

The interpretation of mystical experience against the background of Jean-Luc Marion's phenomenology

Mystical experience. Literary-theoretical interpretation. Saturated phenomenon. Phenomenology of givenness. Infused love. The paradox of theophany.

This study is conceived as a partial contribution to the extensive literary-theoretical issues of the so-called poetics of the inexpressible, and at the same time to a reflection on the phenomenology of the French philosopher Jean-Luc Marion. The study is attentive to his inspirational concept of the *saturated phenomenon* and aims to explore its interpretive potential in relation to literary texts capturing the mystical experience. The literary-theoretical interpretation of the mystical experience is anchored in the Christian spiritual tradition, especially in the texts of St. Catherine of Genoa and St. Theresa of Avila, as well as in selected biblical narratives. The key to the interpretation is the concept of the so-called infused love – he understands it as the ontological heart of the mystical experience. In the context of Marion's phenomenology of givenness, infused love could be identified as "given", i.e. what the mystic receives in abundance in the experience of theophany, more precisely to an extent that exceeds it and whose intensity and distinctive quality force him to resign to the opportunity to speak about its experience in a humanly intelligible way. This knowledge motivates the expressive attunement of mystical writing as well as the creation of a special type of narrative (mystical experience).

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