



# Early History of Existential Phenomenology.

## Shuzo Kuki and Jean-Paul Sartre: Influence and Counter-Influence in the Early History of Existential Phenomenology

Stephen Light

Southern Illinois University Press (1987)

### Abstract

For two and a half months in 1928, the Japanese philosopher Shūzō Kuki had weekly talks with a young French student of philosophy—Jean-Paul Sartre. In 1928, Kuki had just come to Paris after having studied with Heidegger and Husserl. Freshly acquainted with the new phenomenology, Kuki introduced Sartre to this emerging movement in philosophy. In a well-researched introductory essay, Stephen Light details the eight years Kuki spent in Europe in the 1920s, a period during which Kuki came to know Henri Bergson, Heinrich Rickert, and Emile Brehier, as well as Husserl and Heidegger. Light includes translations of two of Kuki's essays on time and often of his short essays on matters Japanese, culminating in the insightful "General Characteristics of French Philosophy." None of the Kuki essays were previously available in English. The final section of the book is a facsimile of the never before published notebook Kuki used during his discussions with Sartre

### Keywords

[Kuki, Shuzo](#) [Sartre, Jean Paul](#) [Existential phenomenology](#) [Time](#)

### Categories

[Jean-Paul Sartre](#) in [Continental Philosophy](#)

[Kuki Shūzō](#) in [Asian Philosophy](#)

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