

Center for the Study of Religion is pleased to announce a conference on:

“Mysticism, Reform, and the Formation of Modernity”

www.princeton.edu/~csrelig/mysticism&reform

February 21-23, 2008

East Pyne 010



About the Conference:

“Mysticism, Reform, and the Formation of Modernity,” an interdisciplinary conference featuring distinguished speakers from four nations and principally sponsored by the Center for the Study of Religion will take place on 21-23 February in East Pyne 010. The conference will explore mysticism as a force for continuity between past and present in a period usually assumed to involve great change: the Protestant Reformation. What did mysticism bring with itself from the Middle Ages and what new roles did it find in key social and intellectual spheres after the early sixteenth-century? What is mysticism’s role in the emergence of distinctly modern perspectives? The conference organizers are Professors Sara Poor (German) and Nigel Smith (English). For further information, see the conference website, www.princeton.edu/~csrelig/mysticism&reform, or contact spoor@princeton.edu.

Conference Schedule:

Thursday, February 21, 2007

5:00-6:15 Plenary 1

Presider: Sara S. Poor, Princeton University

Niklaus Largier, University of California, Berkeley – Mysticism and Modernity: The Practices of Vernacular Hermeneutics, the Construction of a ‘Secular’ Realm, and the Place of Mysticism After Luther

Friday, February 22, 2007

9:00-10:30 Panel 1

Presider: Marina Brownlee, Princeton University

1. Alison Beach (William and Mary) – Visions of Community in the Hirsau Reform
2. Kirsten Christensen (Pacific Lutheran University) – Reform in Paradise: The Paradise of Loving Souls (1532) and the Mystical Renaissance in the Low Countries
3. Kees Schepers (University of Antwerp) – The Mystical Sermons from the Arnhem St. Agnes Convent: Continuity and Change in the Mystical Renaissance

11:00-12:30 Panel 2:

Presider: Jeffrey Dolven, Princeton University

1. Sarah Apetrei (Oxford University) – “Between the Rational and the Mystical”: The Inner Life of the Early English Enlightenment
2. Alison Shell (University of Durham) – Punishment and Perfectibility in Seventeenth-Century English Verse
3. Bethany Wiggin (University of Pennsylvania) – The Worlds of German-Pennsylvania Colonist Marie Christine Sauer (d. 1752)

2:30-4:00 Panel 3:

Presider: Nigel Smith, Princeton University

1. Arthur F. Marotti (Wayne State University) – Sainly Idiocy and Contemplative Empowerment: The Case of Dame Gertrude More
2. Genelle Gertz (Washington and Lee University) – Quaker Mysticism as the Return of the Medieval Repressed
3. David Wallace (University of Pennsylvania) – Female Enclosure and Travel in Carolingian London

4:30-5:45 Plenary 2

Presider: Peter Lake, Princeton University

Euan K. Cameron, Union Theological Seminary – Ways of Knowing in the pre- and post-Reformation

Saturday, February 23, 2007

Panel 4: 10:00-11:00

Presider: Christopher Heuer, Princeton University

1. Burkhard Dohm (University of Marburg) – Concepts of the Body and Female Spirituality in Baroque Mysticism

2. Hildegard Elisabeth Keller (University of Zurich) / Jeffrey Hamburger (Harvard University) – A Battle for Hearts and Minds: The Heart in Reformation Polemic

Roundtable: 11:30-12:30

Presider: Vance Smith, Princeton University

1. Nicholas Watson (Harvard University)

2. Amy Hollywood (Harvard Divinity)

3. Ulrike Strasser (University of California, Irvine)

About Center for the Study of Religion:

Founded in 1999, Center for the Study of Religion at Princeton University encourages greater intellectual exchange and interdisciplinary scholarly studies about religion among faculty and students in the humanities and social sciences. The Center aims to facilitate understanding of religion through an integrated program of support for Princeton faculty to pursue research and teaching on thematic projects, awards for Princeton graduate students to complete dissertation research, interdisciplinary seminars, undergraduate courses, public lectures, and opportunities for visiting scholars to affiliate with the Center. In 2006, the Center began an initiative on Cognition and Religion, sponsored by the John Templeton Foundation. This initiative encompasses a series of lectures and symposia, an ongoing seminar, and a number of empirical projects.

Other upcoming events at the Center for the Study of Religion include:

2/26/08 “Crazy for God: How I Grew Up as One of the Elect, Helped Found the Religious Right, and Lived to Take All (or Almost All) of It Back,” **Frank Schaeffer**, 4:30 PM, [Roberston Hall Bowl 016](#).

2/28/07 “Vatican II: A Sociological Analysis of Religious Change” a symposium with **Melissa J. Wilde**, University of Pennsylvania, 3:00 PM, Location TBA.

Press Release: 1/29/2008

www.princeton.edu/~csrelig

3/4/08 “Faith in the Halls of Power: How Evangelicals Joined the American Elite,” **D. Michael Lindsay**, Rice University, 4:30 PM, [Roberston Hall Bowl 016](#).

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