

Hans Werner Ingensiep:

Great Apes as Paradigm for Creativity and Humanity?

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Summary:

Paradigmatic relations between man and Great Apes show themselves in the development of primatology, animal psychology, and philosophy in the 20th century, e.g. in the investigations about „intelligence“ (KOEHLER) and „creativity“ (MORRIS, PATTERSON) of Great Apes. The ambivalence of the paradigm „creativity“ is explicit in the actions of the artist Arnulf RAINER painting together with chimpanzees. The leading heuristic question mostly has been: „Who is like us?“ Within the „multi-species-family“ we have to ask how we can find a „humane“ relation to Great Apes beyond anthropocentric intellectualism.