

Giulio Preti: un pensatore biopolitico *ante litteram*? Note preliminari per una via trascendentale alla biopolitica

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Giulio Preti: an Ante Litteram Biopolitical Thinker? Preliminary Remarks Towards a Transcendental Way to Biopolitics

Abstract: This paper explores the thought of Giulio Preti in relation to contemporary biopolitical debate. Through a comparison with Foucault, it argues that Preti cannot be considered a biopolitical thinker in any canonical sense, yet his reflection anticipates several crucial intuitions that Foucault would develop only after Preti's death. The decisive divergence between the two lies in Preti's commitment to transcendentalism: where Foucault privileges immanence, Preti insists on a further level – that of morality and science – capable of preventing the fossilization of the *ethos* and keeping open the possibility of institutions adequate to the changing demands of life. In the second part, this intuition is brought into dialogue with Roberto Esposito's instituting thought. It is argued that Preti's *historical-objective transcendentalism* offers to the affirmative biopolitical paradigm a conceptually more precise response to the problem of "immanent transcendence" than Esposito's own formulation provides.

Keywords: Biopolitics, Transcendentalism, Institutions, G. Preti.

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