[[1]](#footnote-1)Kant’s Notion of Genius

Kant’s notion of genius tends to provide a privileged view of the artist, or producer of fine art, with ethereal and conjectural claims.

For example: “the artist’s skill cannot be communicated but must be conferred directly on each person by the hand of nature”.

Kant’s explication of genius does not definitively say how or why nature endows a particular person with genius in order to produce fine art.

There have been many non-western artists from cultures lacking in fine art environments and education, which have mysteriously produced works of genius commonly known as fine art without any recourse to intent, rules of tradition, technique, qualifications etc.

He defines genius as an innately natural enigma that characterizes the creator of fine art and which is also necessary for the creation of fine art that is original, exemplary, and ‘naturally’ endowed.

It is primarily a talent that cannot be taught by rules, its main principle (or property) being ‘originality’; rather it applies and creates the rules with its ‘exemplary’ products that others seek to imitate.

Aesthetic ideas, rather than the work itself, seem to define Kant’s notion of genius.

1. http://www.gwcookwriter.co.nz/2018/11/immanuel-kants-notion-of-genius-in-art.html [↑](#footnote-ref-1)