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May 1, 2019

RECOMMENDATION

Similar with other social institutions in postmodern societies, churches suffer from increasing mistrust of individuals. Hand in hand with this phenomenon, non-orthodox and peripheral parts of Christian tradition gain popularity as they can satisfy the need of private, independent, exploring or innovative religious life more than churches. Seeing the number of books about mysticism that have been published recently, we must conclude, that mysticism satisfies contemporary Western religious seekers very well.

Documentary film *Jakob Boehme* by Łukasz Chwałko introduces one of the greatest mystics of Christian tradition. As a teacher of Religious Studies, I appreciate especially the educational value of this film. It provides the viewer with the basic knowledge not only of Boehme's life but of his philosophy as well. With help of experts, the basics of Boehme's worldview are depicted concisely and without oversimplification. I also find useful that the film gives the historical and societal context of Boehme's life and writings. The last third covers Boehme's "second life": the rapid spreading of his writings almost all over Europe and even overseas and the surprisingly great influence on philosophers, writers and other cultural leading figures.

The film is sometimes running slowly giving the spectator time enough to consider, perhaps even contemplate what have been said or recited. In this way, the documentary film informs about Jakob Boehme and at the same time invites to study and experience his work.

I feel that the film *Jakob Boehme* deserves recommendation so that it can catch attention of as many openminded people as possible.

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