

# Particulars

(In the 21<sup>st</sup> Century)

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## General argument

- I argue that unity, truth, and goodness are transcendental properties of being, whereas beauty is a *derived* property from these three.
- It is when *we* see those three properties shining together in something, we call it *beautiful*.
- But to have some idea about transcendentals, first some ideas about *particulars*, *concepts* and *universals* are would be helpful.

## This talk

- There is a real distinction between primary and derived properties in substances.
- *(Somehow, by analogy, beauty is derived, whereas unity, truth and goodness are primary)*
- Substances possess in a primary sense unity, truth and goodness, but artefacts only in a secondary sense.
- *(Somehow, by analogy, when we say an artefact is beautiful it is in a two-fold derived sense.)*

# Aristotle's Categories

# Substance and nine accidents

Relational change

Substantial change



# Accidents are 'present in' substances

Quantitative change



Qualitative change



## Primary and derived manners of being

- The fox is dead. — *sub-stare* — primary
- The soldiers are brothers. — *esse ad* — derived
- The cat is fat. — *esse in* — derived
- The tea is cold. — *esse in* — derived

# Substances



# Vegetative



# Sentient



## Rational



# Artefacts

## Organised parts



## Formed substance



Substance?

## Artefact with inherent tendencies?





Artefact?

## Substance with extrinsic tendencies?



## Considerations

- Substances have a 'directedness' that comes from within — it is intrinsic to it.
- Artefacts have a directedness that comes from without — it is extrinsic to it.
- The unity of substances is unlike that of artefacts — the latter can be reassembled.
- The truth of substances is unlike that of artefacts — the latter can be redefined.
- The goodness of substances is unlike that of artefacts — the latter can be repurposed.

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