

Herder and Religion

Contributions from the 2010 Conference of the International Herder Society at the University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana

Edited by Staffan Bengtsson, Heinrich Clairmont, Robert E. Norton, Johannes Schmidt and Ulrike Wagner

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Those interested in the nature and wide-ranging impact of Herder's religious thought will find this volume to be a valuable companion. The contributors participated in the 2010 meeting of the International Herder Society at the University of Notre Dame, and they approach the question of what religion actually meant for Herder by examining the relationship between the shifting nature of his response and his angle of vision. Interdisciplinary in scope, the essays testify to how his position on religious questions changes, depending on his field of inquiry. Herder the historian, concerned with defining the origin of the Greek and Hebrew Bible, develops answers that differ from those by Herder the anthropologist, concerned with operations of cognitive processes; these in turn diverge from those by Herder the poet and aesthete. Readers curious about Herder's positions on religious and theological matters in conversation with others, and how others felt inspired by him, will find contributions ranging from his engagement with figures such as Spinoza and Kant to the influence of his thinking on nineteenth-century Anglo-American religious debates.

Table of Contents

Introduction

I. Naturalism, Religion, Truth

John H. Zammito: Herder and Naturalism: The View of Wolfgang Pross Examined

Rainer Godel: "Prae omnibus veritas colenda, urgenda, intime amanda". Herder's Concept of Truth

Martin Bollacher: *Auch eine Philosophie zur Erziehung des Menschengeschlechts*. Herders Konzeption der humanen Perfektibilität im Kontext der zeitgenössischen Religionsphilosophie

Ulrike Wagner: Origin as Fiction and Contest: Herder's Reinvention of Religious Experience in *Vom Geist der Ebräischen Poesie*

II. Genre, Aesthetics, Poetics

Beate Allert: Herder's 'Sonnenspiegel' and 'Sonnensiegel': Metaphors of Visuality in Three Poems by Herder 1767–1772

Ralf Simon: Herders Begriff der Erhabenheit zwischen theologischem und ästhetischem Diskurs

Liisa Steinby: Mythopoesis, Offenbarung, Aufklärung. Die alttestamentarische Gottesvorstellung Herders in *Vom Geist der Ebräischen Poesie*

Christian W. Hallstein: Johann Gottfried Herder's Publishing and Preaching

III. Strategies of Reception

Johannes Schmidt: Light of Nature / Light of Reason. Herder's and Kant's *Religion Essays*

Michael Popejoy: Herder's Revision of Spinoza's Metaphysics in *Gott. Einige Gespräche*

John Vivian: On the Reception of Herder and German Higher Criticism in Anglo-American Unitarianism in the First Half of the Nineteenth Century

Ludwig Uhlig: Herder and Georg Forster on Converging Trajectories

International Herder Society

Authors' and Editors' Biographical Summaries

Index

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