

CHRISTIAN PHILOSOPHY AND POPULAR DEVOTION

EIFI Seminar

March 26th, 2021

SUMMARIES

Inigo Bocken

Local Universality - The Carmelite Philosophy of Titus Brandsma (1881-1942)

International, universal orientation today stands in sharp contrast to attachment to private cultural forms of life. This tension forms the background for the rise of nationalist and populist movements on the one hand and an elitist globally oriented capitalism on the other. As early as the 1930s, this tension is central to debates about the proper meaning of a universal philosophy that is aware of its private, and indeed religious, origins. The Dutch philosopher and Carmelite Titus Brandsma, resistance hero and victim of national socialism (in Dachau), saw this issue against the background of his own Carmelite form of life. In the Carmelitan, mystical school he saw an alternative to the dominant modern philosophy on the one hand and the neo-Thomistic reaction on the other. Does this original vision offer perspectives on contemporary dilemmas?

Feike de Jong

Local vs. global. Popular and globalized iconography on the growing edge of the Greater Mexico City Area

The metropolitan area of the capital of Mexico is one of the largest cities in the world with a population of over 20 million people. Though a global city it also is home to an important native iconographic tradition. Within this city therefore there is a wide and easily visible gap between Mexican iconography and globalized iconography, most fundamentally expressed by medium. Local iconography tends to be hand painted while global images tend to be reproduced in one way or another.

During the course of his presentation De Jong will try to show that local and global iconographic traditions represent fundamentally different interests and ideologies, thereby also allowing for a clearer understanding of globalization as a particular cultural ideology.