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## **In the Shadows of Religious Experience: Hostility, Violence, & Revenge**

*\*All times are set to Central European Time (Vienna Austria)\**

**October 6**

13:30-14:00: Michael STAUDIGL & Jason ALVIS (Vienna), "Introduction: On secularism and its discontents, or: Why a Conference about the Dark Sides of Religious Experience?"

### [Session 1: Phenomenologies of Religious Violence \(Moderator: Michael Staudigl\)](#)

14:00-14:30: Tareq AYOUB. *Heroism and Being-Towards-Death: On Martyrdom in Contemporary Shi'ism*

14:30-15:00: Nuzhat KHURSHID, "Legitimizing Transgression Within Faith. Islamic Psychoanalysis and Muslim Women's Agency." –

15:00-15:30: Tanay GANDHI, "The Hindutva Body: Religious Experience and Visceral Dispositions for Violence in the Project for a Hindu Nation"

### [Session 2: Revenge of the Sacred \(Moderator: Michael D. Barber\)](#)

15:30-16:00: Thomas SOJER, "The conjuncture of religious revenge and attention: Looking at the "Pope's revenge" through the eyes of Simone Weil"

16:00-16:30: Eric BIEN, "The Double-sidedness of the Frown: Revenge as a Spiral of Satisfaction and Provocation"

16:30-17:00 \*\*\*\*BREAK\*\*\*\*

**17:00-18:00: Keynote lecture by J. AARON SIMMONS, “There are A-holes Everywhere on BS Mountain: Evangelical Conspiracism and Epistemic Violence” (Moderator: Jason W. Alvis)**

[Session 3: The Politicization of Transcendence \(Moderator: Emil Salim\)](#)

18:00–18:30: Jan CERNY, “Étienne Balibar: Secularization as a Suppression or Transformation of Religious Experience?”

18:30-19:00: Tomasz NIEZGODA, “Violence as an Response. Eric Voegelin on the Ambivalence of the Experience of Transcendence”

19:00-19:30 - \*\*\*\*BREAK\*\*\*\*

[Session 4: Reassessing Political Theology \(Moderator: Olga Louchakova-Schwartz\)](#)

19:30-20:00: Michele GIULI, “George Bataille’s interpretation of the Death of God as a way to understand the postmodern human condition”

20:00-20:30: Ahmad BOSTANI, “Phenomenology of the Imagination and Anti-Secular Ideologies: Henry Corbin’s Theologico-Political Legacy Reconsidered”

20:30-21:00: Paul SLAMA, “On the ‘psycho-theological’ structure of modernity and social violence”

## **October 7**

[Session 5: Enmity and the politicization of religious truth \(Moderator: Michael Staudigl\)](#)

14:00-14:30: Osman Gazi BIRGÜL, “On the Politicization and Instrumentalization of Truth: A Hermeneutical Phenomenological Analysis”

14:30-15:00: Macej WITKOWSKI, “Philosophy, Catholicism and Judaism in inter-war Germany: Walter Benjamin and Carl Schmitt on political violence”

15:00-15:30: Barbara LORENZ, "Migration of religious narratives of hostility & violence in (post)modern conspiracy myths"

**15:30-16:30 Keynote lecture by NEAL DE ROO, "Locating Religious Violence in the Spiritual Constitution of Experience." (Moderator: Olga Louchakova-Schwartz)**

16:30-17:00 \*\*\*\*\*BREAK\*\*\*\*\*

[Session 6: Denials and Possibilities of Transcendence \(Moderator: J. Alvis\)](#)

17:00-17:30: Michael BARBER, "Nietzsche and Levinas against Innocence"

17:30-18:00: Georg HARTENSTELLER, "Hostility and the effective direction of religious communitarianisation"

18:00-18:30: Matt ROSEN, "'This is our testimony to the whole world': A Quaker Phenomenology of Peace"

18:30-19:00: Eleni LORANDOU, "Embodying the universe: reviewing religious transcendence through Merleau-Ponty's narratives of artistic engagement."

**19:00-20:00: *Sophere Presidential Address*, OLGA LOUCHAKOVA-SCHWARTZ, "Thinking About the Obvious: Religious Experience and the First-Person Perspective (Moderator: Michael D. Barber)**

## **October 8**

[Session 7: Difficult relations \(Moderator: Michael Staudigl\)](#)

14:00-14:30: Walter S. STEPANENKO, "A Relational Phenomenological Reading of Two Parables and the Atonement as Revenge Reduction: Implications for Contemporary Approaches to Religion"

14:30-15:00: Antje KAPUST: "Shifting of violence in civil societies: Religion and violence"

Session 8: Complicating Oppositions, Transcending Binaries (Moderator: Martin Koci)

15:00-15:30: Emil SALIM, "Violence in Empedoclean Metaphysics"

15:30-16:00: Maria GOLEBIEWSKA, "The Phenomenal Aspects of Negativity and Negating according to Søren Kierkegaard"

16:00-16:30 \*\*\*\*BREAK\*\*\*\*

Session 9: The Affective States and Spaces of Violence (Moderator: Olga Louchakova-Schwartz)

16:30-17:00: Robert APPELBAUM, "Religious Violence and Space: Two Incidents from the French Wars of Religion"

17:00-17:30: Raphael COHEN-ALMAGOR, "*Indivisibilité, sécurité, laïcité*: The Burqa and the Niqab in France"

17:30-18:00: Felix Ó MURCHADHA: "Enthusiasm, Superstition and Religious Violence"

Session 10: Secular Violence, esp. in the Case of Canada (Moderator – Jason Alvis)

18:00-18:30: Jennifer GUYVER, "Protecting the legitimacy of state violence through laïcité: the case of Quebec"

18:30-19:00: Seraphine APPEL, "Ideological Structures of 'Reconciliation'"

19:00-19:30: Damian BARNAT, "Religious and Secular Responses to Violence. Charles Taylor on the Moral Transformation"

19:30 Closing Remarks – End of the Conference

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