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## Introduction

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On behalf of ourselves and the other editor, Francesca Ferrando, we are most pleased to offer the first publication of the World Posthuman Society, which we name "Infinity." The papers collected here were presented at the 24th World Congress of Philosophy held in Beijing in 2018. Papers are drawn from Roundtables and Workshops organized to accommodate the surging interest in Posthumanism. The reader may accept our assurance that within these pages is contained some of the most avant garde thinking in this bourgeoning movement in philosophy. In outreach to the global community, we have realized a truly representative collection of essays: Evi Sampanikou introduces us to the group of scientists who monitored the Chernobyl Nuclear reactor disaster of 1986 and went on emigrate to the furthermost tip of Europe on the Greek island of Gavdos to rethink the course of humanity in a colony of Pythagorean philosophers; Anna Markopoulou uncovers the continuing relevance of the Epicurean fourfold *pharmakon* at a time when authoritarian State actors increasingly claim that they alone possess 'the science' of good health; James McBride foresees the future possibility of an immortal cyborg with uploaded human identity and whether we are not here witnessing the emergence of the resurrected body of the New Testament; Michael Steinmann interrogates Nietzsche's aesthetics in his masterwork Thus Spoke Zarathustra to reveal that the Overhuman is conceived there in terms as well of characteristics of the animal, the angel, and the demon; Peggy Reynolds invites us to reconsider our place in the universe as modeled on the continuum hypothesis, which then excludes positionality of any sort vis a vis others, social or cultural; Debika Saha explores Emmanuel Levinas's idea of responsibility as being inbetween the glorification of the individual human on the one hand and the anti-humanism of reductive social and political critiques on the other; Jaime del Val, reflecting on the fact that human overpopulation and the loss of bio-diversity over the last 10,000 years is linked to a culture of immobility and atrophy, encourages us to reinvent the moving body and its proprioceptive sense towards a Body Intelligence r/evolution; and Thomas Steinbuch writes about art, sex and evolution in Nietzsche, Tennessee Williams and in Mozart's opera Don Giovanni towards a post-human sexuality.

We would like to express our thanks, first to the excellent philosophers who contributed to the issue, and to our colleagues, the other co-founder of the World Posthuman Society, Francesca Ferrando, Transnational Press of London, its director, İbrahim Sirkeci, and Çağdaş



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## 2 Introduction

Dedeoğlu and Sümeyra Buran of *The Journal of Posthumanism* for making this special issue possible; to Luca Scarantino of the World Congress of Philosophy for his generous accommodation of our Roundtables and Workshops at the 24<sup>th</sup> WCP; lastly, I, Thomas Steinbuch, would like to express my gratitude to my old and true friends David Schrader and Ernest Lepore of FISP for their encouragement and support in helping to found the World Posthuman Society, and from me personally for a lifetime of philosophical collegiality.

