Ian Duncan, in a recent essay, has argued that Darwin's contribution to aesthetic theory has until now been overseen. Could this argument apply to another science, namely economics, and could Darwin's theories shed new light upon our understanding of economic growth? Could the gradual historical appearance of economic growth – which can be considered as a form of progress in that it enables men to escape from mere survival and become agents less mindful of material contingencies – have allowed for more variety in economic "evolution"/development? Could this have given rise to perceptions of the economy that, for instance, have had a more aesthetic nature? Adam Smith had a keen interest in art and in particular in what he considered as "pure art" whose archetype, according to him, was music. He also thought that pictorial art should go beyond the mere representation of nature and take on sublime forms. Does this plays out at all in his Wealth of Nations? Recent critical theory has been exploring the connections between Smith's aesthetic stances and his economic theses. I would like to look into this more closely.