

PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part II

Tuesday 27 May 2003

1.30 to 4.30

Paper 11

AESTHETICS

Answer **three** questions only.

Write the number of the question at the beginning of each answer. If you are answering an either/or question, indicate the letter as well.

**You may not start to read the questions
printed on the subsequent pages of this
question paper until instructed that you
may do so by the Invigilator**

- 1 **Either** (a) In what sense, if any, is pictorial representation a matter of convention?
- Or** (b) Can one 'paint a picture in sounds'? If so, how?
- 2 **Either** (a) 'Works of art are designed to give aesthetic pleasure. It would be wrong to take pleasure in contemplating cruelty. Therefore, works of art should not depict acts of cruelty.' What, if anything, is wrong with this argument?
- Or** (b) Can a work of art be an aesthetic success, but a moral outrage? If so, how?
- 3 The heroine of Verdi's *'La Traviata'* sings beautifully while dying of tuberculosis. Has Verdi made a silly mistake here?
- 4 Is the imagination necessary for the proper appreciation and judgement of art?
- 5 Can a landscape be beautiful in the way in which a painting of a landscape is beautiful?
- 6 Are there aesthetic properties?
- 7 What does it mean to say that a piece of music is sad?
- 8 What, according to Hume, is the standard of correctness for the evaluation of a work of art? Is he right?
- 9 Evaluate Hegel's claim that art is superseded by philosophy.
- 10 Does the existence of abstract art refute Plato's criticisms of art or render them irrelevant?

END OF PAPER