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Margit Eckholt

Becoming Someone Else's Guest

Analysis of Faith with Michel de Certeau in Times of Intercultural and Interreligious Encounters

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- Opening new spaces of faith



The French Jesuit Michel de Certeau (1925–1984) crossed the borders between disciplines – historical and cultural studies, philosophy and religious studies – and was an avant-garde thinker whose impulses for theology have only been discovered recently in the German-speaking world. In an impressive manner, he established the rift between faith and culture within the European context.

He creatively approached the major spiritual traditions of modernity – above all, in the school of his religious order's father Ignatius – and explored how these texts can become "music scores" through which the speech of God can be intoned anew.

In times when there is talk about a "Church on the move," evangelisation and new "missionary awakenings," Michel de Certeau guides theology towards a new analysis of faith: creatively, in search of new forms of language and in the service of a "Church in the making." In the fundamental theological analysis of faith as presented by Margit Eckholt in this book, "mysticism" and "mission" are the starting points for reflection – and are therefore the two moments that form the arc of tension in Michel de Certeau's life.

About the author

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