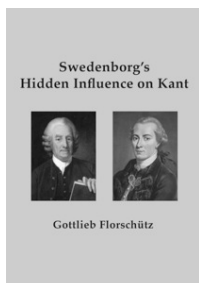


# SWEDENBORG'S HIDDEN INFLUENCE ON KANT

By Gottlieb Florschütz

Translated from German by J. Durban  
Odhner and Kurt P. Nemitz



In a book that will interest Swedenborgians and Kantians—but also those who are concerned with Schopenhauer and metaphysics generally—Gottlieb Florschütz has given us a careful tracing of the Sage of Königsberg's changing attitude toward the famous Seer of the North. By analyzing passages from Kant's early letters, his polemical *Dreams of a Spirit-Seer*, the *Critique of Pure Reason*, and Kant's lectures on rational psychology, Dr. Florschütz discloses the conflicts in Kant's mind over parapsychological phenomena that manifest themselves in the inconsistencies in Kant's critical metaphysics. Inconsistency is made especially clear when it comes to the moral requirement of human freedom in the context of Kant's restrictive epistemology. *Hidden Influence* contains a most striking series of parallels between Kant and Swedenborg on the soul, life after death, and the metaphysical importance of moral goodness. This intriguing book ends by showing how Kant's system could benefit from Schopenhauer's metaphysics, yet through a four point critique, Florschütz makes clear that such a repair would still leave problems to solve. At a time when criticisms of naturalism, developments in science, and postmodern exploration of marginalized topics have opened once again the question of the nature of reality, consciousness, and the paranormal, *Hidden Influence* will help the reader understand the way these philosophical greats wrestled with the fascinating depths of the human mind and its predicaments.

—Dan A. Synnестvedt, Ph.D.

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