

**COMPLETE PHILOSOPHICAL AND
THEOLOGICAL TREATISES OF
NICHOLAS OF CUSA**
Volume One

Translated by
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Für Dr. Helmut Gestrich,
den Vorsitzenden der Cusanus-Gesellschaft

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PREFACE

The twenty-five English translations contained in these two volumes—including a work by John Wenck—are those of mine that have been published previously by Banning Press. They are reprinted here (with minor emendations and with altered page-numbers) separately from their scholarly introductory-analyses and are intended to serve as a low-cost edition for classroom use. These same translations are freely available on the Internet at:

<http://www.cla.umn.edu/jhopkins/>

Taken together, twenty-four of these works constitute Nicholas of Cusa's complete philosophical and theological treatises. They must be supplemented by studying his richly conceptual sermons, along with his ecclesiological and exegetical writings such as *De Concordantia Catholica* and *Coniectura de Ultimis Diebus*. His mathematical writings are also of interest, even though they are not of lasting importance, as Gottfried Leibniz rightly recognized.

Acknowledgement is due to Felix Meiner Verlag, from whose publications of the Latin texts (in the series *Nicolai de Cusa Opera Omnia*) many of these translations were originally made.

The translations are arranged in the order that each of the works was written, rather than being arranged topically. For example, *Apolo-gia Doctae Ignorantiae* relates to *De Docta Ignorantia* and might well be grouped with it. However, with respect to chronological order other works intervene.

Since the translations were made at different times and were previously published at different times, I have here repeated the *Praenotanda* at the end of each work, for some of the writings that are referred to in the respective notes underwent new editions over time.

In dedicating these two volumes to Dr. Helmut Gestrich (of Bernkastel-Kues, Germany), Chairman of the Cusanus-Gesellschaft, I am acknowledging his talented leadership—including both his organizational skills and his energetic application of them—in helping to make known Nicholas of Cusa and his works.

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