

Religious Images Examined from the Perspectives of David Morgan and Aby M. Warburg



Public Lecture

Prof. Dr. Helmut Renders

(As part of the doctoral colloquia of
Professors Dorothea Erbele-Küster
and Volker Küster)

T6

Do 10.07.2025

12-14 h

The question - What is an image? - has moved history of art towards a science of culture. On the question - What is a religious image? - religious and theological studies in general did not spend much time. The proposal of this guest lecture is to outline briefly theocentric and anthropocentric understandings of images and establish a dialog with David Morgan's comprehension of a "generative entanglement" between religious image and religious subject and Aby M. Warburg's double concept of an Andachtsraum [space of devotion] and / or Denkraum der Besonnenheit [space for deliberative reflection], an Andachtsbild [devotional image] and / or, proposing a neologism, an Andenkbild [memorial image].

For twenty years Prof. Dr. Helmut Renders teaches in Brazil and contributed to the studies of religious visual culture, mainly Christian, partially Buddhist and African Religion, focusing on epistemological and methodical questions. Today he is collaborating professor at the Pontifical University of Sao Paulo, in the Postgraduate Program in Religion.



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