

The Standard of Taste by David Hume

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Of the Standard of Taste is an essay by the Philosopher David Hume (1711 – 1776) who attempts to elaborate the need and the possible existence of a rule that will reconcile the taste of individuals to one basic standard which can be used to approve or condemn various works. Hume provides an adequate and convincing description of this standard; his essay is a masterpiece of style and elegance. Hume drives in theories through an argumentation flow and by providing explanations for questions he raises in the essay.

This standard is difficult to come by because of the variety of tastes that people have. This is because of judgment made upon sentiment. He proves that such a standard may exist and may have been applied to works of art and other creations that have stood the test of time¹. Others have simply died. This standard is one that we should look upon while making one's creations but one that will be difficult fully to satisfy. Hume uses the term 'reconcile' to mean decide who is wrong and right (Wieand 131).

Hume states that the difference in sentiments is influenced by various factors². These factors include language and time. Indeed, as time progresses sentiments will change aspects of it altered, some added and others removed altogether. He gives the example of the followers of the Koran saying that the words there in that describe honesty; justice, modesty and charity only translate to treachery, inhumanity, bigotry, cruelty, and revenge in the civilised world. Hume insists that the standard of taste becomes a problem when men explore their different tastes based on their preferences.

Looking critically at his statement, however, we realise that he attempts to give a fixed way to judge between what is right and wrong, beautiful and otherwise. This begs the question can sentiment be right or wrong. Is an individual's view correct or incorrect? Sentiment only marks conformity between the object and the faculties of the mind. Hume has a reasonably compelling response to this. He says that common sense should guide sentiment and reason and rationalism can be used indeed to declare opinion right or wrong (Kivy 58). In his account, Hume seems to believe that the sense of art and civilisation is the determinant of taste.

An Essay On Taste

Alexander Gerard



An Essay On Taste:

An Essay on Taste Alexander Gerard,1780 **An Essay on Taste, 1759** Alexander Gerard,1971 **An Essay on Taste** Alexander 1728-1795 Gerard,1694-1778 Voltaire,Jean Le Rond D' 1717-1783 Alembert,2023-07-18 This essay explores the concept of taste arguing that it is a natural faculty that can be improved with education and experience It discusses the relationship between taste and morality as well as taste s role in art literature and society This work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it This work is in the public domain in the United States of America and possibly other nations Within the United States you may freely copy and distribute this work as no entity individual or corporate has a copyright on the body of the work Scholars believe and we concur that this work is important enough to be preserved reproduced and made generally available to the public We appreciate your support of the preservation process and thank you for being an important part of keeping this knowledge alive and relevant *An Essay on Taste. By Alexander Gerard. The Second Edition...* Alexander Gérard,1764 *An essay on taste, including the discourse of E. Burke on the same subject [in The sublime and beautiful] with notes by J.-R.-J.-.* J R. Jackson,1816 *An Essay on Taste* Alexander Gerard,1759 *An Essay on taste* Alexander Gerard,1963 *Taste. An Essay* Charles Rollin,1739 *Essay on Taste* Alexander Gerard,2021-09-10 This work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it This work is in the public domain in the United States of America and possibly other nations Within the United States you may freely copy and distribute this work as no entity individual or corporate has a copyright on the body of the work Scholars believe and we concur that this work is important enough to be preserved reproduced and made generally available to the public To ensure a quality reading experience this work has been proofread and republished using a format that seamlessly blends the original graphical elements with text in an easy to read typeface We appreciate your support of the preservation process and thank you for being an important part of keeping this knowledge alive and relevant *An Essay on Taste* Alexander 1728-1795 Gerard,1694-1778 Voltaire,Jean Le Rond D' 1717-1783 Alembert,2016-08-26 This work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it This work was reproduced from the original artifact and remains as true to the original work as possible Therefore you will see the original copyright references library stamps as most of these works have been housed in our most important libraries around the world and other notations in the work This work is in the public domain in the United States of America and possibly other nations Within the United States you may freely copy and distribute this work as no entity individual or corporate has a copyright on the body of the work As a reproduction of a historical artifact this work may contain missing or blurred pages poor pictures errant marks etc Scholars believe and we concur that this work is important enough to be preserved reproduced and made generally available to the public We appreciate your support of the preservation process and thank you for being an important part of keeping

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