

International Conference: *Religion in Urban Spaces*

09.-11. April 2014, Göttingen

Urban spaces have always functioned as cradles and laboratories for religious movements and spiritualities. The conference Religion in Urban Spaces will therefore explore the intense and complex interplay between the (post)modern city and religion, bringing the city to the fore in religious research. Both renowned and young scholars from all over the world will present their latest research and bring into discussion the ways the experience of the urban – the cityscape with its pluralist culture – inscribes itself in religious practices, and vice versa: how religions appropriate and transform (the meanings of) the urban.

Organized by the Institute for Cultural Anthropology/European Ethnology of the University of Göttingen and the University of Amsterdam (European Ethnology) and the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences

Supported by the Ministry of Science and Culture of Lower Saxony and by Kurt Hacker, M.Eng.

Contact:

Victoria Hegner: victoria.hegner@phil.uni-goettingen.de

Peter Jan Margry: peterjan.margry@meertens.knaw.nl

<http://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/426457.html>

Program

Wednesday 9 April

At the *Holbornsche Haus*, Rote Str. 34

17.00-17.15

Welcome

Regina Bendix (Dept. Chair), Victoria Hegner, Peter Jan Margry

17:15-18:00

Keynote **Rik Pinxten**

God and the City: contemporary perspectives and challenges

18:00-19:00

Reception at the Holbornsche Haus

19:00-20:00
Göttingen

Guided tour to “sacred” spaces and places in

Thursday 10 April

At the Historische Sternwarte (Historical Observatory), Geismar Landstr.11

Negotiating new religious spaces in the city

Chair: Peter Jan Margry

9:00-9:30

Dorothea Nold

Moving churches, changing cities – Spatial and iconic strategies of new congregations in Berlin and Istanbul

9:30-10:00

Gertrud Hüwelmeier

Religious place-making and the production of urban localities – new migrants in Berlin

10:00-10:30

Jill Sudbury

Buddhism in the British urban landscape: negotiation of new religious spaces

10.30-11:00

Coffee break

11.00-11.30

Marie Stephanie N. Gilles and José Edgardo A. Gomez, Jr.

Accommodating God in the Temples of Mammon:
The phenomenon of building chapels within the shopping malls of Metro Manila

11.30-12.00

Mary McCampbell

Loving the City (Not the World?): Three Contemporary Approaches to Urban Christianity

12.00-14.00

Lunch

Migration and religious practice in the (sub)urban realm

Chair: Karin Klenke

14.00-14.30

Eleni Tseligka and Georgios Trantas

Home is where the Church is: Greek migrant communities and their spatial reestablishment in the German urban environment within the context of Greek Orthodoxy.

14.30-15.00

Thorsten Wettich

Yezidi funerals in Lower Saxonian cities as an expression of urban religiosity

15.00-15.30

Claire Dwyer

Encountering the divine in W7 and off Highway 88: suburban miracles and stories of the 'everyday enchantment' of suburbia

15.30-16.00

Coffee break

16.00-17.00

Keynote Sabina Magliocco

Animal Spirits and the Urban Landscape

17.00-17.15

Coffee break

Creating religious coherence and identity in the city I

Chair: Victoria Hegner

17.15-17.45

Eva Dick and Alexander Kenneth Nagel

Urban diversity governance: The interplay of religious and state representatives in local interfaith networks

17.45-18.15

Anna Strhan

Aliens and strangers? The struggle for coherence in the everyday urban lives of Evangelicals

18.15-18.45

Tricia C. Bruce

Building space, place, and collective identity through personal parishes

20.00

Dinner

At the Sambesi Restaurant, Wendenstr.

8

Friday 11 April

At the Historische Sternwarte (Historical Observatory), Geismar Landstr.11

Creating religious coherence and identity in the city II

Chair: Victoria Hegner

9.00-9.30
Almario

Jamelyn B. Palattao and Marjorie Joy S.

Contemporary responses of urban Protestants to the challenge of secularism in Iligan City, Philippines

9.30-10.00

Riem Spielhaus

Urban representation, visibility and institutionalization of Islam in three German cities

10.00-10.30

Coffee Break

Chair: Sabina Magliocco

10.30-11.00

Anna Niedźwiedz

Pope and "his city": transformation of urban space of Kraków to a "lived shrine" of John Paul II

11.00-11.30

Shamin Golrokh

Contribution of urban space and religious event to make collective meanings

11.30-12.00

Mykhaylo Yakubovych

Modernity and Religion in the Sacred Space of Islam: being a Muslim in modern Mecca

12.00-13.30

Lunch

Transforming religious norms of gender and social authority

Chair: Carola Lipp and Rupa Viswanath

13.30-14.00

Julia Schwartzmann

The rise of female preaching and urban integration of Orthodox Jewish women in Israel

14.00-14.30

Shruti Mukherjee

Moving beyond religious boundaries: A case study of Sai Adhyatmik Samiti (Spiritual Centres) in India

14.30-15.00

Coffee break

Body, music, soul and the making of urban religious spaces

Chair: Friedlind Riedel

15.00–15.30

Sarah M. Pike

The dance floor as urban altar: How bodies transform the lived experience of cities in a New Age Dance Church

15.30–16.00

Raphaela von Weichs,

Music is prayer two times'. A transnational perspective on cultural performance and urban religiosity in Cameroon and Switzerland

16.00–16.30

Peter Jan Margry and Daniel Wojcik

A Saxophone Divine: The transformative power of Jazz and the Saint John Coltrane Church in San Francisco.

16.30-16.45

Coffee Break

16.45-17.15

Final discussion, concluding remarks

Final Discussants: Jayeel Serrano Cornelio (MPI, Göttingen) and Victoria Hegner (Göttingen)

For any further question feel free to contact us at any time!

Victoria Hegner: victoria.hegner@phil.uni-goettingen.de

Registration Fee: **30 €** (Only reception: 5 €)

For students, people on social welfare, unemployment relief, parenting time: **10 €**

Payment is made directly and in cash.

Registration platform:

<http://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/registration/476900.html>