

Stories We Live By: Relating to the Self and Other

PROGRAM OUTLINE¹

Sunday, June 28, 2020

13:30			13:30 - 15:00			
	On-	Site Registration of Conference Participants				
15:15		Bus transfer to the venue of the opening event				
16:00		Opening Event	16:00 – 19:00 (simult. transl.)			
	Moderators:	Pavol Bargár (Czech Republic) / Lucia Faltin (Slovakia)				
		Mary Boys (USA) Stories We Live By: Relating to the Self and Other (working title)				
	Greeting Addresses by Representatives of Religious and Civic Organizations and Institutions					
	+ Reception					
19:00	Bus transfer to the venue of the dinner					
19:30		Dinner				
22:00		Bus transfer to the conference hotel				

¹ Biographical information about the speakers can later be found in the program booklet of the conference, chapter "Presenters and Speakers"; a first draft of the program booklet will be published anytime soon.

Monday, June 29, 2020: Religious Traditions – Stories of the Self and the Other

7:00	Jewish Morning Prayer Christian Morning Prayer				er	
8:00		On-Site Registration for Day Guests				
8:30			Meditative	Moment		
9:00					9:00 – 10:30 (simult. transl.)	
	This plenary session will explore how Jews and Christians express their religious identities as the overarching story of their community and how their history shapes the way they speak of the people of other religions, both positively and negatively. Particular attention will be given to strategies to avoid lethal and destructive stories and to nurture life-affirming stories instead. Furthermore, the speakers will reflect on the process of revising one's sacred stories in the light of deeper interreligious understanding. In other words, how does the new relationship between Jews and Christians affect the interpretation and embodiment of one's "master narratives"?					
10:30			Coffee	Break		
11:00	Plenary II:11:00 – 12:30Deconstructing Abraham: The Meanings of Abraham in the "Abrahamic" Religions(simult. transl.)Moderator:Morteza Rezazadeh (Iran)(simult. transl.)Keynote Speaker:Reuven Firestone (USA)Elena Dini (Italy)Respondents:Elena Dini (Italy)Mohammad Hannan Hassan (Singapore)					
	This session will explore the variant meanings of story and narrative in the three Abrahamic traditions by focusing on the core story we all agree represents the essence of monotheism and faith: the story of Abraham. The three speakers will consider the person of Abraham in the scriptures of Judaism, Christianity and Islam and will argue that the Hebrew Bible Abraham is not the same as the New Testament Abraham, the Qur'anic Abraham or the Talmudic Abraham. In each sacred text he represents the quintessential monotheist, but each considers that quintessence differently. They are both in conversation and argument over the meaning of monotheism, and this tension is reflected in the ways in which the religious traditions relate to one another.					
12:30						
	Lunch					
14:00	Workshop A1 (simult. transl.)	Workshop A2 (English)	Workshop A3 (English)	Workshop A4 (English)	Workshop A5 (English)	Workshop A6 (English)
15:30	Coffee Break					

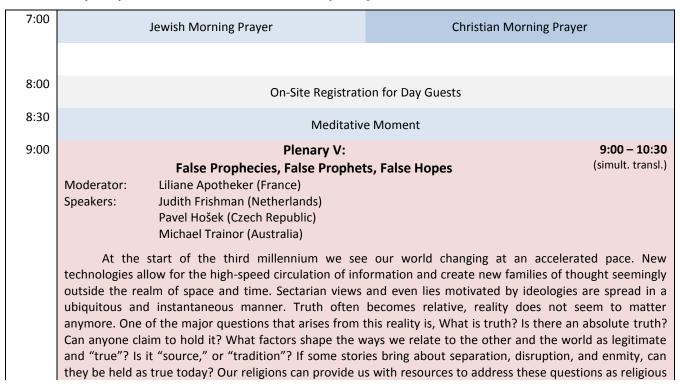
16:00		Plenary III:	16:00 – 18:00	
		Stories about the Land	(simult. transl.)	
	Moderator:	Philip A. Cunningham (USA)		
	Speakers:	Haifa Alayan (Jerusalem)		
		Jesper Svartvik (Sweden)		
		Deborah Weissman (Jerusalem)		
	Following the path opened by the previous session, this plenary session will narrow down its focus to explore the Land of Israel/Palestine, the symbol-reality that plays a central role in all Abrahamic traditions. Consequently, all three traditions foster various, often contradictory stories related to the Land. Given the complexity of these stories, how is it possible to have a dialogue about the Land among people who tell and live different "stories" there? The speakers will reflect on how their personal self-understanding has been shaped by their experience of living in the Land of Israel/Palestine. This session marks the imminent publication of the book <i>Enabling Dialogue about the Land: A Resource Book for Jews and Christians</i> , eds. Philip A. Cunningham, Ruth Langer, and Jesper Svartvik (forthcoming from Paulist Press), the result of a research project sponsored by the ICCJ.			
18:00		Dinner		
20:30		Evening Program		

Tuesday, June 30, 2020: Story and Context

7:00	Jewish Morning Prayer		Christian Morning Prayer			
8:00		On-Site Registration	on for Day Guests			
8:30	Meditative Moment					
9:00						
11:00		Coffee	Break			



Wednesday, July 1, 2020: Stories of the Contemporary World



	stories seek to establish some form of truth that relies on tradition and transmission. However, these stories themselves need to be explored critically. This is what this plenary session will strive to do. Ultimately, it will explore how the stories we hold as foundational and sacred can inform us about the world we live in and, even more importantly, how they can inform an increasingly secularized world, so that we do not fall prey to false prophets and false prophecies.					
10:30			Coffee	Break		
11:00	Workshop C1 (simult. transl.)	Workshop C2 (English)	Workshop C3 (English)	Workshop C4 (English)	Workshop C5 (English)	Workshop C6 (English)
12:30						
			Lur	nch		
14:00	Workshop D1 (simult. transl.)	Workshop D2 (English)	Workshop D3 (English)	Workshop D4 (English)	Workshop D5 (English)	Workshop D6 (English)
15:30			Coffee	Break		
16:00	Plenary VI: 16:00 – 18:00 (simult. transl.) Moderator: George Wilkes (UK) (simult. transl.) Speakers: Adriana Biela-Belanji (Slovakia) Mary Boys (USA) Kathy Ehrensperger (Germany) Adam Gregerman (USA) Shmuel Szteinhendler (Chile) ************************************					
19:30	Festive Dinner					