

Editor's Introduction

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ABSTRACT: Editor's introduction to the monographic section in honor of Ruth Barcan Marcus (1921-2012).

Keywords: Ruth Barcan Marcus.

RESUMEN: Introducción de la editora a la sección monográfica dedicada a Ruth Barcan Marcus (1921-2012).

Palabras clave: Ruth Barcan Marcus.

Professor Ruth Barcan Marcus died on February 19th 2012, at the age of 90. Born on August 2nd 1921, Professor Marcus was a pioneer in the field of modal logic. To this day, the Barcan Formula, a formula that she introduced as an axiom of the modal system presented in 'A Functional Calculus of First Order Based on Strict Implication' (*The Journal of Symbolic Logic* 11(1): 1-16), the first paper she published, in 1946, remains a constant source of philosophical debate and her work on modality and modal logic continues to be a reference in the field. But Professor Marcus published extremely prominent work in other areas of Philosophy: she wrote on belief and belief reports, on identity and substitutivity, on names, on essentialism, on moral dilemmas and on some historical figures such as Spinoza and Russell.

We publish in this issue of THEORIA five papers that engage with several aspects of her contributions, papers that, we are sure, she would have commented on (and perhaps criticised) had she been still with us. Graeme Forbes contributes a piece on substitution and identity. The contributions by Ori Simchen and Manuel Pérez Otero focus on different aspects of the on-going debate about the Barcan Formula. Mark Richard and Sam Wilkinson address issues connected to Marcus' approach to belief and belief reporting. Doubtless, these five papers do not cover all the breadth of Professor Marcus' interests—we'd need a much thicker volume for that. Nevertheless, with this small token, the editors of THEORIA wish to honor Professor Ruth Barcan Marcus' memory and her philosophical legacy.

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