Gábor PALLÓ

The Tacit Image: Michael Polanyi Revisited

In 1970 Michael Polanyi published a study on paintings. By that time he built up a coherent philosophy based on the philosophy of science. He worked out his particular conceptual system and extended it to various fields, including the field of arts. Gestalt psychology rendered the core of this system. Reflecting on some seminal works of his times, including Rudolf Arnheim, Ernst Gombrich, and others, Polanyi interpreted paintings by his generalized psychology of knowing. The paper shows the mechanism of this theory, its connections with embodiment, convictions, belief and transcendence, and Polanyi's contribution to the non-positivist transformation of the philosophy of science that started in the late 1950s and early 1960s.

Prof. Gábor PALLÓ, 1942 (PhD 1976, Technical University of Budapest), DSc, is Senior Consultant at the Visual Learning Lab, Budapest University of Technology and Economics. His fields of research include history of chemistry and physics, 20th-century history of natural sciences in Hungary, philosophy of science, history of migration of scientists, the relationship between science, politics and philosophy. Some recent publications: *Zsenialitás és korszellem* [Genius and Zeitgeist], Budapest: Áron Kiadó, 2004; "The Advantage and Disadvantage of Peripheral Ignorance: The Gas Adsorption Controversy", *Ambix*, vol. 57, no. 2, July 2010, pp. 216–30. E-mail: Gabor.Pallo@ella.hu.

