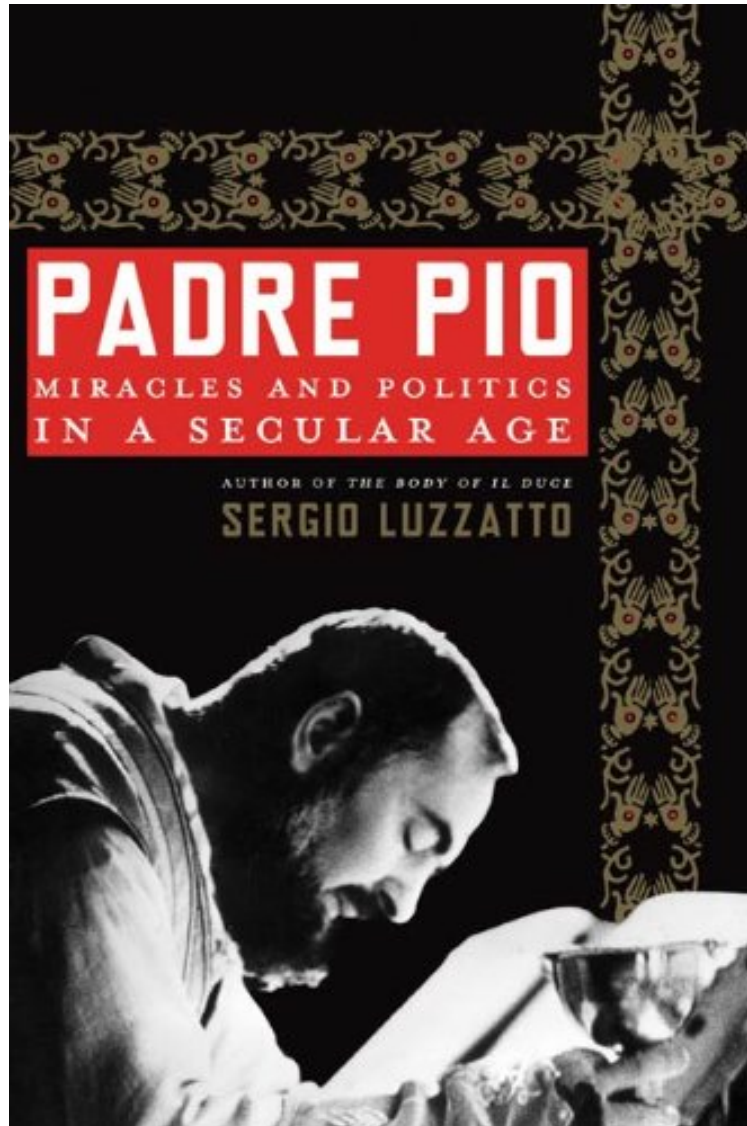


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Padre Pio: Miracles and Politics in a Secular Age

Von Sergio Luzzatto

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Von Sergio Luzzatto : Padre Pio: Miracles and Politics in a Secular Age before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Padre Pio: Miracles and Politics in a Secular Age:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Wunder revisitedVon Peter PieckUm es gleich vorweg zu sagen: Auch dieses Buch klrt nicht die Frage, ob die Stigmata des Padre Pio bernatrlicher Natur waren oder nicht. Es geht dem Autor um Wichtigeres. Ihn beschftigt nicht das Leben und Wirken des Heiligen, wie es in den zahllosen Legenden und Anekdnoten wiedergegeben wird, die ein Heer von

Leuten wiederkuen, die daraus ihr Geschft machen. Vielmehr stellt er Padre Pio in sein soziales und politisches Umfeld im Sditalien des 20. Jahrhunderts - und dieses Wechselspiel von charismatischer Gestalt und politischen, finanziellen und geistlichen Interessen ist weitaus interessanter als die Wunder, die Pio vollbracht haben soll. Hier tauchen Schieber und Profiteure auf, Faschisten und Kommunisten, Prlaten und hysterische Betschwestern. Alle scheinen eher Pios Handeln zu bestimmen, als dass er das selbst tut. Aber der Schein trgt. Er ist sich sehr wohl dessen bewusst, was er tut und welche Wirkungen von seinem Handeln ausgehen. Interessant zum einen die enge Verbindung von italienischem Faschismus und groer Teile der katholischen Kirche (inklusive Padre Pio) in den 20er und 30er Jahren, zum anderen die lange Opposition, ja harsche Kritik des Vatikans gegenber dem Wunderter. Die Kirche hatte Angst vor einer bewegten lokalen Volkskirche, die in ihren primitiven, aber enthusiastischen Ritualen der Heiligenverehrung, implizit die zentrale Leitung der katholischen Kirche in Frage stellt. Letztlich ist die Frage aber: Warum sehnen sich so viele Menschen nach Heiligen, nach Wundern und nach der Mglichkeit, sie bedingungslos zu verehren - und das bis heute? Ein Teil der Antwort auf diese Frage ist gewiss die Sehnsucht nach Erlsung, nach einem Neuanfang, die Padre Pio in ritueller, d.h. sinnlich erfahrbarer Weise zumindest teilweise erflft hat. Das Buch stellt die richtigen Fragen und gibt die Richtung an, in der die Antworten zu suchen sind. Das ist eine Menge. Religionssoziologie vom Feinsten.

Kurzbeschreibung The first historical appraisal of the astonishing life and times of a controversial twentieth-century saint Padre Pio is one of the world's most beloved holy figures, more popular in Italy than the Virgin Mary and even Jesus. His tomb is the most visited Catholic shrine anywhere, drawing more devotees than Lourdes. His miraculous feats included the ability to fly and to be present in two places at once; an apparition of Padre Pio in midair prevented Allied warplanes from dropping bombs on his hometown. Most notable of all were his stigmata, which provoke heated controversy to this day. Were they truly God-given? A psychosomatic response to extreme devotion? Or, perhaps, the self-inflicted wounds of a charlatan? Now acclaimed historian Sergio Luzzatto offers a pioneering investigation of this remarkable man and his followers. Neither a worshipful hagiography nor a sensationalist expos, Padre Pio is a nuanced examination of the persistence of mysticism in contemporary society and a striking analysis of the links between Catholicism and twentieth-century politics. Granted unprecedented access to the Vatican archives, Luzzatto has also unearthed a letter from Padre Pio himself in which the monk asks for a secret delivery of carbolic acid discovery which helps explain why two successive popes regarded Padre Pio as a fraud, until pressure from Pio-worshipping pilgrims forced the Vatican to change its views. A profoundly original tale of wounds and wonder, salvation and swindle, Padre Pio explores what it really means to be a saint in our time. Pressestimmen "Sergio Luzzatto has written a fascinating study of the origin and development of the cult of Padre Pio, complete with hitherto unknown, bizarre stories of shady deals, con men, Fascists, and German collaborators as well as mystics and true believers. All this is set against a sweeping overview of twentieth-century history at its most dramatic. A masterful and intriguing achievement." Susan Zuccotti, author of "Under His Very Windows: The Vatican and the Holocaust in Italy" "Sergio Luzzatto, the virtuoso Italian historian, here turns to Padre Pio, the stigmata-suffering Capuchin monk from the boot of Italy. How to account for his immense cult? The crowds that worshipped him as a living saint? The ubiquity of his image, on display everywhere in homes and sheds, ships and trucks in so many cultures? Luzzatto's approach is agile and panoramic, embracing powerful Church interests, cunning commercial instincts, the awful twentieth-century wars, and the holy man's own "Luzzatto is nothing if not readable, and he introduces a vastly entertaining cast... His aim is a kind of phenomenology of what it means to invoke sainthood in a century of technological marvels, world wars, and mass culture." --John Kappes, "The Plain Dealer" "Sergio Luzzatto has written a fascinating study of the origin and development of the cult of Padre Pio, complete with hitherto unknown, bizarre stories of shady deals, con men, Fascists, and German collaborators as well as mystics and true believers. All this is set against a sweeping overview of twentieth-century history at its most dramatic. A masterful and intriguing achievement." --Susan Zuccotti, author of "Under His Very Windows: The Vatican and the Holocaust in Italy" "Sergio Luzzatto, the virtuoso Italian historian, here turns to Padre Pio, the stigmata-suffering Capuchin monk from the boot of Italy. How to account for his immense cult? The crowds that worshipped him as a living saint? The ubiquity of his image, on display everywhere in homes and sheds, ships and trucks in so many cultures? Luzzatto's approach is agile and panoramic, embracing powerful Church interests, cunning commercial instincts, the awful twentieth-century wars, and the holy man's own "Luzzatto is nothing if not readable, and he introduces a vastly entertaining cast... His aim is a kind of phenomenology of what it means to invoke sainthood in a century of technological marvels, world wars, and mass culture." --John Kappes, "The Plain Dealer" "Sergio Luzzatto writes with verve, insight, and diligence... A lively and thorough study." --John L. Murphy, "PopMatters" "A solid exploration into the fine line between the faithful and the fraudulent in twentieth-century Catholicism." --"Kirkus s" "Luzzatto's book is masterful... The research is staggeringly deep and wide--embracing runs of archival arguments never before consulted and rare books and pamphlets preserved in obscure libraries. The framework is trans disciplinary--this is the work of a

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