



Wittgenstein's Critique of Russell's Multiple Relation Theory of Judgement

By James R. Connelly

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A scholarly appreciation of Wittgenstein's May–June 1913 critique of Russell's multiple-relation theory of judgement

“This is the first comprehensive book length treatment of Wittgenstein’s critique of Russell’s multiple relation theory of judgment. Connelly covers all of the historical and philosophical issues surrounding Wittgenstein’s critique and offers a new and deeply interesting interpretation. It is a masterful achievement.” —Peter Hanks, Professor and Chair, Department of Philosophy, University of Minnesota, USA

“This book is an insightful and illuminating study, combining a rich critical summary of existing interpretations and an interesting new account. It is essential reading for all students and scholars of the Russell–Wittgenstein dispute concerning the nature of judgement” —Graham Stevens, Head of Philosophy Department, School of Social Science, University of Manchester, UK

“James Connelly first conducts an expert tour through elusive primary sources and voluminous secondary literature in order to advance his own distinctive interpretation of the philosophical confrontation that waged between Russell and Wittgenstein in 1913. Secondly, Connelly demonstrates the ongoing and much-overlooked influence that this confrontation had over the evolution of Wittgenstein’s own philosophical development. For both of these reasons, Connelly has made a vital contribution to the history of early analytic philosophy.” —Samuel Lebens, Research Fellow, University of Haifa, Israel

This book sets out to adjudicate the scholarly controversy surrounding Wittgenstein’s May–June 1913 critique of Russell’s multiple-relation theory of judgement. It also aims to familiarize readers with the historical events, textual evidence, letters, working notes and diagrams which are crucial to a correct appreciation of Wittgenstein’s criticisms.

Contents

List of Common Abbreviations; Introduction; Chapter 1: Historical and Philosophical Background; Chapter 2: The Scholarly Controversy; Chapter 3: Russell’s Paralysis; Chapter 4: Wittgenstein on Truth, Logic and Representation.

About the Author

James R. Connelly is an associate professor at Trent University Durham-GTA in Oshawa, ON, Canada. His research focuses on the history of analytic philosophy, philosophy of language, Wittgenstein and Russell.

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