Serena Feloj Ästhetische Exemplarität und die Normativität des Geschmacks bei Kant

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Kant discusses the nature of artistic creativity in the context of one of the most controversial questions in the history of aesthetics: is it possible to give rules to taste? I argue that aesthetic experience is considered exemplary insofar as it develops a specific form of normativity out of the experience of singularities. According to aesthetic normativity, the rules of aesthetic experience can neither be generalized, nor do they apply as rules determined once and for all; rather, they must be determined anew in and through experience itself. In this paper, I analyze Kant's concept of genius in order to introduce a notion of aesthetic exemplariness that corresponds to the outlined idea of aesthetic normativity. To do this, I first discuss which rule can be attributed to genius, how it can be obtained from exemplars, and whether it can have normative value. After a brief description of the activity of genius, I compare artistic creation with the fundamental aspects of Kant's aesthetic judgment: universality, necessity and ideality.