

AESTHETICS – MORALITY – PHILOSOPHY

Report on the writings of Bernard Bolzano

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Bernard Bolzano's aesthetics represent an original position in the Habsburg context, distinguished by a cognitivistic-conceptual approach that perceives beauty as an object of cognition and moral judgment. Bolzano conjoins art and morality, postulating that moral deficits lessen the beauty of an artwork. Furthermore, aesthetic analysis integrates the observer as an actor capable of judgment. Besides aesthetics, Bolzano's writings on morality accentuate the significance of virtue, of ethics guided by reason, and of social responsibility. In addition, Edgar Morscher's systematic study on Bolzano's philosophy as an ensemble of rationally justified truths is presented.