

VERSUCH EINER TRANSZENDENTALEN HERMENEUTIK RELIGIÖSER TRADITIONEN. By Gerhard Oberhammer. Publications of the De Nobili Research Library, Occasional Papers, 3. Vienna: Institute for Indology, University of Vienna, 1987. Pp. 47. N.p.

The Catholic theologian Karl Rahner sought to develop a philosophical anthropology that would portray the religious subject as under a “horizon” of transcendence and open to a “possible revelation.” He did so, however, in the service of Christian theology. The Indologist Gerhard Oberhammer has, in several of his works, sought to extend this program and take seriously both the plurality of dogmatic positions held by members of different faiths as well as the possibility of a singular human condition of existence under a horizon of transcendence. Thus we may understand “*die glaubensaussagen dieser religiösen Traditionen als konkrete Antworten auf die Grundfrage des Menschen . . . , die sein Leben im Horizont der absoluten Sinnfrage selbst ist*” (10). Meant

as a “short sketch” of his position, this concise book will serve as an entrée to his philosophical anthropology and will be of interest to scholars concerned with the relationship of *Religionswissenschaft* to theology.

*James W. Laine, Macalester College
St. Paul, MN 55105*

Religious Studies Review
16,2(April 1990), p 135