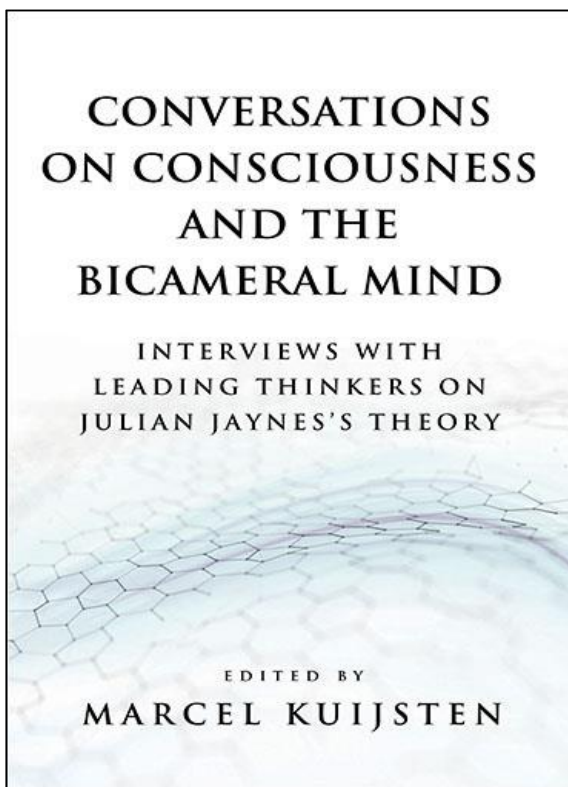


# CONVERSATIONS ON CONSCIOUSNESS AND THE BICAMERAL MIND:

INTERVIEWS WITH LEADING THINKERS  
ON JULIAN JAYNES'S THEORY

EDITED BY MARCEL KUIJSTEN



How old is consciousness? What is the relationship of consciousness and language? What is the origin of god beliefs and religion? Why do people hear voices that command their behavior? These are just a few of the fascinating questions posed by Princeton University psychologist Julian Jaynes's influential and controversial theory and discussed in this book.

A treasure trove of provocative ideas, *Conversations on Consciousness and the Bicameral Mind* explains, extends, clarifies, and presents the latest evidence for Jaynes's theory in a series of highly engaging interviews with both voice-

hearers and leading thinkers on the theory. Topics range from the origin and nature of consciousness; the history, neurology, and experience of hearing voices; sensed presences and imagined "others"; evidence for bicameral mentality in history, diverse cultures, and ancient texts; the nature of hypnosis; the concept of free will; and much more.

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Acknowledgments