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Kant on Beauty and Biology

An Interpretation of the *Critique of Judgment*

Rachel Zuckert

CAMBRIDGE

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Kant's *Critique of Judgment* has often been interpreted by scholars as comprising separate treatments of three uneasily connected topics: beauty, biology, and empirical knowledge. Rachel Zuckert's book is the first to interpret the *Critique* as a unified argument concerning all three domains. She argues that, on Kant's view, human beings demonstrate a distinctive cognitive ability in appreciating beauty and understanding organic life: an ability to anticipate a whole that we do not completely understand according to preconceived categories. This ability is necessary, moreover, for human beings to gain knowledge of nature in its empirical character as it is, not as we might assume it to be. Her wide-ranging and original study will be valuable for readers in all areas of Kant's philosophy.

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RACHEL ZUCKERT is Assistant Professor in the Department of Philosophy at Northwestern University.

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NOTE ON CITATIONS

Citations to Kant's works are to the title or abbreviated title of the work, and to the volume and page number of *Kants gesammelte Schriften*, Akademie Ausgabe (Berlin: de Gruyter, 1902–). Citations to the *Critique of Judgment* are to volume v and page number with no abbreviated title, and citations to the *Critique of Pure Reason* are to the customary A/B page numbers from the first and second editions.

Translations quoted are from the Cambridge University Press translations, except where noted below and in the text. Modifications to translations are noted in the text.

Abbreviated titles of Kant's works

<i>Anth</i>	<i>Anthropology from a Pragmatic Point of View</i> ; translations quoted are from Mary Gregor (The Hague: Nijhoff, 1974)
CAJ	Critique of Aesthetic Judgment
<i>CJ</i>	<i>Critique of Judgment</i>
<i>CPR</i>	<i>Critique of Pure Reason</i>
<i>CPrR</i>	<i>Critique of Practical Reason</i>
CTJ	Critique of Teleological Judgment
FI	the first, unpublished introduction to the <i>Critique of Judgment</i>
<i>GW</i>	<i>Groundwork for the Metaphysics of Morals</i>
<i>JL</i>	<i>Jäsche Logic</i>
<i>MFNS</i>	<i>Metaphysical Foundations of Natural Science</i>
<i>MM</i>	<i>Metaphysics of Morals</i>
<i>Prol</i>	<i>Prolegomena to Any Future Metaphysics</i>

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