

<b>Title</b>	Blaise Pascal
<b>Director</b>	Roberto Rossellini
<b>Date</b>	1971
<b>Area</b>	Early Modern Philosophy
<b>Theme</b>	Pascal
<b>Plot Summary</b>	Analyses Pascal's (1623-1662) thought and development. Rossellini portrays Pascal as pushing European thought painfully toward Enlightenment. Pascal, as scientist, philosopher and mathematician helped change the world by advancing the cause of reason. However he also insisted on the limits of reason, particularly in connection with religious belief, and that we see and communicate with the heart in ways beyond the ability of reason. Rossellini presents Pascal as a corrective to Descartes' overemphasis on reason—going so far as to stage a confrontation between them that never occurred in actuality.
<b>Key Scenes</b>	Discouraging with Descartes, he explains the necessity and limits of reason for proving God's existence. "To truly understand infinity," he tells Descartes, "requires an infinity of methods." <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g64xo632p1o">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g64xo632p1o</a>
<b>Relevant Text</b>	Peter Brunette, Roberto Rossellini, 1987