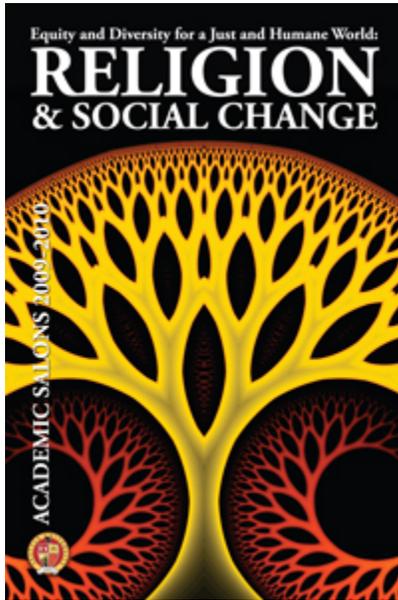


Seattle University
ACADEMIC SALONS: 2009-2010

Equity and Diversity for a Just and Humane World:
Religion and Social Change



The Academic Salons program at Seattle University offers students unique opportunities to deepen their critical understanding of contemporary issues that are at the forefront of many local, national and global debates. Through a series of forums, film screenings, lectures, workshops and social events, the Academic Salons program connects students with renowned local and international speakers to engage in dialogue and informed decision making about topics relevant to the pursuit of equity and diversity for a just and humane world. Academic Salons provides forums for the Seattle University community to engage in energetic dialogue about contemporary issues that are at the forefront of local, national and international debates. Throughout the year, the Academic Salons program offers public forums, lecture series, reading groups, film screenings and related events to develop

critical awareness and informed decision making about topics of pressing concern that are global in breadth and scope.

The 2009-2010 Salons theme of Religion and Social Change will engage the larger Seattle University community in an energetic and at times intense dialogue about contemporary religion that includes both analytical critique and models for social change. The Salons programming this year will contribute to a wider and more precise understanding of religions that predominate not only in the U.S. but the larger global world we interact with on a daily basis in the media and here in the city. The 2009-2010 Academic Salons explore salient themes such as: (1) religion and human rights, (2) interfaith dialogue in the contemporary world, (3) religion and sustainability, (4) religion, gender and sexuality, (5) religion and law, (6) religion and politics, and (7) religion and globalization.

Sharon A. Suh, PhD
Director, Academic Salons

2009-2010 Academic Salon Events

Fall Quarter 2009

New Student Academic Convocation

Monday, September 21, 2009

9:00 - 1:00 pm

12th & E. Marion Tent

Salon: Three Interfaith Amigos

Tuesday, October 13, 2009

7:00 - 9:00 pm

Pigott Auditorium

Seattle University Academic Salons *Night Out at the Theater* presents: *Frontier: Valley of the Shadow*

written and performed by Ki Gottberg and directed by John Kazanjian

Thursday, October 22, 2009

8:00 pm

New City Theater (18th at Union/Capitol Hill)

In a whirl of immigrant family history past and future, Ki Gottberg swirls transformative though all the characters in her own humorously intimate story about spiritual hunger, physical appetite and the quest for faith.

Salon: The Tibetan Nuns Project with guest speaker, Dr. Elizabeth Napper

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

7:00 pm

Student Center 160 / LeRoux Room

Join Academic Salons in welcoming Elizabeth Napper, co-director of the Tibetan Nuns Project, a non-profit organization devoted to educating and supporting Tibetan Buddhist nuns living in exile.

Since 1991, Elizabeth Napper has been working full-time with the Tibetan Nuns Project, responding to the needs of a tremendous influx of refugee Buddhist nuns from Tibet into India. Many of the women are fleeing torture and imprisonment in Tibet for their peaceful demonstrations on behalf of the Tibetan cause. They arrive in India seeking religious freedom and education, but possess no money or resources. The Tibetan Nuns Project was initiated to help these women obtain the basics of food, clothing, shelter and medical care. The sponsorship program has grown to support more than 700 nuns living in eight different nunneries in India. The long-term goal of the Tibetan Nuns Project is to raise the educational level of the nuns. To this end, it has established the Dolma Ling Nunnery and Institute, the first educational facility of its kind for Tibetan Buddhist nuns.

Winter Quarter 2010

Fridays at the Wismer for Faculty and Staff

Friday, January 22, 2010

3:30 – 6:00 pm

Wismer Center/Loyola 105

The Academic Salons program invites faculty and staff to welcome the weekend with food, wine and conversation. Join colleagues in a cross-disciplinary conversation about religion and social change, and how this is expressed through the prisms of literature, poetry, art, film, music, theatre, dance, food and ideas. This is a very informal conversation, with no agenda, no reading assignment and no pre-requisites. Food and wine, of course, will enliven the conversation. Come find out about upcoming Salon events!

Salon Book Reading with Nalini Iyer, PhD

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

12:00 pm

Casey Commons

Come celebrate faculty scholarship! Academic Salons and the Wismer Professor for Gender & Diversity host a book reading with Nalini Iyer, PhD, Associate Professor of English in the College of Arts & Sciences, who will read and share about her recently published book, *Other Tongues: Rethinking the Language Debates in India*, (Rodolph, 2009). Edited by both Iyer and Bonnie Zare, *Other Tongues* explores the implications of the energetic and, at times, acrimonious public debate among Indian authors and academics over the hegemonic role of Indian writing in English.

Iyer also teaches in Women Studies, Global African Studies, International Studies and Asian Studies. Her recent publications include "The Cosmopolitics of Translation: Reading Lalithambika Antherjanam" (South Asian Review) and "Sisters and Brothers of America: Problematized Belonging in Meena Alexander's writing" in *Passage to Manhattan*. Ed Lopa Basu and Cynthia Leenerts. She is currently working on a book (co-authored with Amy Bhatt) on South Asians in Pacific Northwest called *Roots and Reflections: South Asians Map the Pacific Northwest* to be published by the University of Washington Press.

Salon: "Refugee Foster Children: Hope Rekindled, Lives Transformed"

Thursday, February 4, 2010

12:15-1:15 pm

Casey Commons

Please join Academic Salons and the Center for Global Justice (School of Law) in welcoming guest speaker, Erika Berg, the foster home recruiter for Refugee and Immigrant Children's Program of Lutheran Community Services Northwest.

The Refugee and Immigrant Children's Program (RICP) of Lutheran Community Services NW serves unaccompanied refugee minors and asylee youth, youth who have fled civil war, persecution, or extreme poverty. Based in Seattle, RICP is one of 18 child welfare programs in the world that resettles these brave youth. As foster home recruiter, Berg partners with refugee and immigrant community leaders to identify potential foster parents who share the cultural heritage of youth referred to the program. She also searches for individuals - of any ethnicity - who are prepared to help refugee youth grow up proud of their heritage and into responsible members of their new foster families and communities. Berg will discuss the youth referred to RICP - where they come from and why, their challenges and aspirations - and screen two brief films about two refugee youth from Sudan and Burma. For more information about the Refugee and Immigrant Children's Program, please visit <http://www.refugeechildren.net>.

Exiled Voices for Justice – Film Screening of *Burma VJ: Reporting from a Closed Country*

Sunday, February 7, 2010

11:00 – 3:00 pm

Pigott Auditorium

“Exiled Voices for Justice” will begin at Seattle University with a series of screenings of three documentary films about Burma ([BURMA VJ](#)), Sudan ([GOD GREW TIRED OF US](#)), and Congo ([LUMO](#)), and tentatively continue at the University of Washington with a screening of a documentary film about asylee youth from Central America (WHICH WAY HOME). For more info on the film series, please visit <http://www.exiledvoicesforjustice.org>.

Exiled Voices for Justice – Film Screening of *God Grew Tired of Us*

Sunday, February 14, 2010

11:00 – 3:00 pm

Pigott Auditorium

“Exiled Voices for Justice” continues at Seattle University with a series of screenings about Sudan ([GOD GREW TIRED OF US](#)) and Congo ([LUMO](#)), and tentatively continues at the University of Washington with a screening of a documentary film about asylee youth from Central America (WHICH WAY HOME). For more info on the film series, please visit <http://www.exiledvoicesforjustice.org>.

Fridays at the Wismer for Faculty and Staff

Friday, February 19, 2010

3:30 – 6:00 pm

Wismer Center/Loyola 105

The Academic Salons program invites faculty and staff to welcome the weekend with food, wine and conversation. Join colleagues in a cross-disciplinary conversation about religion and social change,

and how this is expressed through the prisms of literature, poetry, art, film, music, theatre, dance, food and ideas. This is a very informal conversation, with no agenda, no reading assignment and no pre-requisites. Food and wine, of course, will enliven the conversation. Come find out about upcoming Salon events!

Spring Quarter 2010

Hindu Bhakti Devotional Music: Lecture & Performance by Seetha Narayanan

Tuesday, April 6, 2010

7:00 - 8:30 pm

Seattle University, Pigott Auditorium

Bhakti music and poetry flourished in India between the fifth and fourteenth centuries. Bhakti poets brought extreme devotion and mysticism to the people and broke with Brahminical hegemony of religious practice. They sang of the different gods and challenged caste barriers and used the vernacular languages as the medium of their devotion and poetry.

Seetha Narayanan is a distinguished vocalist from Chennai, India. She specializes in Carnatic classical music and also in devotional (bhajan) music. She is an All India Radio "A top" artist who has been honored by numerous organizations including the Music Academy, the Sangeet Natak Academy, ITC Sangeet Research Academy among others. A well-known teacher of Carnatic music, she is founder and director of Divyadhvani School of Music in Chennai. She has recently performed 12 ragas in the television series "72 Melakartas: Origins of Ragas." She has to her credit many CDs and audio recordings including the popular Bhati Lahiri and Bhakti Sudha.

Fridays at the Wismer for Faculty and Staff

Friday, April 16, 2010

3:30 – 6:00 pm

Wismer Center/Loyola 105

The Academic Salons program invites faculty and staff to welcome the weekend with food, wine and conversation. Join colleagues in a cross-disciplinary conversation about religion and social change, and how this is expressed through the prisms of literature, poetry, art, film, music, theatre, dance, food and ideas. This is a very informal conversation, with no agenda, no reading assignment and no pre-requisites. Food and wine, of course, will enliven the conversation.

Public Square Forum - "Faithful to the Earth: An Interfaith Dialogue on Sustainability"

Wednesday, April 21, 2010

6:30 - 9:00 pm

Seattle University, Champion Ballroom

Join Academic Salons and Magis: Alumni Committed for Mission on the eve of Earth Day and hear distinct voices representing a variety of faith traditions as they dialogue around environmental

sustainability. Panelists from diverse interfaith perspectives will share how their particular faith traditions support sustainability, as well as give concrete examples of environmental movements and efforts currently rising out of their faith communities. The evening will begin with a social, complete with appetizers at 6:30pm, and a panel discussion moderated by Jen Tilghman-Havens (Office of Jesuit Mission & Identity) will begin promptly at 7:00 pm. This event is open to Seattle University students, alumni, faculty and staff, as well as the greater community. To RSVP, email magis-rsvp@seattleu.edu.

Salon: 2010 Xavier Global House Outreach Project

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

12:00 – 1:00 pm

Pigott Auditorium

Come listen to the stories of participating students as they share their first-hand accounts of a week in Tijuana, Mexico working alongside deserving families and learning of the myriad of social, political, and economic issues that influence contemporary U.S./Mexico immigration patterns. Consistent with the Academic Salons' theme of "Religion and Social Change," the Xavier Global House Outreach Project Student Salon will focus on the spiritual components of service-learning around contemporary immigration issues.

The Xavier Global House Outreach Project wishes to gratefully acknowledge the academic, logistical, and financial support of the Associated Students of Seattle University (ASSU), Housing and Residence Life, the Department of Modern Languages & Cultures, the Education Abroad Office, Campus Ministry, and the myriad cross-disciplinary faculty who gave of their time, effort, and expertise to advance this extraordinary opportunity!

Exiled Voices for Justice – Film Screening of *Lumo*

Sunday, May 2, 2010

11:00 – 3:00 pm

Pigott Auditorium

"Exiled Voices for Justice" continues at Seattle University with a series of screenings about Sudan ([GOD GREW TIRED OF US](#)) and Congo ([LUMO](#)), and tentatively continue at the University of Washington with a screening of a documentary film about asylee youth from Central America ([WHICH WAY HOME](#)). For more info on the film series, please visit <http://www.exiledvoicesforjustice.org>.

Eco-Sangha: Buddhism & Sustainability Conference: May 7-8, 2010

Friday, May 7, 2010

6:30-9 pm,

Wyckoff Auditorium

Saturday, May 8, 2010

9:30-6:30 pm,

Pigott Auditorium

[Download CONFERENCE PROGRAM]

The earth is a mess: the global climate emergency, the sixth great extinction event, unprecedented environmental degradation, reckless population growth, etc. In the spirit of Seattle University's commitment to addressing issues of ecological justice and sustainability, speakers will address these issues from a Buddhist perspective. This two day conference features a wide variety of prominent speakers from around the nation including Professor David Loy and Professor Mark Unno representing the full spectrum of Buddha Dharma practice. This conference will be of interest to all environmentally minded people, to those committed to diversifying the ways in which they understand social justice, to those who want to learn more about the Buddha Dharma traditions, and to practitioners at all levels and from all traditions. Sponsored by Academic Salons and Eco-Sangha.

Salon Workshop: "From Mindlessness to Mindfulness - Working with Distraction and Attention in the Classroom"

Presented by Mara Adelman, PhD

Friday, May 14, 2010

10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Student Center 160 (LeRoux)

Tools of mass distraction are everywhere, affecting student and teacher performance. It is time to find solutions. This is an engaging, experiential, reflective, informationally packed workshop that focuses on distraction and mindfulness. Presented by Mara Adelman, PhD, Dept of Communications, this workshop is open to all faculty and staff. Please RSVP to academicsalons@seattleu.edu, lunch is provided.

Topics covered include:

- Recent research findings in the attention/inattention science literature
- Short clips from the recent film, "Digital Nation" by Douglas Rushkoff and interview clip of Maggie Jackson, author of *Distracted*
- Content analysis of SU Faculty and recent syllabi from courses around the United States on enhancing mindfulness in diverse disciplines (including art, religion, literature, science, philosophy, medicine, law, etc.).
- Overviews of resources, brief exercises that help facilitate student attention.
- Creating a user-friendly focused classroom: Student panel and comments to faculty on technology usages in the classroom and ways for enhancing student attention (some surprises here!)

This workshop will include only 20% of last year's workshop on distraction (visit <http://www.distractionworkshop.com>); and focuses primarily on mindfulness solutions for the classroom. Dr. Adelman has attended two faculty weeklong seminars on "Teaching Contemplative

Practices in the Classroom,” sponsored by the *Center for Contemplative Mind in Society*, located in Northampton, MA. She has been involved with Vipassana Meditation for the past three decades and currently teaches a course on “Restorative Solitude.”

Seattle University Academic Salons
***Carthaginians* Post-Show Discussion**

Sunday, May 16, 2010

(Following 2:30 pm matinee performance)

Topic: Fine Arts Theatre production of *Carthaginians* Post-Show Discussion

Speakers: Join us for a discussion with the director Rosa Joshi and the cast and creative team of the SU *Carthaginians* production led by dramaturg, Sara Bernert ('10).

On Sunday January 31, 1972 in Derry, Northern Ireland, 13 civilians were shot and killed by British army paratroopers during a civil rights march. After Bloody Sunday, Northern Ireland entered into a bloody period of sectarian violence, a period commonly known as The Troubles. Violence from both Catholic and Protestant militia groups escalated and the British army became seen by the majority Catholic population to be an occupying force.

This is the background for Frank McGuinness' hilarious and heartbreaking play *Carthaginians*. Ten years after Bloody Sunday, seven people have gathered in a graveyard in Derry. They are waiting for a miracle: for “the dead to rise”. A colorful and haphazard community of outcasts, each has been touched by the violent memory of the Sunday when an army fired into a crowd of civilians.

Throughout the course of the play, these broken individuals come together as a new community defined less by religious and social identity, but rather as individuals who have a shared history of loss and suffering. Ultimately, Frank McGuinness explores how a community that has been torn apart by violence and sectarian hatred can begin to heal and forgive.

The play thrusts us into the midst of a troubled community and demands an audience's full immersion. The Fine Arts Theatre production takes the audience right into the graveyard where the play unfolds. *Carthaginians* explores issues of national and religious identity, post-colonialism, sectarianism, forgiveness, guilt and healing and would be great for classes in Sociology, Theology & Religious Studies, Political Science, Psychology, History, and English.

POST SHOW DISCUSSION SUNDAY MAY 16TH

\$6/\$8/\$10

Lee Center for the Arts

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