

**THE POWER OF THE WORD
THE PROPHETIC WORD
13-16 SEPTEMBER 2017**

WEDNESDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2017

16.00-17.00 Registration and coffee

17.00-17.30 Welcome

17.30-18.45 KEYNOTE I

John Barton, Emeritus Oriel and Laing Professor of the Interpretation of Holy Scripture, University of Oxford: “The Hebrew Prophets: Seers or Poets?”

19.00-20.15 Opening dinner

20.15-21.30 KEYNOTE II AND PUBLIC LECTURE

Mona Siddiqui, Professor of Islamic and Interreligious Studies, University of Edinburgh: “The Poetry of Piety: Between Divine Word and Poetic Word”

THURSDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2017

9.30-11.00 PARALLEL SESSION I
Prophecy and the Bible

Panel A: Biblical Prophecy

- *Katherine E. Brown, Catholic University of America:* “Reading Writing, Re-voicing Silent Israel”
- *Yosefa Raz, Hebrew University of Jerusalem:* “Ezekiel's Weak Prophecy and the Question of Textuality”
- *Joseph P. Riordan, S.J., University of Notre Dame:* “Light from Light: The Psalm of Tobit and the Vision of Isaiah”

Panel B: Bible, Prophecy and Poetry

- *Ethan Schwartz, Harvard University:* “The Poetic Prophet: Ezekiel and the Religious Problem of Aesthetically Pleasing Prophecy”
- *Nicolas Bossu, L.C., Pontifical Athenaeum Regina Apostolorum, Rome:* “Eliot and Claudel as Readers of Ezekiel: Echoing Overtones of the ‘Dry Bones Prophecy’ (Ezek. 37)”
- *Erin Martine Sessions, Australian College of Theology:* “My Tongue is the Pen of a Skilful Writer: Poetry as Exegesis”

Panel C: True and False Prophecy in the Bible and Late Antiquity

- *Yotam Jezreely, Tel Aviv University*: “Elisha – A Literary Wonder: Emic Perspectives on the Theological Tensions between Magic and Prophecy”
- *Rüdiger Schmitt, Münster University*: “The Discourse about Ritual Authority in the Prophetic Writings with Special Regard to Ezekiel 13:17-21”
- *Maria Jennifer Falcone, University of Erlangen-Nürnberg*: “*Quid virgo canit?* True and False Prophecies in Late Antiquity: The Case of Dracontius”

11.00-11.30 Coffee

11.30-11.45 Dramatic Interlude [PROVISIONAL]

11.45-13.00 KEYNOTE III

Christopher Rowland, Emeritus Dean Ireland's Professor of Exegesis of Holy Scripture, University of Oxford: “Diversely and in many ways God spoke by the Prophets’: The Perspectives of the New Testament and the Texts and Images of William Blake on the Prophetic Word”

13.00-14.15 Lunch

14.15-15.45 PARALLEL SESSION II

Poetry and Prophecy

Panel A: Word of God, Prophecy and Poetry in Abrahamic Religions

- *María Enid Rodríguez, Catholic University of America*: “The Word of God as Authentic Prophetic Speech in the Abrahamic Traditions”
- *Sania Iqbal Hashmi, Jawaharlal Nehru University*: “The (Believing) Poet-Prophet Paradox: A Reading of the Contradictions in the Prophetic Poems of Muhammad Iqbal”
- *Michael Weinman, Bard College Berlin*: “Hermann Cohen and the Jewish Prophetic Tradition”

Panel B: Prophecy, Poetry and the Romantic Vision

- *Elizabeth S. Dodd, Sarum College*: “The Prophetic Power of the Lyric ‘I’ in Romantic Poetry”
- *Michael Kirwan, Heythrop College, University of London*: “*Fearful Symmetry*, Seventy Years On”
- *Josephine Von Zitzewitz, University of Cambridge*: “Poetry as Prophecy in the Leningrad Cultural Underground”

Panel C: Art, Poetry and the Prophetic

- *Ewan King, Baptist Union of Great Britain*: “Prophetic Calling and Poetic Form: Christopher Smart, *Jubilate Agno* and *De Sacra Poesia Hebraeorum*”
- *Mark S. Burrows, Protestant University of Applied Sciences, Bochum*: “Learning to See: Rainer Maria Rilke's *Sonnets to Orpheus* as Prophetic Vision”
- *Clark D. Lunberry, University of North Florida*: “‘An aquatic reverie’: Stéphane Mallarmé’s Writing on Water and the Naming of Waves”

15.45-16.15 Tea

16.15-17.30 KEYNOTE IV
Alessandro Schiesaro, Head of School and Professor of Classics, School of Arts, Languages and Cultures, University of Manchester: “Empedocles and the Prophetic Word”

17.30-19.00 PARALLEL SESSION III
The Prophetic Word in Classical Antiquity and Early Modernity

Panel A: Prophetic Voices in Classical Antiquity

- *Marcela Alejandra Ristorto & Silvia Susana Reyes, Universidad Nacional de Rosario, Argentina:* “The Tragic Poet as Master of Truth or ‘Prophetic Genius’: The Prophetic Word in Euripides’ *Helen*”
- *Angel Ruiz, University of Santiago:* “The Pythia and Divine States of Mind: Rebukes, Complaints and Expressions of Joy”
- *Olga A. Zolotnikova, Hellenic Open University:* “‘The prophecy that the ancient oak spoke’: Prophecies and Prophetic Voices of the Sanctuary of Zeus in Dodona”

Panel B: Prophetic Voices in Classical Antiquity

- *Dennis Alley, Cornell University:* “So Spoke the Prophetic Lines of Medea: Prophecy and Power in Pindar’s Fourth Pythian Ode”
- *Manuel Galzerano, Università degli studi Roma Tre:* “Lucretius, Empedocles, End of the World”
- *Francesco Montarese, Independent Scholar:* “*Sibylla bacchatur*: the Sibyl’s Prophetic Frenzy in Virgil’s *Aeneid*”

Panel C: Prophecy, Poetry and Early Modernity

- *Dilwyn Knox, University College London:* “Prophecy and Salvation in Renaissance Europe”
- *Krysztyna Wierzbicka-Trwoga, University of Warsaw:* “Delivering the Word of God: The Prophetic Dimension of Sacred Poetry in the Example of Angelus Silesius’ *Cherubinischer Wandersmann*”
- *Gerald Barr, University of Houston:* “Sidney’s Logocentrism in a Protestant World”

20.30 Poetry evening, organised by Mark S. Burrows and David Lonsdale [Title TBC]

FRIDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2017

8.45-10.15 PARALLEL SESSION IV:
Modern Prophetic and Poetic Voices

Panel A: Modern Prophetic and Poetic Voices

- *Anna Szczerpan-Wojnarska, Cardinal Wyszyński University:* “Prophetic Dimension of Czesław Miłosz’s Poetry”
- *Kathryn Wills, University of Glasgow:* “Yeats and Bonnefoy as Prophets: From Cataclysm to the Cataphatic”
- *Esther Cameron, Independent Scholar:* “‘Prophecy *con sordina*’: The Definition of Poetry in the Work of Paul Celan”

Panel B: Modern Prophetic and Poetic Voices

- *Jon M. Sweeney, Independent Scholar*: “Arguing with a Saint: Mystical Considerations in the Poetic Disagreements between Thomas Merton and Czeslaw Milosz”
- *Jeremy Pilch, Heythrop College, University of London*: “Prophecy, Freedom and Christianity in Russia Today: The Poetry of Olga Sedakova”
- *Deborah C. Bowen, Redeemer University College, Canada*: “‘Nature is never spent?’ The Prophetic Voice in Contemporary Canadian Ecological Poetry”

Panel C: Modern Prophetic and Poetic Voices

- *Katarzyna Dudek, Franciscan University of Steubenville, Ohio*: “The Simeons of the End of the Centuries: Francis Thompson and George Mackay Brown”
- *Anna Walczuk, Jagiellonian University*: “Western Civilisation in the Poetic Mirror of G.K. Chesterton”
- *Marta Zając, University of Silesia*: “John Henry Newman, Ronald Knox, G.K. Chesterton – Prophets of/for Today?”

10.15-10.45 Coffee

10.45-12.00 KEYNOTE V
Michèle Le Doeuff, ENS: “Equality and Prophecy”

12.00-13.00 PARALLEL SESSION V
The Prophetic Word and Time

Panel A: Prophecy and Poetry in the Abrahamic Religions

- *Ella Elbaz, Stanford University*: “The Unimaginable Future Imagined: Palestinian and Israeli Literary Prophecies”
- *Axel Marc Oaks Takács, Harvard University*: “‘All Things in the World are Messengers from God’: Joseph, Imagination and Poetry in the Islamic Tradition”

Panel B: Philosophy and Prophecy

- *Montserrat Herrero, University of Navarra*: “‘Prophetic Time’ as a Paradigm for Understanding ‘Historical Time’”
- *Giorgio Durante, Heythrop College, University of London*: “Pascal as a Prophet of Contemporary Atheism in Augusto Del Noce’s Perspective”

Panel C: Prophecy, Poetry and Eschatology

- *Chrysostom Koutloumousianos, Holy Monastery of Koutloumous, Mount Athos*: “‘Salute the last and everlasting day’: John Donne and Romanos the Melodist in Dialogue”
- *Deryl Davis, University of Glasgow*: “Poetry, Prophecy and the End of Days: Lyric Theodicy and Robert Pollok’s *The Course of Time*”

13.00-14.15 Lunch

14.15-15.45 PARALLEL SESSION VI

The Prophetic Word in Poetry and Philosophy

Panel A: Philosophy's Prophetic Voice

- *Jill Graper Hernandez, University of Texas at San Antonio: "Existential Hope and Philosophy's Prophetic Voice"*
- *Javier Pérez-Jara, Beijing Foreign Studies University: "Hearing the Silent Call of the Last God: On Heidegger's Mythical and Prophetic Language"*
- *Paul Grosch, University of St Mark & St John: "Explanation, Silence and then Poetry: Wittgenstein and the Possibility of Poetic Philosophy"*

Panel B: Philosophy, Poetry and Prophecy

- *Selami Varlik, İstanbul 29 Mayıs University: "Prophecy and Poetry in Avicenna in the Light of Gadamerian Mimesis"*
- *Richard Elliott, Heythrop College, University of London: "Saving Power: Poetry and Prophecy in Nietzsche and Heidegger"*
- *Timothy Derrick Witherington, KU Leuven: "The Poetics of Liturgy: A Contextualization of Ricoeur's Theory of Language"*

Panel C: Poetry and Prophecy in T.S. Eliot and Tadeusz Różewicz

- *Małgorzata Grzegorzewska, University of Warsaw: "Voices Crying in the Wilderness"*
- *Joanna Lisiewicz, Gdańsk University: "Tadeusz Różewicz - The Poet as Visionary: Poetry as the Speech and Silence of a Prophet"*
- *Jean Ward, Gdańsk University: "T. S. Eliot and Tadeusz Różewicz: the Prophetic Strain"*

15.45-16.15 Tea

16.15-17.30 KEYNOTE VI

Tina Beattie, Professor of Catholic Studies, University of Roehampton: "Hope as Prophecy: Interpreting the Silence of Holy Saturday"

17.30-19.00 PARALLEL SESSION VII

The Prophetic Word, Theology and the Wider World

Panel A: The Theologian as Prophet

- *Steven Muir, Concordia University of Edmonton: "Jeremiah as a Role Model for Paul the Theologian"*
- *Tommaso Interi, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore: "The Preacher as a Prophet: Origen's Exegesis of Jeremiah as a New Form of Prophecy"*
- *Cristina Bustamante, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile: "The Theologian as Prophet: Rethinking the Figure of the Theologian in the Light of the Callings of Pope Francis"*

Panel B: Theology, Poetry and Prophecy

- *Jacob Rollison, University of Aberdeen: "Poetry, Prophecy and Presence: Exploring the Linguistic Epistemology of Jacques Ellul's Theology"*
- *Martin Potter, University of York: "David Jones: Prophecy through *Gestalt*"*

- *Ewa Borkowska, University of Silesia: “Gerard Manley Hopkins' Poetic Prophecies ‘Spelt from Sibyl’s Leaves’”*

Panel C: Prophecy, Poetry and the Wider World

- *Daniel Gustafsson, Independent Scholar: “The Poets before Pilate”*
- *Olga Campofreda, University College London: “Visions from the *Age of Anxiety*: Exploring Ferlinghetti’s Poetry between Prophecy and Political Engagement”*
- *Peter Stiles, Excelsia College, Sydney: “Voices in the Desert: Prophetic Voices in Australian Poetry and Prose”*

SATURDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2017

9.30-10.45 KEYNOTE VII

William Franke, Professor of Comparative Literature and Religious Studies, Vanderbilt University: “Poetry as Prophecy: From Anthropological Origins to Postmodern Apocalypses”

10.45-11.15 Coffee

11.15-12.45 PARALLEL SESSION VIII

Prophecy, Poetry and Spirituality

Panel A: Prophecy and Poetry: Theoretical Perspectives

- *Sinkwan Cheng, University College London: “The Subjunctive, Poetry and Prophecy”*
- *Joanna Soćko, University of Silesia: “Who Has the Right to Speak? Some Reflections on the Prophetic Voice in the Poems of T.S. Eliot, R.S. Thomas and Czesław Miłosz”*
- *Lukasz Tischner, Jagiellonian University: “Beyond the ‘Immanent Frame’: Charles Taylor as a Reader of Poetry”*

Panel B: Prophecy, Poetry and Spirituality (1)

- *Hilary Davies, Poet and Independent Scholar: “Models of Being: The Power of Spiritual Poetry in a Secular World”*
- *Jennifer Reek, Sacred Heart University, Connecticut: “Poets in a Destitute Time”*
- *Carys Walsh, St Mellitus College, London: “‘This to Do’: R. S. Thomas and the Changing Lens of the Prophet”*

Panel C: Prophecy, Poetry and Spirituality (2)

- *Bernard Sawicki OSB, Pontifical University of Sant’Anselmo, Rome: “Nun as an unfaithful prophet’s wife?: Prophecy between Bible and Everyday Life in Silja Walter’s Cycle *Der Tanz des Gehorsams oder die Strohmatte*”*
- *Przemysław Michalski, Pedagogical University of Cracow: “Czesław Miłosz and R.S. Thomas as Prophetic Voices of our Era”*
- *Brett H. Speakman, University of St Andrews: “There and Back Again: Literature, Theology and the Prophetic Vision of Childhood”*

12.45 Closing Session