Summary Master Thesis David Boeren

"The Loveliest Lies of All: A Phenomenological Account of Personal & Collective Forms of Nostalgia"

Nostalgia is rampant in our current times. Its mass appeal within media and politics seems to imply a collective dimension to the feeling. While suggested within philosophy, there has been little research into this collective possibility. This thesis therefore uses literature on nostalgia, collective (affective) intentionality, and collective emotions to construct an account of both personal and collective nostalgia. In doing so, it examines the link that has been suggested in the literature between anxiety and nostalgia to understand why the latter has become such a popular emotion in our present day.