

Blumenberg et l'herméneutique de la lecture. Phénoménologie de la culture et philologie du monde

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Hans Blumenberg, in The Legibility of the World, introduces what a study of the perceptive and cognitive bearing of reading might be within a cultural history equivalent to the history of the becoming man of man. And yet, even while promising such an inquiry, all he delivers, with a few rare exceptions, is a review of certain uses of the metaphor of the «book of nature». The focus is surreptitiously shifted from the conditions and implications of «reading», understood as legibility, Lesbarkeit, to the simple usage of a cultural object taken as an «absolute metaphor», i.e. the world as a book. This leaves an entire project remaining to be fulfilled, concerning the invention of the mind in the practice of reading. In order to prolong this inquiry, it is therefore not so much a question of exploring the genesis of the categories of thought as it is of examining the ways in which thought is exercised under the liberating constraint of writing and reading. Delving deeper into the practice of reading leads to an experience capable of transforming the framework of thought. Returning to a piece of writing, constituting a text and the challenge of interpreting it bring about intensive practices of producing layers of sense, which cannot be separated from an innovating production of meanings. Here, we will firstly retrace the ambiguity of the project surrounding the book of nature, then investigate the paths opened by a consideration of reading as a cultural experience, and lastly attempt to extend this project towards a philology of the world.

Keywords: *Book, Reading, Hermeneutics, Philology, Science.*

L'illisibilité peut toucher les écrits, comme la lisibilité s'applique au monde. La philosophie de Hans Blumenberg ne se lit pas aisément. Elle passe par de nombreuses sinuosités, qui en masquent le dessein principal. Ses détours par le récit, le mythe et l'anecdote en font aussi le charme, et lui ont assuré une audience plus vaste que n'en jouissent ordinairement les philosophes¹. Blumenberg raconte non seulement la philosophie, mais aussi l'histoire de la culture, dont la science de la nature est une pièce centrale. Il réconcilie les différents récits.

¹ Respectivement H. Blumenberg, *Begriffe in Geschichten*, Frankfurt am Main, Suhrkamp, 1999 ; *Arbeit am Mythos*, Frankfurt am Main, Suhrkamp, 1979 ; *Das Lachen der Thrakerin*, Frankfurt am Main, Suhrkamp, 1987 (l'œuvre de Blumenberg est publiée chez le même éditeur. Je n'indique par la suite que l'année de publication).