

# **Movements and counter-movements, reorientations and revaluations**

## **An account of the liturgical studies part of an international conference (Tilburg 2005)**

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### **Introduction**

September 1-2 2005 an international conference was held in Tilburg entitled 'Roads to transcendence: the dynamics of Christian identity'. This conference was connected to the research program of the Tilburg Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies, which consists of four tracks, Liturgical and ritual studies being one of these four (together with Biblical studies, Systematic and ethical studies, and Pastoral theology). It is also one of the main research areas of the faculty.

The Liturgical Studies part of the conference focused on the umbrella theme of *Movements & Counter-movements, Reorientations & Revaluations*. This theme covers the new Liturgical Institute's national research program *Liturgical Movements III*, developed for 2005-2009, and elaborating the general theme of liturgical and ritual movements and the study of the dynamics of cult and culture. Its starting-point is a general reflection on the current complex situation in both liturgical-ritual practice and in liturgical and ritual studies.

In the morning session of September 2, Nathan Mitchell (Notre Dame, USA) delivered the keynote lecture: 'Other voices, other rooms: the shape of liturgical language in post-modern cultures'. In the afternoon there was an expert meeting expanding on this lecture, with contributions by Benedikt Kranemann (Erfurt), Cas Wepener (Stellenbosch), Marcel Barnard (Utrecht/Amsterdam) and Gerard Rouwhorst (Utrecht). A preliminary statement of Paul Post (Tilburg, Liturgical Institute), handed out to the participants in advance and elaborating the theme of (liturgical) movements and counter-movements, reorientations and revaluations served as a point of departure.

The following set of articles contains an account of the Liturgical Studies part of the conference. It opens with the preliminary statement (Post), which is followed by the keynote lecture of Nathan Mitchell and the contributions to the afternoon expert meeting (Kranemann, Wepener, Rouwhorst, Barnard).

