

After-Life: A Graduate Student Conference

Religious Studies, Brown University

April 5-6, The Crystal Room, Alumnae Hall

Providence, RI



Opening Keynote speaker: Sarah
Stewart-Kroeker, Princeton Theological
Seminary



Closing Keynote speaker: Niloofar Haeri,
John Hopkins University

The Religious Studies Graduate students invite you to join the department and an array of bright graduate students of diverse disciplines from across US universities who will share their exciting projects and engage us in critical and timely discussions on all matters *After-Life*.

Conference Program

Friday, April 5, 2024

- 3:30 PM - 4:00 PM: Arrival & Registration
- 4:00 PM - 4:15 PM: Welcome & Opening Remarks (Stephen Bush, Chair of Religious Studies)

- 4:15 PM - 5:45 PM: *Panel 1: What Comes Next? Liberatory Potentialities*
 - Student Chair: *Jennifer Greenberg*
 - Lilia Ellis (U Chicago), “Wholeness of Gender: Hildegard's Implications for Transgender Eschatology”
 - Jesse Noily (U Chicago), ““Your Dew is the Dew of Morning”: Rabbinic Eschatology and the Erotics of Resurrection”
 - Rebekah Rosenfeld (U Chicago), “Cripistemologies and the Eternity of the Mind”
 - Katie Mahowski Mylroie (Boston College), “A Comparative Theology of Death: How Kali can reaffirm Christian contemplation of death”
 - Respondent: *Daniel Vaca, Associate Professor of Religious Studies*

- 5:45 PM - 6:00 PM: Break

- 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM: **Opening Keynote** - Sarah Stewart-Kroeker, “Sex Unburdened: Augustine, Foucault, and the Transfigured Body.”

Saturday, April 6, 2024

- 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM: Breakfast

- 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM: *Panel 2: Explorations in Materiality and Temporality*

- Student Chair: *Donnell Williamson*
- Devanney Haruta (Brown), “Piano (de)composition and Instrumental Afterlife”
- Victoria Basug Slabinski, (U Virginia), “Memory, Homeplaces, and the (After)Lives of Queer Feminist Ancestors”
- Zhujun Ma, (Brown), “Were Mothers Doomed? Reinterpreting Motherhood in the Paratexts of the Blood Bowl Hell Sutra In Early Modern China”
- Shuangxia Wu (Brown), “Nested Memory: The Past, Present, and After-lives of a Journal Article”
- **Respondent: *Stephen Bush, Professor of Religious Studies***

- 11:00 AM - 11:15 AM: Break

- 11:15 AM - 12:45 PM: *Panel 3: Ties, Ruptures, and Continuities*

- Student Chair: *Daniel Bate*
- Joshua Wagner (U Chicago), “Stylish Silences: Quaker Eschatology, Prosodic Theology, and Utopian Margins”
- Constantine Lignos (Columbia), “The Dancing Deity of Death: Becoming Familiar with the Intermediate States (*Bardo*) Through Tibetan Buddhist Tantric Dance (*Cham*)”
- Zachary Taylor (U Chicago), “The Afterlife of Sullied Souls: Prayer and Purgatory in Roman Catholicism”
- Shreya Maini (Duke), “Death and Deathlessness in C.V.V. Yoga”
- **Respondent: *Jae Han, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies***

- 12:45 PM - 1:45 PM: Lunch

- 1:45 PM - 3:15 PM: *Panel 4: Mourning*

- Student Chair: *Tim Gilmartin*
- Victoria Berges (Boston College), “An Ignatian Approach to Continuing Bonds with the Dead for Grief Therapy”
- Charlie Grant (U Chicago), “Witness and Descent in Spiritual Care”
- Elizabeth Berman (Brown), “Physician-Assisted Suicide Beyond Bioethics”
- Franklin Joyce (U Chicago), “Hamlet: A Study in Mourning”
- **Respondent: *Susan Harvey, Professor of History & Religion***

- 3:15 PM - 3:30 PM: Coffee break

- 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM: *Panel 5: Liminality and the Otherwise*
 - Student Chair: *Rhitama Basak*
 - Atikah Adzhar (U Chicago), “Uncanny Saints and Pilgrims: Altering Temporalities at a Kazakhstan Islamic Shrine”
 - Meena Venkataramanan (Brown), ““Black at Heart”: Asian Americans and Spectral Whiteness in Paul Beatty’s *The White Boy Shuffle* and *Tuff*”
 - Emily Dupuis (Boston college), “Magic, Myth, and Memory: Rural Gaelic Catholicism”
 - Respondent: *Shahzad Bashir, Prof of Islamic Humanities, History, & Religious Studies*

- 5:00 PM - 5:15 PM: Break

- 5:15 PM - 6:45 PM: ***Closing Keynote*** - Niloofar Haeri, “The Afterlife of Religion: The Islamic Revolution in Iran”

- 7:30 PM: Dinner for participants at Flatbread Pizza (161 Cushing Street, Providence).

Contact: brownrsconference@gmail.com.