Contents

Preface ix

	Introduction: Kant's Organicism	1
1	Generation and the Task of Classification	16
	Mechanism and the Principle of Life 16	
	Leibniz's Organic Machines 28	
2	Buffon's Natural History and the Founding of Organicism	35
	Hales and the Physiology of Plants 35	
	Buffon the French Newtonian 38	
	Maupertuis, Buffon, and the Problem of Form 43	
	Natural History and the History of Nature 47	
3	Kant and the Problem of Origin	51
	Kant's Eclecticism 51	
	Matter and Cosmos 53	
	The Spectacle of Life 60	
4	The Rebirth of Metaphysics	70
	A Philosophy Is Born 70	
	From Original Acquisition to the Epigenesis of Knowledge 80	
	Concepts and Objects: Kant's Letter to Herz 1772 83	

5	From the Unity of Reason to the Unity of Race	92
	The Unity of Reason 92	
	The Unity of Race 95	
	A Germ of Reason and a Germ for Race 104	
6	Empirical Psychology in Tetens and Kant	110
	Epigenesis and Evolution in Tetens's Philosophical Essays 110	
	From Empirical Psychology to a Transcendental Theory of Imagination 114	
	Transcendental Philosophy and the Physiology of Pure Reason 119	
7	Kant's Architectonic: System and Organism	
	in the Critique of Pure Reason	125
	The Doctrine of Method: The Bauplan of the System 125	
	The Transcendental Deduction: The Bauplan at Work 131	
	Organic Logic: A Cautionary Tale 140	
	Epilogue: A Daring Adventure of Reason	146
	Notes 155 Bibliography 219 Index 239	