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Aristotle's Theory of Abstraction

By Allan Bäck

Springer-Verlag GmbH Aug 2014, 2014. Buch. Book Condition: Neu. 241x159x25 mm. Neuware - This book investigates Aristotle's views on abstraction and explores how he uses it. In this work, the author follows Aristotle in focusing on the scientific detail first and then approaches the metaphysical claims, and so creates a reconstructed theory that explains many puzzles of Aristotle's thought. Understanding the details of his theory of relations and abstraction further illuminates his theory of universals. Some of the features of Aristotle's theory of abstraction developed in this book include: abstraction is a relation; perception and knowledge are types of abstraction; the objects generated by abstractions are relata which can serve as subjects in their own right, whereupon they can appear as items in other categories. The author goes on to look at how Aristotle distinguishes the concrete from the abstract paronym, how induction is a type of abstraction which typically moves from the perceived individuals to universals and how Aristotle's metaphysical vocabulary is 'relational.' Beyond those features, this work also looks at how of universals, accidents, forms, causes and potentialities have being only as abstract aspects of individual substances. An individual substance is identical to its essence; the essence has...



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