Jean-Jacques Rousseau and Adam Smith
A Philosophical Encounter

Charles L Griswold, Boston University, USA

"This is philosophy at its best. Charles Griswold has written a penetrating, scholarly and closely argued account of some of the key questions that animate the thinking of Jean-Jacques Rousseau and Adam Smith." - Christopher J. Berry, University of Glasgow, UK

"[T]his impressive study sheds new light on both thinkers, as well as on the character of the human self more broadly. Griswold brings to each chapter his characteristic clarity, intellectual rigor, and careful attention to the texts." - Dennis Rasmussen, Tufts University, USA

"[A]n invaluable contribution to our understanding of the relation between Rousseau and Smith. Its sensitive reading of the relevant texts uncovers a wealth of fascinating connections between them on a variety of unexpected topics …" - Frederick Neuhouser, Barnard College, USA

"[T]akes our understanding of their relationship to new heights and new horizons. Masterful in its command of its subject, this is a work that has a tremendous amount to offer both historians of philosophy and those engaged in contemporary debates over self-knowledge." - Ryan Hanley, Marquette University, USA

In Jean-Jacques Rousseau and Adam Smith: A Philosophical Encounter Charles Griswold analyzes, compares and evaluates some of the key ways in which Rousseau and Smith address what could be termed "the question of the self". It is essential reading for students and scholars of these two figures, eighteenth century philosophy, the Enlightenment, moral philosophy, and the history of ideas. It will also be of interest to those in related disciplines such as political theory, economics, and religion.