
ISRLC 2018

The Place of Truth

Friday

9.00-10.15 Registration (plain coffee/tee served)

10.15-10.45 Welcome and information

10.45-12.00 **Keynote: Jeffrey W. Robbins, Lebanon Valley College**

12.00-13.00 LUNCH

13.00-14.30 Session 1

Literature I: Truth in Theatre and Performance

Eric Ziolkowski, "Kierkegaard, James Baldwin, and the Question of Truth in Theater"

Chris Taylor, "Hocus Pocus; Performance and Truth in the Eucharist"

Charles Gillespie, "True Doubt: Parables and the Play of Self-Interpretation in *Hamlet* and *Doubt*"

Judaism I

Serena Baldari, "Magic, Truth and "the Others" in the Babylonian Talmud: The Jewish Tradition as Mediator"

Joshua Edelman, "Testimonial theatre and post-secular truth claims"

Marianne Schleicher, "Onto-epistemological differences in approaches to gender and love in the Hebrew Bible and Early Rabbinic Literature"

Continental Philosophy and Theology I

Andrew Hass, "Devilish Truths in Mann's *Dr. Faustus*"

Deborah Casewell, "Representation, Truth, and Bildung - Mann's triumph over Hegel"

Music I: Music and Truth—Religion

Hyun-Ah Kim, "The Anglican Perspective on Appropriateness and Authenticity in Church Music"

Yusuf Ziya Öğretici, "Banned While Spread: Between Prohibition and Permission, Music in Islamic Thought"

Svein Aage Christoffersen, "Faith and musical pleasure in Luther's Theology of the Cross"

14.45-16.15 Session 2

Literature II: Truth & Transformation

John Derbyshire, "Truth as a Catalyst for Change in Denis Johnson's Literary Fiction"

Lizzie Ludlow, "Prayer, Truth-telling and the Outworking of Unitarian Faith in

Elizabeth Gaskell's Fiction"

Visual Art I: Depicting Visionary Truths:

Introduction by Lieke Wijnia, "Finding Truth in Visionary Art

Panel by the research group *Visionary Artists, Visionary Objects (1800-now)*"

Michelle Foot, "Painting the 'Vision Splendid': Depicting the Truths of Modern Spiritualism"

Michelle Fletcher, "The Writing's on the Wall: *Belshazzar's Feast* and the Anxiety of Inscribing Visionary Truths"

Naomi Billingsley, "Complexities of Visionary Artistic Practices"

Ecotheologies I

Mary Mills, "Ecological Foundations in the Book of Psalms"

Elizabeth Anderson, "'A Wild Little Part of Everything': Pantheistic Spirituality in Garden Literature for Children"

Anna Fisk, "'Behold the Rhino': Collective Guilt and Redemption in Popular Representations of Nature"

Theological Humanism I: Truth and Consequences

Amber Griffioen, "Beyond Truth and Falsehood: A Theological Humanism for the 21st Century?"

Verna Marina Ehret, "Performative Narrative, Communal Truth, and Gun Control"

Joyce Rondaij, "The Ambiguous Truth: The Grey Zone Between Good and Evil"

16.15-16.30 COFFEE

16.30-18.30 Session 3

Literature III: Modes of Knowing

Kathryn Wills, "Translation as Sacramental Hermeneutics: WB Yeats, Yves Bonnefoy and 'Le chagrin de l'amour'"

Scott Dill, "Intimate Truths: A Formalist Theory of Zadie Smith's Informalities"

Michael Hurley, "Attunement to Truth in Literature"

Religious and Inter-Religious Studies I

Mark Godin, "Lessons in Make-Belief Translation from *The Lord of the Rings*: A Theological Reflection on a 'Fiction of Authenticity'"

Oliver Startin, "The Theology of *Childhood's End*: A Symbolic Approach to Religious and Secular Culture"

Visual Arts II

Rumo Ito, "Enku's Truth: The Art of a Japanese Buddhist Monk"

Deborah Lewer, "Dadü Dada: Ersatz 'Truth', Revelation and Prophecy in Berlin Dada 1918-20"

Michel Tombroff, "Kronecker, Einstein, and the Cross"

Belgian artist Michel Tombroff's works *The necessity of Chance* (2018) and *The Work of Man* (2018) will be exhibited in poster version at the conference venue. The artist will be present (as part of the Visual Art's panel) and open for questions and discussion of his work.

18.45 Wine Reception at Uppsala University Building

(No organized dinner this evening. We, the organizers, will be happy to guide you to our personal favorites.)

Saturday

9.00-10.30 Session 4

Literature IV: Surprising Guides

Amanda Vernon, "Reliable Guides? George MacDonald and the Place of Truth in Poetry"

Joseph Sverker, "Unreliable Narrator – or to be Betrayed Into Truth"

Christine Chou, "True Possibilities of Existence – Unto Death or Into Life: Revisiting the Holocaust Memoir, *Night*, through Kierkegaard"

The Imaginary Truth

Thomas A. Carlson, "Imagining Belief: The Invisible Truths of Sociality"

Martin Crowley, "Imagining Civil War in the Contemporary French Novel"

Laurens ten Kate, "The Play of the World: Social Imaginaries as Transcending Spaces - From Taylor to Nietzsche"

Ecotheologies II

Franz Graf, "'What We Know of Aliveness': Ecological Subjectivity and the Search for Truth in a More-than-Human World"

Arianne Conty, "Animism in the Anthropocene"

Chinyere Lilian Nkama, "Re-Imagining Igbo Religio-Cultural Truth for Preservation of Nature"

10.30-11.00 COFFEE

11.00-12.30 **Keynote: Linn Tonstad, Yale Divinity School**

12.30-13.30 LUNCH

13.30-15.00 Session 5

Material Religion I

David Krueger, "The Sacralization of the Kensington Rune Stone: Constructing a Myth of America's Birth"

Hwasun Choe, "Tears and Meditation in Exhibition: healing or cheating?"

S. Brent Plate, "Museum as Medium: The Public Understanding of Religion on Display"

Gender and Religion I: Power/Oppression and Truth

Myung-Joo Kim, "Toward Ecstasy via Violation: Re-spelling the Symbolism of Blood-Flower-Tree in a Korean Novelist Han Kang's *The Vegetarian*"

Clare Radford, "Making Women's Experiences, Unfolding Feminist Truths: Evaluating the 'Intimate Authority' of Artists' Books"

Kristine Whaley "Conversations as We Sit: A Revision of the Imago Dei Through Jean Rhys' Women"

Postcolonial I

William Purcell, "Polygamy and Christianity Revisited: Fidelis Odun Balogun's Intertextual Dialogue with T.M. Aluko's *One Man, One Wife* in 'Parable of a Great Grandson'"

Mark Dennis, "Investigating Textual Value through the lens of Tsuda Sōkichi's Research on the *Shōmangyō-gisho*"

Alicia Broggi, "Storytelling and the Feeling of Truth in J.M. Coetzee's *Elizabeth Costello*"

Theological Humanism II: Truth and Embodiment

Brad Onishi, "Re-Humanizing: Philosophy, Religion, and the Truth of Non-Fiction"

Daniel Boscaljon, "Sex and Undeception"

15.00-15.20 COFFEE

15.20-16.50 Session 6

Literature V: Philosophy and Form

Philip Mills, "A Nietzschean Approach to Poetic Truth"

Matthew Moser, "Dante's Conversion of Poetics"

Judaism II

Jonathan Harmat: "Separating truth from faith – Spinoza's dogmas of the universal religion"

Dustin Atlas: "Mendelssohn on imperfection and truth"

Marta Zając: "Faces of Truth in Jewish Thought. From Confusion to Love"

Music II: Music and Truth—Composers

Andrew Kesiak, “In search of truth: John Tavener’s transition from Western Culture to Eastern Tradition”

Jonas Lundblad, “Birdsong as the “true face of Nature” – Messiaen’s new paradigm of musical truth”

Darren J.N. Middleton, “True Rastalogy in Tarrus Riley’s *Love Created I*”

Continental Philosophy and Theology II

Jennifer Geddes, “Vulnerable Facts, Trustworthy Witnesses and Secure Dwelling Places: Hannah Arendt on Lying in Politics”

Patrik Fridlund, “Jacques Derrida and Post-truth”

Maria Essunger, “Forgotten and Future Truths: Narration as Gatekeeper”

18.15 Conference Banquet at Östgöta Nation

Sunday

9.00-10.30 Session 7

Literature VI: The Ethics of Contested Narratives

Matthew Cooper Harriss, “John Brown’s Weird Body and the *Truth* of Religious Historical Fiction”

Keith Hanley, “The Holy Land and the Uses of Religion in Victorian Literature”

Taylor Thomas, “Utopia of Madmen: Eccentric Space and Narrative Incoherence in Gogol’s Petersburg Tales”

Material Religion II

Petra Carlsson Redell, “Beyond the Phantasmagoria of the Everyday: Liubov Popova’s Spiritual Materialism”

Jeff Keuss, “Materialism in the Gospel of John after Slavoj Žižek”

Jason Fallin, “Christmas Through Your Eyes: Material Culture and Moral Formation”

Gender and Religion II: Truth and Critical Readings of Experience

Hannah Marije Altorf, “Women Philosophers and Common Sense, Or, Why We Should Care More About Truth And Claim It Less”

Round Table – Chair, Alison Jasper

10.30-11.00 COFFEE

11.00-12.30 Session 8

Theological Humanism III: The Social Meaning of Truth

Iben Damgaard: Kierkegaard and the quest for truth in the motley variety of modern life

Ida Simonsson: The Value of Truth

Postcolonial II

Carool Kersten, “Knowledge and Power, Truth and Method in the ‘Post-postcolonial’ hermeneutics of Hamid Dabashi”

Bishop M.T. Makobe, “Genre’s Depiction of Political Truth in a Postcolonial Translated Fiction in South Africa”

Fiona Darroch, “Writing a Story of Haiti: Edwidge Danticat salvaging history and “creating dangerously”

Religious and Inter-Religious Studies II

Meg MacDonald, “Absolutely No Smiting: Developing a Theology of Religions in Terry Pratchett’s *Small Gods*”

Professor James H. Thrall, “Modern Mythology and the Tricky Gods of Neil Gaiman”

Dr Zhange Ni, “Truer than Truth: Retrieving the Forgotten History of “False” Religions in Neil Gaiman’s *American Gods*”

Continental Philosophy and Theology III

Jason Alvis, “‘The Truth of the Play of the Gods’: Eugen Fink and a Post-secular Age beyond Facticity”

Matthew Graham, “Truth at the Edge of Hermeneutics”

Andrew Benjamin, “God and the Truth of Human Being”

12.45-13.30 ISRLC Business Meeting

13.30- LUNCH