

ABSTRACT

THE ROLE OF RELIGION IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY: EPOCH OF SECULARIZATION OR COSMOS REGAINED?

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In this essay, under the assumption that continuing secularization will provoke continuing attempts at resacralization, I take up current protest by select religious thinkers and creative artists against the world we have received, and consider alternatives they propose. The most likely answer to our question “Epoch of Secularization or Cosmos Regained?” is “both at once.” Secularization implies the continuation of processes long in place working for the marginalization or elimination of religion; quest for a more sacral view of the world implies deep reaction to and criticism of these processes.