

The relation Schelling's philosophy of nature with contemporary sciences

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Theses

1. The central effort of Schelling's philosophy of nature was the estrangement from the mechanical views and the cartesian dualism. In this estrangement Platon's and Spinoza's philosophy as well as the unity views of the early romanticism meant model for Schelling. Natural sciences can also be found in the background of Schelling's unity of view (the new theories in electricity and chemistry). My thesis examines the history of science and history of philosophy and its aim is to justify that Schelling's orientation in sciences was not of an episodic character. Schelling integrated these concepts into the structure of his philosophy in a defining way.
2. Kant's and Fichte's influence played a significant part in forming Schelling's early philosophy. Some concepts can be found in the writing of several philosophers, scientists and poets from Jena among Schelling's concepts between 1797 and 1800 (polarity and 'Potenzen'). In Schelling's works the problem of unity in early romanticism manifested in the theory of construction and the deduction of material. This triad-structure also means the exceeding of Kantian conception of basic forces.
3. Earlier scientific literature evaluated the period of philosophy of nature as an inclusion-period in Schelling's works, thus underlying the thesis of discontinuity in Schelling's philosophy. The theory of 'Potenzen' was transmitted into the philosophy of identity and into the later philosophy of Schelling, and this continuity element ceases the closure of the period of the philosophy of nature. In the 1830s and 1840s Schelling returned to his topics of 1797 – 1806 expanding the conception of speculative physics with the concrete results of the physical sciences.
4. Schelling emphasized the coherence of electricity, magnetism, heat and light in several of his works. These theoretical suppositions influenced several scientists of the time, and encouraged their experiments as positive heuristics. These theoretical suppositions made an impact on Ritter, Oersted and Novalis, although this impact often arose with the Kantian impacts.
5. In Hungary the reception of Schelling's philosophy was the most intensive in the field of the philosophy of nature. This impact was present in Hungarian culture for nearly three decades by professors at the university in Pest and Kazinczy's circle and by journals whose publishing began then. At the same time through Jacob Winterl's dualistic chemistry Hungarian science also affected Schelling. In my thesis I present the mutuality of this reception.