

## Benjamin's Aspect<sup>1</sup>

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Form in all thinkable senses of the word makes a difference. Saying such a thing seems a truism, seems more or less obvious, quite easily verifiable in the so-called world of objects, not necessarily only the aesthetic ones. In general terms “everything” around us has a certain form, which can be seen or otherwise perceived. Our daily experience is full of semiconscious or even unconscious recognitions of many forms. In an urban surroundings “forms” are standing around us in the shape of more or less architectural erections, “forms” are driving in the streets as Alfa, BMW, VW... cars, people’s faces are appearing in oval, long, rectangular forms, etc. Any particular form is perceived as being different, that is to say, as being identifiable among all other forms, which we can recognize in a certain “class of forms”. Cars can be identified as the vehicles on four wheels, made of steel, having windows, a steering wheel etc. However, a particular car can be recognized by its particular form and stored in our memory, as a car, which is different in comparison to all other types of cars. This rather simple example (which is only one among many possible empirical examples) reminds us that form in general has a prominent function in the world, so decidedly marked by the production in series. Most certainly, the usage of different forms helps to prevent confusion, although more often than not, it enhances it, because at the same time as meaning a difference, a particular form

1 This chapter is based on the published text: Štrajn, Darko. Benjamin's aspect. *Filozofski vestnik*, ISSN 0353-4510. 1991, Volume 12, 1, pp. 109-114.