

آگهی سخنرانی

CLOUDS OF ILLUSION IN THE AESTHETICS OF NATURE

By

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Abstract: I resist anti-formalism as a quite *general* thesis about the aesthetic properties of nature. I concede that formalism is not the whole truth about the aesthetics of biological things, but I think that it *is* the whole truth about the aesthetics of *inorganic* nature. Biological things have both formal aesthetic properties (aesthetic properties that things have that can be ascribed without knowing their history or context, and that we can ascribe only on the basis of knowing their mere appearances), as well as non-formal aesthetic properties (aesthetic properties that we should not ascribe without knowing their history or context, and that cannot be ascribed only on the basis of knowing their mere appearances). They are typically beautiful in virtue of the biological kinds under which they fall, and they may *also* be beautiful considered, as it were, merely as things. By contrast, my view is that inorganic things have formal beauty (and other formal aesthetic properties), and they *only* have formal beauty (and other formal aesthetic properties).

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