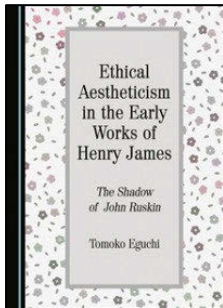


【著作紹介】Ethical Aestheticism in the Early Works of Henry James: The Shadow of John Ruskin



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Book Description:

This study re-locates the work of Henry James by revealing parallels between the aestheticism of John Ruskin and that of James. It explores a mix of well-known fictional texts alongside James's essays and tales, which are less frequently analysed, but which, nevertheless, offer important insights into James's attitude to his artistic method. Tracing James's early development in comparison with Ruskin's, this book also explores German Romantic thought and the idealism of Kant, Goethe and Hegel. While examining the German connections with James, this study is also alert to James's relations with Walter Pater and French realism, to which James became increasingly close in the mid-1880s.

Rather than placing James within one single category, it demonstrates how James interfused Romanticism and realism in establishing his own form of aestheticism. Shedding light on James's period of apprenticeship, this book therefore articulates the Victorian concept of 'aestheticism' as used by James and Ruskin.

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教員メッセージ

学生時代 Henry James の *The Portrait of a Lady* を読んで感動しました。「男性作家がどうしてこんなに女性心理を理解しているんだろう？ James の考えは、一体どこから来るんだろう？」という疑問を持ち、イギリスの大学院の博士課程で Henry James を研究することにつながりました。

本書はその4年間の研究の総まとめです。主に、19世紀の芸術評論家 John Ruskin の思想と比較しながら、James の初期の作品を分析しています。 *The Portrait...* のように有名な小説の他、あまり脚光を浴びて来なかった旅行記や短編小説や評論も取り上げ、James が Ruskin の影響を強く受けながらも、自分自身の芸術観・作風を確立していく過程を考察しています。また、Romanticism、aestheticism、realism などの文学用語についても掘り下げているため、読者はその奥深さや多様性を再確認することになるかも知れません。

本書の執筆にあたり、母校アバディーン大学の指導教官には大変お世話になりました。同大学図書館の地下に所蔵されていた、膨大な19世紀の雑誌の原書を手にとって情報収集する作業は、宝探しのようなきめきがありました。

本書は英米文学を専攻する大学高学年から院生に向いていると思いますが、それ以外の方も、本書を通して James の作品に親しみ、哲学的なものの見方を知るきっかけになればと思います。

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関連リンク

[東洋大学研究者情報データベース \(江口智子准教授\)](http://ris.toyo.ac.jp/profile/ja.075330eff1567a15ada304471dcdae6c.html)

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