

PHILOSOPHY TRIPOS Part II

Friday 24 May 2002

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 Can a picture represent a person's state of mind? If so, how?
- 2 **Either** (a) Is there such a thing as an 'aesthetic experience'? If so, how is it to be characterized?
- Or** (b) What distinction, if any, is marked by the terms 'aesthetic' and 'non-aesthetic'?
- 3 **Either** (a) 'The study of art develops the imagination.' Is this true? If so, is it why art is valuable?
- Or** (b) Do I need to know what good art is in order to know what art is?
- 4 In the interpretation of a work of art, should particular weight be given to an artist's stated intentions concerning that work?
- 5 'Expression is a phenomenal property of music itself.' What sense, if any, can be made of this claim?
- 6 Evaluate Hegel's claim that art reached its peak in Ancient Greece.
- 7 **Either** (a) How does Hume reconcile the Lockean thesis that beauty is a matter of aroused sentiment with the claim that there is a standard of taste?
- Or** (b) Is Hume's theory of the ideal critic too optimistic?
- 8 If the task of philosophy is to discover the order in the world, is Plato right to think that the arts are (at best) a distraction?
- 9 **Either** (a) In what way, if any, can art be in the vanguard of social revolution?
- Or** (b) Is aesthetic value independent of ethical value?
- 10 What is the role of sensory discrimination in the exercise of taste?

END OF PAPER