

Albert Piette

Albert Piette is an anthropologist. He is born on April 18, 1960 in Namur (Belgium). He is a Professor at the University of Amiens (France) and a Researcher at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (Paris). His researches concern the questions of observation and selection of data. His fields are especially in the religious world. In most of his books, he describes and analyses details and ordinary forms in situations of everyday life.

His anthropological theory focuses on minor modes of human presences, in order to understand collective life and the differences between humans and other animals. In his recent books, Albert Piette elaborates anthropology as an empirical and theoretical science, different from sociology and ethnology. It would have its own methods of observation, phenomenography and ontography, and its own objects to observe, describe and analyse: humans' existences and non-human's existences around people.

Piette's anthropological world is filled with Homo sapiens sapiens and Neanderthals, apes and monkeys, gods and institutions, existences and presences, activity and passivity, instants and evolution. According to Piette, that is an existential anthropology.

Books

- *Les Jeux de la fête*, Paris, Publications de la Sorbonne, 1988.
- *Le Mode mineur de la réalité. Paradoxes et photographies en anthropologie*, Louvain, Peeters, 1992.
- *Les Religiosités séculières*, Paris, PUF, 1993.
- *Ethnographie de l'action. L'observation des détails*, Paris, Métailié, 1996.
- *La Religion de près. L'activité religieuse en train de se faire*, Paris, Métailié, 1999.
- *Détails d'amour ou le lien par l'écriture*, Paris, L'Harmattan, 2003.
- *Le Fait religieux. Une théorie de la religion ordinaire*, Paris, Economica, 2003.