Séguin, Philippe
From infinity to structure. Modern ideas in lyrics and mathematics of Edgar Allan Poe and Georg Cantor. (Vom Unendlichen zur Struktur, Modernität in Lyrik und Mathematik bei Edgar Allan Poe und Georg Cantor.) (German) Zbl 0877.01020

This essay is devoted to a certain understanding of “modernity” as essentially characterised as a “world without god”. This understanding arose out of reflections about developments in lyrics around the turn of the last century. The author aims to show that this understanding is also present in mathematics. To reach this goal he parallels the lives, the works, and the influences of E. A. Poe and G. Cantor e.g. claiming that Cantor “contributed in mathematics to the death of god”.

Reviewer: S.Gottwald (Leipzig)

MSC:
01A55 History of mathematics in the 19th century
00A30 Philosophy of mathematics

Keywords:
modernity; E. A. Poe; G. Cantor

Biographic references:
Poe, Edgar Allen; Cantor, G.