

Estetica del contratto naturale*

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Abstract

Aesthetics of the Natural Contract

Michel Serres' Le contrat naturel outlines a new development in the relation existing between human beings and the planetary nature of Earth. Lakes and rivers, woods and deserts, wind and rain, flora and fauna must be recognized as contracting parties, with the same rights, dwelling a planet that lives and makes life possible. The science fiction project of the contract naturel foreruns also the recent reflections that the Speculative Realism dedicated to the concept of nature. After an introductory reconstruction of the argumentation presented in Le contrat naturel, I shall proceed to a precise and heterodox counter-reading, dealing with the concept of ruin and «decayed nature» in Walter Benjamin (and in three movies by Ben Rivers), the definition of a historical-philosophical argument concerning the state of the art in a post-apocalyptic time and, last but not least, the project of an aesthetics of wonder that seems still lacking in the natural contract.

Keywords: natural contract; Michel Serres; Walter Benjamin; Ben Rivers; *Biosphere 2*.

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