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Maurice Merleau-Ponty's *Phenomenology of Perception* discloses reflection's dependence on the prereflective and anonymous life of the body, which follows a cyclical temporal rhythm distinct from the linear time of personal history. This immemorial past is disclosed only indirectly as a resistance constitutive of reflection. The ontological significance of this "natural time" is developed, first, in *The Visible and the Invisible*'s account of nature as "always at the first day", as an unending process of productive creation; and, secondly, in the nature lectures' account of subjectivity as participating in the "memory of the world".