

ICONIC RELIGION

HOW IMAGINARIES OF RELIGIOUS ENCOUNTER STRUCTURE URBAN SPACE

Within ongoing processes of religious pluralisation across Europe materialized religion, in the form of icons in public space, is becoming increasingly important. Iconic Religion focuses on religious icons and icons of religious encounter in the metropolises Amsterdam, Berlin and London. In order to consider the complex nature of icons and to analyse how the religious dimension may become dominant over other dimensions of meaning, Iconic Religion combines spatial, material-aesthetic, visual analysis, and communicative-semiotic approaches with discourse analysis and reception studies. As a measure to maximise knowledge exchange and transfer, a photo exhibition will be prepared. With about 100 photos and texts from interviews illustrating religious encounters, the exhibition will be shown in Bochum, Berlin, Amsterdam, and London.

MONDAY, 17 FEBRUARY 2014

- 17:00 Arrival and Registration
- 17:30 **Welcome Address and Introduction to the Conference's Topic**
Volkhard Krech (Bochum)

KEYNOTE SPEECH

- 18:00 **Iconic Presence: Anthropology and/as Iconology**
Hans Belting (Karlsruhe)
- 19:30 Reception Dinner at *Strätlingshof*, Bochum

TUESDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 2014

- 9:00 Coffee
- 9:30 **Other Ways of Knowing: About Research on Urban Ghosts and Spirits**
Anne Huffs Schmid (Berlin)
- 10:30 **Urban Imaginaries and Religious Icons:
How Religion Takes Place in the City**
Birgit Meyer (Utrecht)

Discussion moderated by Esther Voswinckel (Istanbul)
- 11:30 Coffee break

- 11:45 **Visible Religion: Developments in Visual/Material Culture Studies and Aesthetics of Religion**
Christoph Uehlinger (Zurich)

Discussion moderated by Sven Wortmann (Bochum)

- 13:00 Lunch at *Beckmanns Hof*, Bochum

- 15:00 **Faith in Suburbia: A Shared Photographic Journey**
Claire Dwyer (London)

- 16:00 **Iconic Religion: Spatial Issues and Methods**
Kim Knott (Lancaster)

Discussion moderated by Alexander-Kenneth Nagel (Bochum)

- 17:00 Coffee Break

- 17:15 **Deceptive Silence: Religious Encounter in Multifaith Rooms of Quiet**
Alexander-Kenneth Nagel (Bochum)

Discussion moderated by Ulf Plessentin (Bochum)

- 19:30 Dinner at *Livingroom*, Bochum

WEDNESDAY, 19 FEBRUARY 2014

- 9:00 Coffee

- 9:30 **Exploring Religion through Contemporary Art**
Nika Spalinger (Lucerne)

- 10:30 **How to Exhibit Religion?**

Inspirations from Three Contemporary Approaches
Susanne Lanwerd (Bochum/Berlin)

Discussion moderated by Alexandra Grieser (Dublin)

- 11:30 **Response**
Alexandra Grieser (Dublin)

- 12:00 **Final Discussion and Conclusions** moderated by Jessie Pons (Bochum)

- 13:00 Lunch at *Trattoria Falcone*, Bochum

DIRECTIONS

Public Transportation:

Take the U35 towards Bochum Querenburg (Hustadt) from Bochum Hauptbahnhof (Central Station) and get off at the stop »Ruhr-Universität«. From there you turn right and cross the pedestrian bridge keeping left while you pass the university library. The FNO building is on your left-hand side.

By Car:

The quickest route is via the motorway junction Bochum/Witten, where the A43 and A44 meet. Simply take the exit Bochum-Querenburg, follow the signs "Ruhr-Universität" and then the (electronic) information boards.



CONVENERS

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RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM

ICONIC RELIGION: HOW IMAGINARIES OF RELIGIOUS ENCOUNTER STRUCTURE URBAN SPACE

17–19 February 2014 | FNO 02/40-46

Conveners: Volkhard Krech, Kim Knott, Susanne Lanwerd, Birgit Meyer

