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CHURCH-MUSIC AS SOMÆSTHETIC PRAXIS

A church-musician dedicates her or his life to be a church-musician: to understand and cultivate congregational, liturgical, atmospherical phenomena, and to pastoral care. As value-creating engagement within the fabric of interpersonality the praxis of church-music can be instrumental to ameliorate lifestyle and to support a prosperous life. Not as extravagant indulgence, but as everyday nourishment.

1. UNNECESSARY JUSTIFICATION

There is no need for justification, nor a new *renewal movement* of church-music.

2. UNDERSTANDING

A person *is* its environment (Embodiment). If music is always something done, the quality of relationships is of utmost importance. The greatest part of the meanings of music is nonverbal. By making music, we attribute meaning to it in its own terms.

3. EMBODIMENT AND THE OTHER

Making music unfolds *and* calls for an ethics that arises from the discourse of the embodied human soul *and* the Other. Church-music perceived as a form of meliorative praxis that can contribute to a prosperity of life can be described in the spirit of Somaesthetics (Richard Shusterman). I am what I am only through the Other *and* the alterity of the Other, which ruptures my consciousness (Emmanuel Levinas). Making church-music obtains concrete meaning through the thematic thinking of the entirely Other (God). As an embodied person a church-musician finds him- or herself in the thematic realm of thinking towards projections of the entirely Other.

4.1. TRANSFORMATION

The transformative power of this thinking enables to retrieve rich meaning of church-music. Both, as Liturgy towards God *and* as lifestyle. The success of this process is unavailable, it will always be only an attempt—an essay.

4.2. ARTICULATION CHURCH-MUSICIAN

This concept can relevantly articulate *church-musician* today—as a person that walks ways of projections of the entirely Other *and* is at the same time being realized by this path. Furthermore, church music can be experienced, examined and embraced as a value-creating engagement.