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Kant: rational ideas, subject and the matter of art

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Abstract: Kant characterizes aesthetic ideas as representations of the imagination and says that the gift of artistic genius is the inscrutable capacity to envision them. Works of art thus sensibly present rational ideas; the pleasure is a consequence of the enriching process of reflection upon the wealth of content the sensibly present. The purpose of this paper is to ask whether all rational ideas have aesthetic ideas as counterparts, and so can be presented in any period of art, or whether only some do and which.

Key words: Kant, history of aesthetic, matter of art, contemporary critics, art criticism.