

Introduction by Margaret Canovan		vii
Prologue		
	I. The Human Condition	
1.	Vita Activa and the Human Condition	7
2.	The Term Vita Activa	12
3.	Eternity versus Immortality	17
	II. The Public and the Private Realm	
4.	Man: A Social or a Political Animal	22
5.	The Polis and the Household	28
6.	The Rise of the Social	38
7.	The Public Realm: The Common	50
8.	The Private Realm: Property	58
9.	The Social and the Private	68
10.	The Location of Human Activities	73
	III. Labor	
11.	"The Labour of Our Body and the Work of Our Hands"	79
	The Thing-Character of the World	93
13.	Labor and Life	96
14.	Labor and Fertility	101
15.	The Privacy of Property and Wealth	109
16.	The Instruments of Work and the Division of Labor	118
17.	A Consumers' Society	126

Table of Contents

	IV. Work	
18.	The Durability of the World	136
	Reification	139
20.	Instrumentality and Animal Laborans	144
21.	Instrumentality and Homo Faber	153
22.	The Exchange Market	159
23.	The Permanence of the World and the Work of Art	167
	V. Action	
24.	The Disclosure of the Agent in Speech and Action	175
25.	The Web of Relationships and the Enacted Stories	181
26.	The Frailty of Human Affairs	188
27.	The Greek Solution	192
28.	Power and the Space of Appearance	199
29.	Homo Faber and the Space of Appearance	207
30.	The Labor Movement	212
31.	The Traditional Substitution of Making for Acting	220
32.	The Process Character of Action	230
33.	Irreversibility and the Power To Forgive	236
34.	Unpredictability and the Power of Promise	243
	VI. The Vita Activa and the Modern Age	
35.	World Alienation	248
36.	The Discovery of the Archimedean Point	257
37.	Universal versus Natural Science	268
38.	The Rise of the Cartesian Doubt	273
39.	Introspection and the Loss of Common Sense	280
40.	Thought and the Modern World View	285
	The Reversal of Contemplation and Action	289
42.	The Reversal within the Vita Activa and the Victory of	
	Homo Faber	294
	The Defeat of Homo Faber and the Principle of Happiness	305
	Life as the Highest Good	313
45.	The Victory of the Animal Laborans	320
Ack	Acknowledgments	
Inde	Index	