ORGANIZER:
Commission The North Atlantic Triangle: Social and Cultural Exchange between Europe, the USA and Canada

CONCEPT AND MANAGEMENT:
Prof. Dr. Waldemar Zacharasiewicz with the Commission The North Atlantic Triangle: Social and Cultural Exchange between Europe, the USA and Canada
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SUPPORTED BY:
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City of Vienna
Embassy of Canada to Austria
Gesellschaft zur Förderung von Nordamerikastudien an der Universität Wien

REGISTRATION:
Registration mandatory by 17 March 2022: www.oeaw.ac.at/anmeldung/the-north-atlantic-triangle
Please indicate whether you would like to participate on-site or online.

Graphic: Bernd Ganser-Lion
THURSDAY, 24 MARCH

14:00–14:30  Welcome Address & Introduction  
Oliver Schmitt | President of the Division of Humanities and the Social Sciences at the Austrian Academy of Sciences  
Waldemar Zerchasiewicz | Chair of the Commission The North Atlantic Triangle  
Herta Nagl-Docekal | Member of the Commission

14:30–15:30  Keynotes  
Chair: Waldemar Zerchasiewicz

14:30  William Sweet | St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, Canada  
Philosophical Pluralism and Religious Faith

15:00  Charles Reagan Wilson | University of Mississippi  
Southern Civil Religion: The Intertwining of the Sacred and the Secular in the American South

15:30–16:00  COFFEE BREAK

16:00–18:30  Religion in Critical Theory  
Chair: Herta Nagl-Docekal

16:00  Brendan Moran | University of Calgary  
Time of Healing: Walter Benjamin’s Messianism

16:30  Maureen Junker-Kenny | Trinity College Dublin  
Defining what is “Extraterritorial”: Religion and Utopia in Habermas and Ricoeur

17:00–17:30  COFFEE BREAK  
Chair: Maureen Junker-Kenny

17:30  Herta Nagl-Docekal | University of Vienna  
Re-considering the Distinction between Atheists and Believers, or: Max Horkheimer’s Reading of Kant

18:00  Irene Kajon | Sapienza University Rome  
God as the Infinite: Martin Buber’s Interpretation of Kant’s Concept of Religion

FRIDAY, 25 MARCH

09:30–11:00  Post-Kantian Approaches to Religion  
Chair: William Sweet

  9:30  Sami Pihlström | University of Helsinki, Finland  
On Secular Theodicies and Antitheodicies (with References to American Pragmatism)

  10:00  Ludwig Nagl | University of Vienna  
Beyond Dogmatic Scientism: Hilary Putnam on Religious Faith

  10:30  Ruth Abbey | Swinburne University of Technology, Melbourne  
Angles and Angels: Charles Taylor and Steven Pinker on Moral Progress in History

11:00–11:30  COFFEE BREAK

11:30–16:00  Religion in U.S. Literature and Politics  
Chair: Martin Löschnigg

  11:30  Waldemar Zerchasiewicz | University of Vienna  
Critical Perspectives on Self-Sufficing Humanism in Southern Fiction

  12:00  Manfred Siebald | University of Mainz  
Competing Quests for a Hidden God in John Updike’s “Roger’s Version”

  12:30  Carmen Birkle | Philippius-University Marburg  
Science and Religion in U.S.-Pandemic Literature

13:00–15:00  LUNCH BREAK  
Chair: Siegfried Beer

  15:00  Tibor Frank | Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest  
Church and Nation: The Role of Religion in Maintaining National Identity of Hungarian Immigrants in the US, 1880–1914

  15:30  David Staines | University of Ottawa  
Marshall McLuhan, Northrop Frye, and the World

16:00–16:30  COFFEE BREAK
16:30–17:30 Religion in Deconstruction  
Chair: Ludwig Nagl

16:30 John D. Caputo | Syracuse University, NY  
Suspending the Transcendental Signified, Suspending the Supernatural Signified, Upending the Secular/Religious Distinction

17:00 Gertrude Postl | Suffolk County Community College, Seldon, NY  
“This Incredible Need to Believe”: Julia Kristeva’s Reinvention of Secular Humanism at the Crossroad of Religion, Psychoanalysis, and Politics

SATURDAY, 26 MARCH

10:00–11:30 Re-Framing Theological Issues  
Chair: Philipp Gassert

10:00 Christoph Irmscher | Indiana University, Bloomington  
God of the Genome or Shades of Gray? When Belief Seems Preferable to Unbelief

10:30 Michael Hochgeschwender | LM University Munich  
Catholicism in the Defense? The Critique of Modernity in Catholic Neo-Scholastics

11:00 Klaus Viertbauer | Catholic University Eichstätt-Ingolstadt  
Religious Convictions and Public Reason

11:30–12:00 COFFEE BREAK

12:00–13:30 Religion in Poetry, Music and Visual Media  
Chair: Wynfrid Kriegleder

12:00 Alois Woldan | University of Vienna  
Religious Aspects in Ukrainian Poetry: The Case of Vasyl’ Stus

12:30 Federico Celestini | University of Innsbruck  
Gustav Mahler’s Symphonic Transcendence and its Counterparts

13:00 Jörg Türschmann | University of Vienna  
Serial Baroque in the TV Show “American Gods”

13:30 End of Conference