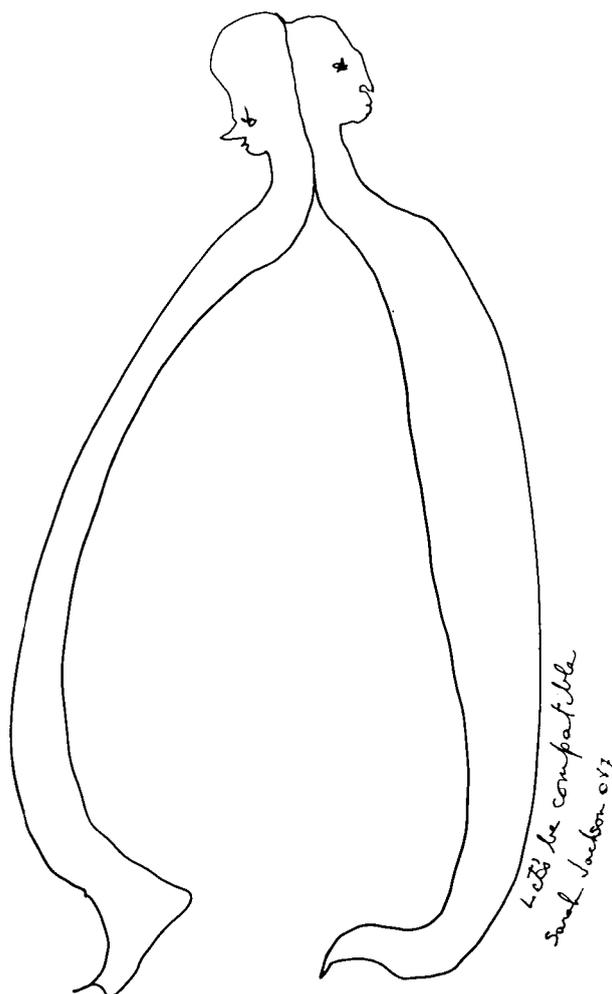
Introduction

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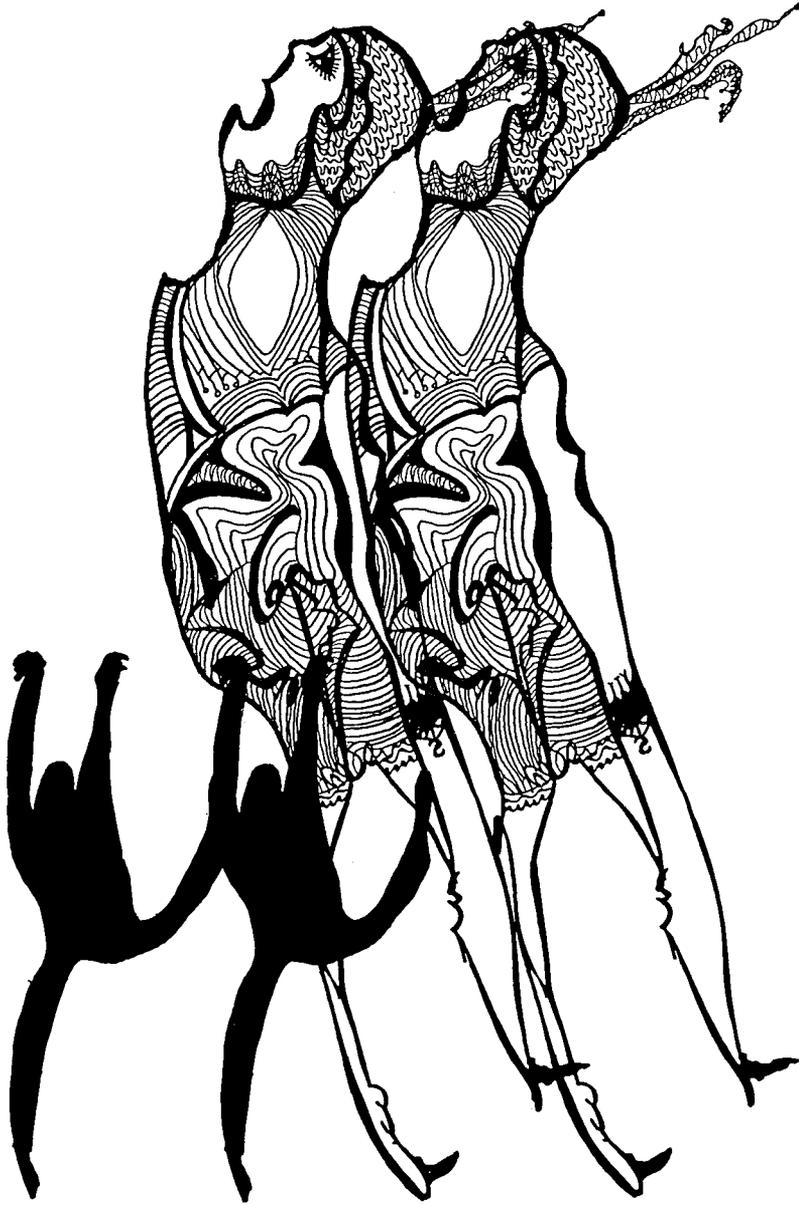
Most of the essays in this special issue of *Atlantis* were produced for the ninth annual meeting of the Canadian Society for Women in Philosophy (C-SWIP), held in Halifax in October 1986. This important organization is the lifeblood of Canadian feminist philosophy (and philosophers), and most members consider its annual meeting to be the source of the most stimulating and rewarding philosophical interaction of any meeting attended. The Halifax meeting was the first held in the Atlantic region; it was jointly organized and sponsored by Dalhousie University, Mount Saint Vincent University, and Saint Mary's University, with the aid of a significant contribution from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. Though the organization is principally for philosophers, many participants are engaged in interdisciplinary feminist research, and special efforts were made at this meeting to attract a broad audience from the sizable local interest in Women's Studies. The result was the largest and most diverse attendance in the organization's history and a real sense of the usefulness of cross-disciplinary discussion centred around feminist philosophy.

I am pleased to have been able to gather together many of the papers and commentaries presented at that meeting, with additional contributions from members of C-SWIP who were unable to attend the Halifax meetings, and some of the regular *Atlantis* features. This special philosophy issue will serve as an important communication between feminist philosophers and other members of the Women's Studies community, and will provide some connection for philosophers who are somewhat isolated from the exciting work occurring in Women's Studies. *Atlantis* is the ideal vehicle for this link.

I wish to thank the contributors for their patience and assistance, and thank Martha Barnstead and the other members of the *Atlantis* team for their comments and support in bringing this issue to press.



Articles



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