

Heinz Wismann was born in 1935 in Berlin and is the Director of Studies at the *Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (EHESS)* in Paris. A philosopher and philologist specialising in hermeneutics and the history of scholarly traditions, he taught philosophy at the Sorbonne from 1962 until his appointment at the EHESS in 1978, where he now runs a teaching and research programme on the epistemology of human science. Between 1991 and 2000, he also chaired the Protestant Institute for Interdisciplinary Research in Heidelberg (FEST). He founded the *Passages* collection of the *Editions du Cerf* publishing house in 1986 and was its editor until 2007 (over 150 works published). He is a member of the *Académie d'Agriculture de France* and has served on the scientific councils of the *Maison des Sciences de l'Homme* in Sofia and the *Institut des Hautes Etudes pour la Science et la Technologie* in Paris.

Using his work on ancient Greek philosophy (Heraclitus, Parmenides, Plato, Democritus, Epicurus) as a starting point, Heinz Wismann has written extensively on the history of philological research, as well as the emergence of cultural philosophy in the wake of Kantian criticism (Humboldt, Schleiermacher, Cassirer, Benjamin). He collaborates regularly with the *Questions vives* collection published by *Actes Sud* (*La science en jeu*, 2010, *La science et le débat public*, 2012, *Partager la science. L'illettrisme scientifique en question*, 2013, *Au cœur des controverses. De la science à l'action*, 2015).

Recent works: *L'Avenir des langues. Repenser les Humanités*, Paris, *Editions du Cerf*, 2004 (with Pierre Judet de La Combe),

*Les avatars du vide. Démocrite et les fondements de l'atomisme*, Paris, *Hermann*, 2010,

*Penser entre les langues*, Paris, *Albin Michel*, 2012 (Charles Veillon European Essay Prize 2013).

Soon to be published: *L'ultime atome. De Démocrite au boson de Higgs*.