The "Dessinsdieu" online database of children's representations of God

Each drawing is identified by its unique reference.

More than thousand drawings of children's representations of God are available on our public storage space.

Web: http://medias.unil.ch/fmi/iwp/cgi?-db=dessinsdieu&amp;startsession

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A system of 42 variables has been set up in order to describe the drawings of the Swiss collection.
Dessins de Dieu
Research on the evolution of God’s representations in children’s drawings

Historical Background
E. Rema (1941) - USA
200 children between 3 and 18 years old

- God is a white man with wings, white hair, bald
- God is a black woman with dark skin, colony, wings

H. Wartenberg (1964 - Germany)
Children between 3 and 18 years old

- Without religious teaching: Religion is God, Jesus, angels, hell
- With religious teaching: Religion is God, Jesus, angels, heaven, hell

Brandt, Kojata, Gillirose (2009) - Japan
100 children between 7 and 18 years old

- Anthropomorphous figures
- Non-anthropomorphous figures

Current Research
Persoon, Assendorp, Montaillou
300 children between 6 and 20 years old

- With a public teacher / 150 without a religious teacher

Typological Analysis

- Type 100
- Type 110
- Type 120
- Type 130
- Type 140
- Type 200

Contextual Analysis

- Type 101
- Type 111
- Type 121
- Type 131

Research Frame of the Current Research

- Dessins de Dieu is a thorough research on children’s representations of God, using various tools and methods. Empirical, qualitative, and theoretical approaches are used to explore the evolution of God’s representations in children’s drawings.

International Researchers

- Thomas Amberg, Professor, University of Bern
- Kajuta Take, Graduate Student, University of Bern
- Bilal Lebeltel, PhD Candidate, University of Lausanne

Researchers of the Swiss Collection

- Montaillou, Suleh, Milon
- Assendorp, Kajuta, Gillirose
- Brandt, Kojata, Gillirose

Method

- Observation of children’s drawings
- Interview with children and parents
- Analysis of cultural and historical contexts