**history/历史(Lì Shǐ)**

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| Final Remarks | ZHAO Tingyang, François Hartog | 02 Apr 2022 |

ZHAO Tingyang: I do not believe religious conceptual scheme of history, since history cannot be reduced to a value or a function of religion. Yet I am also puzzled with the Chinese quantum-like concept of history in terms of the changing changes, which puts all meanings or significances into uncertainty. History should speak for itself. So I develop an “ontological” concept of history that defines the significance of history with “ontological events” that have created forms of being on kairos, such as the inventions of languages, farming, wheels, logic, mathematics, sciences, political systems, nations, industry, internet, etc. I would appreciate your comment or criticism. And my question for you is that, do you have any expectation about the next regime of historicity most likely to come after the presentism of today?

François Hartog: After the presentist regime of historicity, which proves to be untenable, it is no longer a question of articulating the three "old" categories of past, present and future, but of succeeding in holding together heterogeneous and incommensurable temporalities (there are on the one hand the temporalities of the world, discordant and conflicting, and on the other those linked to the Earth System). The borgesian garden of forking paths is even more disorientating ! Existential challenge, not only for the West.