

Leopardi apocalittico. Moniti per la nuova era

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Abstract

Apocalyptic Leopardi. Warnings for the New Era

As a perfect untimely thinker (in Nietzsche's sense), Leopardi often casts a sinister light on our turbulent times, about which he does not spare apocalyptic predictions. In Leopardi's eyes, the developments of modern reason have caused the desertification of meaning, the crisis of values, in other words, contemporary nihilism. Leopardi associates the contradictions of technological civilization with this nihilistic disillusion. His literary ambition to write a letter to the youth of the twentieth century has become more relevant than ever in the face of a new era, often referred to as the Anthropocene. What is necessary is not simply solidary action against a «cruel mother nature», but the subversion of the very anthropocentric paradigm whose destructive effects are by now beyond the control of humankind.

Keywords: Leopardi; nihilism; apocalypse; anthropocentrism; ecology.