

NICK PAPPAS:

What Becomes of a Soul

First in Philosopher's Holiday Lecture series for Fall 2019

Nick Pappas, Professor of Philosophy, Graduate Center, CUNY

What Becomes of a Soul: Hope for a Philosophical City in the Myth of Er

▶ **5:30 pm**

Wednesday, October 2, 2019

Rockefeller Hall, Room 200



What can the myth of Er in the Republic be saying about the possibility of the new city? Will the reincarnated Homeric heroes be seen as such and be available to govern? This talk will address how 'vision', as 'eyesight' and as 'insight', is needed for the mythical souls to choose their new lives, as well as how this vision can fail. This may help us understand the myth of the reincarnation of the Homeric heroes and their imagined position in the city in a way we can even connect to the practice of philosophy. If philosophy takes perception and perfects it, we can understand today's philosophers as an avant-garde, finding the heroic talent being born into the world and making it the guardian class of the new city. But if philosophical thinking points in a direction opposite to ordinary thinking, the vision of a new city and heaven on earth might exist only for philosophers.

A Philosopher's Holiday Lecture Series and Philosophy Department Lecture

♿ Individuals with disabilities requiring accommodations or information on accessibility should contact the Campus Activities Office, 845 437 5370.