



Goethe's Science of Living Form: The Artistic Stages

Nigel Hoffmann

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In this groundbreaking book, Nigel Hoffmann shows that understanding the dynamic, living qualities of nature requires artistic capacities. He distinguishes four stages of scientific inquiry that correspond to the four classical elements of Earth, Water, Air, and Fire. Modern analytical science with its causal thinking can be characterized as an Earth mode of cognition. A dynamic approach that follows transformation over time requires a sculptural sense of form and corresponds to the element of Water. The stages of Air and Fire engage yet more vital aspects of nature through musical and poetic capacities.

Combining scholarly-scientific acuity with artistic insight, Hoffmann first characterizes these four different ways of knowing. He then applies them, leading us ever more deeply into the dynamic qualities of specific plants, animals, and the landscape they live in. In doing so, he demonstrates how this four-step methodology provides a comprehensive framework for the life sciences.

This beautifully illustrated book will appeal to all who are interested in gaining deeper insights into nature.

“I put my hopes for the future in such practice because it plants seeds of a life-attuned thinking into the world that can help us to act in more life-engendering ways.” ?**Craig Holdrege** (in his foreword)

Contents:

Art and the Emergence of an Authentic Organic Science
Goethe and the Phenomenological Method
Toward an Authentic Method in the Life Sciences
A Goethean Methodology through the Elemental Modes

Earth Cognition?Physical Thinking?the Mechanical
Water Cognition ? Imagination ? the Sculptural
Air Cognition ? Inspiration ? the Musical
Fire Cognition ? Intuition ? the Poetical

Evolution as Creative Process
The Landscape and its Organs
The Human Being and the Evolution of Landscape
The Yabby Ponds: A Goethean Study of Place

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Brandon Jenkins:

The book Goethe's Science of Living Form: The Artistic Stages has a lot of information on it. So when you read this book you can get a lot of benefit. The book was compiled by the very famous author. Tom makes some research prior to write this book. This kind of book very easy to read you will get the point easily after reading this book.

Douglas Leverette:

People live in this new moment of lifestyle always aim to and must have the extra time or they will get wide range of stress from both daily life and work. So , if we ask do people have time, we will say absolutely indeed. People is human not really a huge robot. Then we question again, what kind of activity do you possess when the spare time coming to you actually of course your answer will certainly unlimited right. Then ever try this one, reading guides. It can be your alternative inside spending your spare time, the book you have read is actually Goethe's Science of Living Form: The Artistic Stages.

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