

Abstract

Tradition and actuality of the analytical philosophy of history. The case of Arthur C. Danto.

(PhD)

The main topic of this paper is the early philosophy of Arthur C. Danto. The aim is here to reconstruct his development that led to his famous “narrative sentences” and reflect on the tension between analytic and narrative. In order to do so, the author goes not only put together main categories of classical Analytic Philosophy of History but goes beyond. That means to go in time to the early philosophical development of this American scholar but also to make a comparison between his theory of history and of art. In order to show that Danto’s famous book was a mature representation of the movement that started probably back in 1942, with the seminal article by Carl G. Hempel *The Function of General Laws in History*, a broad historical and theoretical background was also presented. In the later chapters author tracks and comment on three main receptions of Danto’s book: in America and Great-Britain, in Germany and in Poland. Ultimately that led to a revival of analytical philosophy of history that is still ongoing and Danto's philosophy of history plays there an important role. Danto is therefore used here to show an evolution of an important philosophical endeavor in the XX century.

Piotr Kowalewski