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Categorial hylomorphism: an inquiry into the significance of categories for the doctrine of hylomorphism through a confrontation of the ideas of Aristotle and Kant

Pantoja Quiroz, D.R.

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STELLINGEN

BEHORENDE BIJ HET PROEFSCHRIFT

CATEGORIAL HYLOMORPHISM: An Inquiry into the Significance for the Doctrine of Hylomorphism through a Confrontation of the Ideas of Aristotle and Kant

DANIEL PANTOJA

- (1) If hylomorphism is understood ontologically as a doctrine concerning the composition of objects and categories determine what kinds of objects there are, then categories are fundamental for any hylomorphic system.
- (2) There are as many types of forms in a given hylomorphic doctrine as there are types of categories in a given ontology.
- (3) The way in which each form exerts its formative power over matter is grounded in the nature of its corresponding category.
- (4) The hierarchical or vertical nature of hylomorphic composition enables the integration of a plurivocal conception of categorial forms into a unitary system.
- (5) The main task of ontology is to uncover the structure of reality and this task is fundamentally achieved via the theory of categories.
- (6) Due to its capacity to integrate different categorial forms within a single vertical structure, hylomorphism is not only a tool for analyzing the composition of an object, but also a method for unitarily revealing the interconnected structure of reality.
- (7) Hylomorphism adds a phenomenological dimension to the classical problem of categories: how do categories operate on experience.
- (8) The principles outlined in the first four propositions pervade the history of philosophy as the core of any well-formed hylomorphic doctrine, a core still prevalent in the early phenomenology of Husserl and the late Neo-Kantianism of Lask.
- (9) A successful inquiry into fundamental ontology, as exemplified by the categorial hylomorphism advanced in this dissertation, requires a combination of the conceptual precision typically associated with analytic philosophy and the phenomenological and historical sensitivity typically associated with continental philosophy.
- (10) Theoretical philosophy should not be measured by social standards.