

# 2001 Program Highlights

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## Plenary & Presidential Addresses

### *A Map to the Next World (A25)*

Saturday, 11:30 am-12:30 pm



Joy Harjo, Honolulu, HI

Renowned poet, writer and musician, Joy Harjo was born in Tulsa and is an enrolled member of the Muscogee Nation. She has published six books of poetry, numerous articles, and made several CDs. Her most recent book of poetry is entitled *A Map to The Next World* (W.W. Norton), which will also be the theme of her plenary address.

Her presence in Denver at the AAR Annual Meeting will bring Ms. Harjo back to her musical beginnings as it was there she took up the saxophone. Her band, Joy Harjo and Poetic Justice, combines poetry with music involving elements of tribal musics, jazz, and rock. Ms.

Harjo has attended the Institute of American Indian Arts and the Anthropology Film Center, and earned degrees from the University of New Mexico and the University of Iowa (creative writing). She has taught at Arizona State University, Santa Fe Community College, the Institute of American Indian Arts, the University of Colorado, the University of Arizona, and the University of New Mexico.

### **Presidential Address: *Beyond the Founding Fratricidal Conflict: Scholarship of Religion and a Renewed Public Academy (A80)***

Saturday, 7:15 pm-8:30 pm

Rebecca S. Chopp, Yale University



Rebecca S. Chopp is a 1974 graduate of Kansas Wesleyan University. She received her Master of Divinity in 1977 from St. Paul School of Theology and her Ph.D. from the University of Chicago Divinity School, where she was an Assistant Professor of Theology from 1982-1986. In 1986 she moved to Emory University where she has held many roles. Culminating in 1997, when she became Acting Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Emory, a position which became permanent in 1998, and through which she has acquired wide-ranging experience in all areas of university administration. In Fall of 2001 she became the first female dean of Yale University Divinity School.

Her area of expertise is contemporary theology and culture, with a focus on feminist theology. Among her books are *The Praxis of Suffering: An Interpretation of Liberation and Political Theologies* and *The Power to Speak: Feminism, Language, God*. She is a member of many editorial boards, including those of *Religious Studies Review*, *Religion and Ideology*, *The Quarterly Review*, and *Journal of Religion*.

### ***Theology's Great Sin (A164)***

Sunday, 7:15 pm-8:15 pm

James H. Cone, Union Theological Seminary, New York



James Cone attended Shorter College (1954-56) and holds a B.A. from Philander Smith College (1958). He received his B.D. from Garrett Theological Seminary (1961); the M.A. and Ph.D. from Northwestern University (1963 and 65, respectively). Dr. Cone has been conferred eight honorary degrees, including a Doctor of Divinity (2000) from Garrett Evangelical-Theological Seminary. He is also an ordained minister in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. His research and teaching are in Christian theology, with special attention to Black theology and the theologies of Africa, Asia, and Latin America, as well as twentieth-century European-American theologies.

He is the author of eleven books and over 50 articles and has lectured at more than 800 universities and community organizations throughout the United States, Europe, Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean. He is best known for his groundbreaking works, *Black Theology and Black Power* (1969) *A Black Theology of Liberation* (1970), *God of the Oppressed* (1975) and *Martin and Malcolm and America: A Dream or a Nightmare* (1991). His most recent publication is *Risks of Faith* (1999).

### **Liberation Theology and the Twenty-First Century: Celebrating Past, Present, and Future (A250)**

Monday, 7:15 pm-8:15 pm

Gustavo Gutiérrez, Instituto Bartomé de Las Casas, University of Notre Dame; James H. Cone, Union Theological Seminary, New York City; Letty Russell, Yale University; Orlando Espin, University of San Diego; and Kwok Pui Lan, Episcopal Divinity School

On the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the publication of Gustavo Gutiérrez's *A Theology of Liberation*, the AAR invites our member to celebrate the work of liberation theology in the field and in society.

## **Special Topics Forums**

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The AAR has arranged two open forums in response to the September 11 terrorist attacks:

### **The Teaching and Study of Religion post September 11, 2001 (A271)**

Saturday, November 17, 2001

1:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Brief remarks will be made by: Catherine L. Albanese, University of California, Santa Barbara; Rebecca S. Chopp, Yale University; Vasudha Narayanan, University of Florida; Robert A. Orsi, Harvard University; Peter J. Paris, Princeton Theological Seminary; and Lawrence Sullivan, Harvard University. Discussion with audience to follow.

### **September 11, 2001 and Islam (A272)**

Sunday, November 18, 2001

1:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Brief remarks will be made by: Mark Juergensmeyer, University of California, Santa Barbara; Ebrahim Moosa, Duke University; Zayn Kassam, Pomona College; and Bruce Lawrence, Duke University. Discussion with audience to follow.

Please also see the AAR's Statements on September 11, 2001 page.

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### **The Study of Religion Counts: What We Know (and What We Don't) About the Shape of the Field (A28)**

Saturday, 1:00 pm-3:30 pm

Sponsored by the Academic Relations Task Force

James B. Wiggins, Syracuse University, Presiding

From September 2000 to April 2001, department chairs and program heads in religion and theology at fully accredited colleges and universities across North America responded to the AAR's Census of Religion and Theology Programs supported by a grant from the Lilly Endowment. This special topics forum includes a report on what has been learned from the census about programs, faculty, and enrollments at the undergraduate level; a summary of the research design and data collection strategies deployed; reflections on what the data reveal about the state of the field; and a discussion of measures needed for filling lacunae in our knowledge. Questions from the floor will be especially invited. Panelists include Edward R. Gray, American Academy of Religion; Lance Selfa, National Opinion Research Center; Jonathan Z. Smith, University of Chicago; and Linell E. Cady, Arizona State University.

### **"If I Knew Then What I Know Now": Lessons From the First Year on the Job (A52)**

Saturday, 4:00 pm-6:30 pm

Sponsored by the EIS Advisory Panel

Richard A. Rosengarten, University of Chicago, Presiding

Former users of the EIS Center reflect on and offer advice about the first year on the job during this special topics forum. Panelists will speak to their wisdom and missteps as they contended with developing new courses, teaching new students, completing a dissertation, balancing career and family life, and learning the local cultures of their new department, institution, and locality. Panelists include Faith Kirkham Hawkins, Gustavus Adolphus College; Michael J. Brown, Emory University; and Thomas Pearson, Muhlenberg College.

### **Identity, Scholarship, and Teaching: Studying Religion Cross-Culturally and Ethnically (A53)**

Saturday, 4:00 pm-6:30 pm

Sponsored by the Committee on the Status of Racial and Ethnic Minorities in the Profession

Karen Baker-Fletcher, Claremont School of Theology, Presiding

As students of religion, we often have to teach courses broadly, cutting across religious traditions and cultures that are not our own. The purpose of this panel is to examine the issues, problems, and strategies involved in studying and teaching religion across racial, ethnic, and cultural boundaries. For example, what are the problems and issues of a non-black person studying and teaching African American religion or a non-Muslim doing the same for Islam? Similarly, what issues does a Muslim professor encounter on a largely Christian campus? In recent years, we have also heard about some Native American groups refusing access to non-Native scholars. What are the moral responsibilities of scholars of religion? What strategies have been employed in teaching and scholarship to deal sensitively with racial, ethnic, and cultural boundaries? The following panelists will share their experiences and insights on these and related issues: José I. Cabezón, Iliff School of Theology; Laura Donaldson, Cornell University; Chris Jocks, Dartmouth College; Lawrence Mamiya, Vassar College; and Amina Wadud, Virginia Commonwealth University. Diana L. Eck will respond.

Interested persons are invited to a reception hosted by the AAR's Committee on Racial and Ethnic Minorities in the Profession directly following this session.

### **Introduction to the AAR (A77)**

Saturday, 5:00 pm-6:15 pm

Sponsored by the Student Liaison Group

Edward R. Gray, American Academy of Religion Presiding

This session provides an orientation to AAR structures, publication programs, and services. A brief presentation will be given and ample opportunity for questions and general discussion will follow.

### **CANCELLED**

### **~~Law Enforcement, the Media, and Religious Groups in Crisis Situations: A Simulation (A89)~~**

~~Sunday, 9:00 am-11:30 am~~

~~Sponsored by the Committee on the Public Understanding of Religion~~

~~Eugene V. Gallagher, Connecticut College, Presiding~~

~~The prolonged negotiations between agents of the FBI and members of the Branch Davidian community at the Mount Carmel Center from February 28 to April 19, 1993 highlighted the complex nature of such interactions and raised questions about how law enforcement agents interpret religious statements and actions, how religious groups interpret the intervention of law enforcement, how media reports shape crisis negotiation situations, and how all involved can work to achieve peaceful conclusions such standoffs. In this special session agents from the FBI will present an extended simulation of a crisis simulation, respond to questions and comments from the panelists, and engage in open discussion with the audience. Panelists include Michael Barkun, Syracuse University; Mary Walsh, CBS News; and Catherine Wessinger, Loyola University, New Orleans.~~

### **CANCELLED**

### **Crossing Boundaries and Creating Connections: Religion and the Research University (A113)**

Sunday, 1:00 pm-3:30 pm

Sponsored by the Program Committee

Rebecca S. Chopp, Yale University, Presiding

President emeritus of Georgetown University, Leo J. O'Donovan, and president of Columbia

University, George Rupp sit down together to discuss contemporary U.S. higher education; its challenges; and implications for the study of religion and theology.

### **Religion and Society After the Aum Affair (A138)**

Sunday, 4:00 pm-6:30 pm

Sponsored by the Committee on International Connections

Manabu Watanabe, Nanzan University, Presiding

After the Aum affair in 1995 a number of changes happened inside and outside of Japan. It is especially necessary for us to reflect on the relationship between religion and society in the new context of active control by the government over new religious movements. Panelists include Yoshihide Sakurai, Hoggai University and Robert Kisala, Nanzan University. Catherine Wessinger, Loyola University, New Orleans and Irving Hexham, University of Calgary will respond.

### **Digital Culture: Critical Implications of Technology for Religious Studies Teaching and Research (A139)**

Sunday, 4:00 pm-6:30 pm

Sponsored by the New Technologies Task Force

David Suiter, Regis College, Presiding

This session will focus on critical issues that new technologies pose for religious studies scholars in their research, teaching, and other professional activities. Presenters include Carl Raschke, University of Denver; Anne Foerst, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Harold W. Anderson, Iliff School of Theology; Alfred Benney, Fairfield University; and Brenda E. Brasher, Mount Union College.

### **Who Says My Degree Isn't Practical? Careers in Religion Publishing and Writing (A161)**

Sunday, 4:30 pm-6:00 pm

Sponsored by the American Academy of Religion, [Publisher's Weekly](#), and the [Society of Biblical Literature](#)

The concept of public scholarship has become increasingly important to today's academics, in religion as in other fields. One of the primary ways religion academics become "public scholars" who help shape the wider culture is by writing books for general audiences. In the past decade, as public interest in religion and spirituality has risen, many such books have enjoyed notable commercial success. This year's special session features a panel discussing the topic alternative careers in writing and publishing with a degree in religion, theology, and/or Bible.

### **Faith Based on What? Feminist Scholars of Religion Speak Out About Public Policy and the Bush II Administration (A175)**

Monday, 9:00 am-11:30 am

Sponsored by the Committee on the Status of Women in the Profession

Janet R. Jakobsen, Barnard College, Presiding

Religion has been much in the news in 2001, mainly because of President Bush's proposal to establish an office for faith-based social service provision. This session will expand the public debate by raising a number of related issues that have been identified and analyzed by feminist scholars of religion who focus on the intersections among issues, but rarely touched upon in the press. Public debates have rarely included discussion of the implicit way the word "religion" in U.S. law and policy refers to enlightenment Protestantism or the way in which the rhetoric of "faith-based initiatives" identifies morality with (the Christian) religion, and only with certain (conservative) understandings of religious morality and charity. As a result, the rhetoric around

"faith-based initiatives" can undermine public discussion about issues of social justice, social responsibility and the role of government in the creation of the common good, while ignoring the public voices of religious persons and groups that are not those commonly identified with conservative morality. For example, questions of religious freedom have been central to discussions of faith-based initiatives, but have rarely moved beyond the now requisite recitation of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Such discussions almost never include the fundamental question of religious freedom for Native Americans where religious freedom is tied to issues such as land rights and the environment. These and other issues, such as environmental racism, will be discussed by panelists Rita Nakashima Brock, Harvard University; Mary Churchill, University of Colorado at Boulder; Joan Martin, Episcopal Divinity School; Mary Hunt, Women's Alliance for Theology, Ethics and Ritual; and Judith Plaskow, Manhattan College.

### **Religion in the Schools Day (A176)**

Monday, 9:00 am-10:00 am

Sponsored by the Religion in the Schools Task Force

Edward R. Gray, American Academy of Religion, Presiding

The Religion in the Schools Task Force sponsors this program bringing a corps of religious studies scholars to Denver area public schools throughout the day (Monday, November 19, 2001.) These visits, arranged in cooperation with Denver area teachers, highlight areas of "natural inclusion" of the study of religion into existing high school curricula. Members of the visiting corps will meet at this time for orientation. Guests interested in this project and other AAR initiatives in promoting teaching about religion in the schools are welcome at this session; visitors may observe certain projects. For more information about this session, or to volunteer to take part, please email Edward R. Gray, Director of the Academic Relations Program in the AAR Executive Offices at [egray@aarweb.org](mailto:egray@aarweb.org).

### **Ethnic and Religious Pluralism in the Classroom: What Can We Learn from the British Experience? (A201)**

Monday, 1:00 pm-3:30 pm

Sponsored by the Committee on Teaching and Learning, [Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion](#); and the [Leeds Learning and Teaching Support Network, Philosophical and Religious Studies Subject Centre](#).

Michael Battle, Duke University, Presiding

Universities in Britain have experienced a remarkable increase in ethnic and religious diversity in religious studies classrooms similar to that in North America. Colleagues from Britain will describe the context and missions of their departments and both the theoretical issues they have engaged and the practical applications in teaching and learning they have developed responding to that pluralism. The goal will be to learn more about best practices of teaching and learning in classes of ethnically and religiously diverse students by comparisons and contrasts between the British and North American experiences. Participants in the discussion from Britain will be Hugh Pyper, University of Leeds; David Jasper, University of Glasgow; Ann Loades, University of Durham; and Chakravarti Ram-Prasad, Lancaster University. Participants from North America will be Michael Battle, Duke University, Presider; Carol Duncan, Wilfrid Laurier University; and Raymond B. Williams, Wabash College.

### **Ninian Smart and the International Study of Religion (A225)**

Monday, 3:45 pm-5:45 pm

Sponsored by the Committee on International Connections, the University of California, Santa Barbara and the University of Lancaster

Mary McGee, Columbia University, Presiding

This panel honors Ninian Smart, late past president of the American Academy of Religion, and his contributions to internationalizing the study of religion. Panelists will examine Smart's academic legacy as well as how his contributions move us forward in shaping the academic study of religion in the twenty-first century. Panelists include Deborah Sawyer, Lancaster University; Chakravarthi Ram-Prasad, Lancaster University; Juan E. Campo, University of California, Santa Barbara; Gavin Hyman, University of Lancaster; Ursula King, University of Bristol; John Sawyer, Lancaster University; and Richard D. Hecht, University of California, Santa Barbara. A brief remembrance service will immediately follow this session in the same room.

## **Pre-Conference Programs**

Please note, some pre-conference workshops require separate registration.

### **Chairs Workshop (A1-A5)**

Friday, 8:00 am-4:00 pm

Sponsored by the Academic Relations Program and the Strengthening College and University Religion and Theology Programs, an initiative supported by a grant from the Lilly Endowment, Inc.

Edward Gray, American Academy of Religion, Presiding

Virtually every department and program in religion assesses faculty teaching performance. Some do it effectively while others do not. This interactive workshop led by Peter Seldin, a nationally recognized expert on teaching and evaluation, will focus on new lessons learned about evaluating teaching to help chairs and other program leaders develop the knowledge and skill needed to more successfully use different techniques and approaches to assess and improve teaching. Participants will learn to develop more effective means of evaluating teaching; how to use available data for improved performance and tenure/promotion decisions; and what to do and what not to do in the process.

See the Evaluating and Advancing Teaching in the Religious Studies Department: An Annual Meeting Chairs Workshop page for a full description and registration form. *Separate registration required.*

### **Religion and Media Workshop (A7-A11)**

Friday, 9:00 am-5:00 pm

Sponsored by the Committee on Public Understanding of Religion; Religion and Popular Culture Group; Religion, Film, and Visual Culture Group; Religion, Culture and Communication Consultation; and SBL's [Bible in Ancient and Modern Media Section](#)

Stewart M. Hoover, University of Colorado at Boulder, Presiding

What do media and religion have to do with each other? How do we study these complex cultural phenomena and their intersections? This one day pre-conference seminar will bring together AAR and SBL members interested in conversation about the many relationships between media and religion. The program will include a lunch time key note address by Lynn Neary, senior correspondent on the culture desk at National Public Radio who covered their religion beat for six years. Other presenters from within AAR and SBL and generous time for guided conversations will provide the opportunity to think together about: 1) the breadth and range of the phenomena that fit under the "media and religion" umbrella; 2) the theories and

methods which help to relate and analyze religion and media; 3) creating an interdisciplinary conversation which can bring together participants with varied backgrounds, interest and fields; and finally 4) addressing issues in teaching religion and media.

**Separate registration required.** See the registration form in the Program Book or download a registration form (requires PDF).

### **Women's Caucus Workshop (A12)**

Friday, 12:00 pm-5:00 pm

Young Lee Hertig, United Theological Seminary, Presiding

This annual workshop sponsored by the Women's Caucus includes updates from the AAR and SBL's Status of Women in the Professions Committees, and information about grant writing and interviewing strategies. There there will also be an opportunity to network with other women in the field. This year panelists include Laurel Scheimder, Chicago Theological Seminary; Elizabeth A. Say, California State University, Northridge; and Linda A. Moody, Mills College.

### **EIS Center Orientation (A13)**

Friday, 7:00 pm-9:00 pm

Edward R. Gray and Emily Noonan, American Academy of Religion, Presiding

At this year's orientation, there will be a "how-to" tour of the EIS Center. In addition a recently successful EIS Center candidate and employer will lead a discussion on how to make the most use of the EIS Center.

## **Arts Series Presentations & Tours**

### **Injustice in the Landscape of North Denver: Local Snapshots of Environmental Racism (A20)**

Saturday, 8:30 am-11:30 am

Sponsored by the Religion and Ecology Group, CLAASP, and [COPEEN](#)

The landscape of Denver contains both liberative beauty and stifling oppression. Even though we live in a multicultural democracy, continuing barriers of race and class provide challenges to those of us who help students reflect on the roles of religion in contemporary society. This "Toxic Tour" will include a number of sites in North Denver, and can be used as an experiential model for both campus/community collaboration and teaching about issues of eco-social context.

Your guides are Beth Blissman, Oberlin College and Loraine Granado, co-founder of [COPEEN](#) (Colorado People's Environmental and Economic Network) and Michael McClain, Rhodes College. There is a US\$15 fee for this tour. See the registration form in the Program Book or download a registration form (requires PDF).

### **Museo de las Américas (A21)**

Saturday, 9:00 am-11:30 am

Sponsored by the Native Traditions in the Americas Group; Religion in Latin America and Caribbean Group; and U.S. Latina/o Religion, Culture, and Society Group

The [Museo de las Américas](#) is the first museum in Colorado that is dedicated to educating the public about the artistic and cultural achievements of Latinos in the Americas on a continuing basis. The purpose and mission of the museum is to foster understanding of and appreciation for the achievements of the Latino people of the Americas by collecting, preserving and interpreting



the diverse art, history, and cultures of this region from ancient times to the present. Your guide is a member of the museum staff. There is a US\$10 fee for this guided tour. See the registration form in the Program Book or download a registration form (requires PDF).

### **CANCELLED**

#### **Arts Series Performance: ~~Baritone, Robert Gardner (A163)~~**

~~Sunday, 5:45 pm-6:45 pm~~

~~Diane Apostolos-Cappadona, Georgetown University, Presiding~~



~~Robert Gardner began his musical studies in a family of fifteen musicians in Denver, Colorado. His first apprenticeship with the Santa Fe Opera yielded further vocal training with Doris and Richard Cross and Sherrill Milnes at Yale University. Mr. Gardner is a 2001 Pro Musicis International Award winner, the 2000 winner and 1999 second place winner of the Denver Lyric Opera Competition, recipient of the 1999 William Matheus Sullivan Foundation award and a 2000 Gerda Lissner Foundation award. The 1998 Amici Competition winner, he was a 1998 nominee for a Richard Tucker Foundation grant. Last summer, Mr. Gardner appeared for his second season in a major role at Spoleto Festival USA, for whom he also repeated~~

~~his unique interpretation of the National Anthem at Opening Ceremonies, then sang at the Ravinia Festival in Chicago, and finally in Seoul, Korea in Orff's *Carmina Burana* with the Taejun Symphony. This season, Mr. Gardner's engagements include two concerts in Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher Hall singing *Carmina Burana* and Beethoven's *9th Symphony* among other U.S. regional engagements.~~

### **CANCELLED**

#### **Arts Series Performance: The Colorado Choir (A165)**

Sunday, 8:15 pm-9:30 pm

Diane Apostolos-Cappadona, Georgetown University, Presiding



The Colorado Choir, founded in 1976, is one of the most dynamic influences in the Colorado music scene. In its history, it has presented more than fifty performances with the Denver Symphony Orchestra. Today the choir specializes in performing compositions for a cappella choir. In 1995, the choir performed with the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra in McNichols Arena in Denver and shortly thereafter was invited

to perform with pop star Celine Dion at Red Rocks outdoor amphitheater. The choir has sung the National Anthem to open games for the Denver Broncos and Colorado Rockies. While principally an a cappella choir, the group does perform accompanied works as well as occasional major works with orchestra.

#### **Walking Tour of Denver's Religious and Civic Sites (A200)**

Monday, 1:00 pm-3:30 pm

Sponsored by the North American Religions Section

This year's tour will be a walking tour of religious and civic sites in downtown Denver and the adjoining Capitol Hill district. Featured will be two classic auditorium churches, Trinity United Methodist and Central Presbyterian. The tour may be left at any time. There is no fee.

Your guides are Jeanne Halgren Kilde, Macalester College and Peter W. Williams, Miami

University.

See the registration form in the Program Book or download a registration form (requires PDF).

### **Arts Series Performance: Middle Eastern Dance (A251)**

Monday, 8:30 pm - 10:00 pm

Diane Apostolos-Cappadona, Georgetown University, Presiding



Suzanna Del Vecchio is an Oriental Dance Artist whose work is celebrated internationally. She has been involved in the art of dance since 1975. She teaches and performs internationally as well as nation wide. Her choreographies have been selected by members of the Colorado Dance Alliance to be included in their Colorado Choreographers' Showcase for three consecutive years. In February of 1998 she was invited and participated in the University of Wyoming's dance department's national Dance Festival as a Master Teacher. In December of 1997 she was awarded "Best Choreography" for her dance entitled "Passion" from the G.A.M.A.L. Academy Awards of Middle Eastern Dance, and in August of 1998 she was awarded

"Choreographer of the Year" from the International Academy of Middle Eastern Dance. Her performances are soulful and always artistically presented.

## **Films**

### **Princess Mononoke (A14)**

Friday, 7:00 pm-9:30 pm

Sponsored by the Religion, Film, and Visual Culture Group

Randal Lee Cummings, California State University, Northridge, Presiding

Although many avoid animation as a simplistic form of story-telling, Hayao Miyazaki, a great animator, has been able to create a drama of deep humanism in *Princess Mononoke*. It tells an epic story set in medieval Japan, at the dawn of the Iron Age, when humans were still capable of living in harmony with nature, while others were trying to tame and defeat it. More complex than a tale about good and evil, this story shows how humans, forest animals and nature gods all fight for their place in the new emerging order. There is much that can be drawn from this film for ecology and religion scholars. The story begins with a disturbance in nature. Ashitaka, a prince, comes to the defense of his village which it is attacked by a boar-god. The prince is infected with an incurable disease by this god turned monster. The prince sets off to the lands of the West to find a cure and to understand why nature has been disturbed. He eventually finds himself in the middle of a battle between the animal inhabitants of the forest and an iron mining town that is exploiting and killing the forest. Leading the forest animals in the battle is a human raised by wolves, a young woman known as Princess Mononoke (her real name being San). Japanese animation has found wide appeal for its technical brilliance and cultural synthesis of both Western and Eastern images. This fantasy world has strong parallels in the real world of human interaction. We are able to appreciate the quality of Miyazaki's artistry through the sights and adventures of the prince. The drawings are based on the same "clear line" complexity used by the Japanese graphic artists of two centuries ago, who inspired such modern works as Herge's *Tintin* books. Miyazaki's art directors journeyed to ancient forests to make their master drawings, adding to the majestic quality of the movie.

Directed by Hayao Miyazaki, 1999, 133 minutes (Color, USA version).

[Enemies of War](#) (A81)

Saturday, 8:30 pm-10:00 pm

Sponsored by the Religion in Latin America and the Caribbean Group

Anna Peterson, University of Florida, Presiding

It's 1989 and eight years into El Salvador's civil war, a conflict fueled by billions of dollars in aid from the U.S. government. Six Jesuit priests lay brutally murdered, the latest casualties in a war that would claim at least 75,000 lives. *Enemies of War* examines these unspeakable murders and the story of El Salvador's people as they pick up the pieces after incalculable losses. We meet Margarita Acosta de Alas, who fights the repressive Salvadorian government, and Congressman Joe Moakley, sent to investigate the truth about the murders. These compelling characters tell the story of El Salvador's brave, yet daunting journey to peace and democracy.

Directed by Esther Cassidy, 2000, 57 minutes, Color and Black & White, USA.

[2001: A Space Odyssey](#) (A84)

Saturday, 8:30 pm-11:00 pm

Sponsored by the Religion, Film, and Visual Culture Group

Tony S. L. Michael, University of Toronto, Presiding

The central image of *2001: A Space Odyssey*, a rectangular black monolith, appears from the unknown and sparks a new stage in human evolution. This classic film, based on the short story *The Sentinel* by Arthur C. Clarke, inspired a new genre of science fiction and many a religious conjecture about the meaning of this black monolith. *2001* is considered a timeless classic for many reasons, including its scrupulous scientific accuracy, its vast reach from "The Dawn of Humanity" to the next stage of human evolution, its unrivaled integration of musical and visualized narrative, its meticulous and deliberate dialogues and silences, and its still-amazing pre-digital special effects. Beginning with God's eye-view, the film begins with a black screen until there is light; the darkness reveals the dark side of the moon, then the earth and the sun rising behind it. This new perspective ignites our imagination and curiosity. It offers us life and death, beginnings and endings. In the film, a space mission to Jupiter is led by Bowman (Keir Dullea) and Poole (Gary Lockwood), in order to trace signals being transmitted there by a monolith discovered on Earth's moon. Overseeing the voyage is a supercomputer known as HAL 9000 (voice of Douglas Rain). It should not go unnoticed that each letter of HAL's name is exactly one before IBM. The main reason this movie still holds our attention more than 30 years after its making, is its respect for its own mystery. Its vision of what science-fiction authors call "first contact," the first brush of homo sapiens with some other intelligent species, remains disturbingly and enticingly spectral. Using the image of the unknown monolith and its purpose, the ambiguity in *2001: A Space Odyssey* leaves us with profound questions to ponder in our own evolution (although Clarke's other *2001* novels do offer detailed answers to virtually all the film's questions for those who still want them).

Directed by Stanley Kubrick, 1968, 139 minutes (Color, USA).

[Andre's Lives](#) (A166)

Sunday, 8:30 pm-10:30 pm

Sponsored by the Religion in Central and Eastern Europe Consultation

J. Shawn Landres, University of California, Los Angeles, Presiding

*Andre's Lives* explores the tension between the collective obligation to remember and the personal need to forget. Bauhaus-trained architect Andre Steiner saved 7,000 Slovak Jews. A member of the Jewish "Working Group" in Tiso's nazified Slovak State, Steiner bribed German and Slovak officials in order to build labor camps that kept Jews employed and relatively safe. After the war, Steiner became a successful architect in Atlanta, Georgia. He never looked back or

shared his story. His silence cost him his marriage, distanced him from his sons, and stripped him of emotional connections. At 89, Steiner returned to Europe with his sons to grapple with traumatic memories for the first time. He began to forge new relationships, with his sons and his past. His resistance to exploring his history unfolds on camera, as father and sons struggle to make sense of the present by wrestling with the past.

Directed by Bradley Lichtenstein, 1999, 55 minutes (Black & White, USA).

### **Fight Club (A167)**

Sunday, 8:30 pm-10:30 pm

Sponsored by the Religion, Film, and Visual Culture Group

Amir Hussain, California State University, Northridge, Presiding

Directed by David Fincher, and screenplay by Jim Uhls (based on the novel by Chuck Palahniuk), *Fight Club* is a complex and sometimes disturbing film about the depths of the human psyche. Often scathing and humorous, it makes us reconsider the consumerist value system in contemporary society in search of something more mysterious, ambiguous, and non-material. Sick of his anonymous life, dead end, corporate career and disgusted with the empty consumer culture that his generation has been doomed to inherit, Edward Norton (the unnamed Narrator of the film) is desperate to find something meaningful. His life changes when he meets Tyler Durden (Brad Pitt) who is everything our narrator is not: Durden is a man with a vision. After an evening of bonding brawling with each other, they create Fight Club, an underground organization where young men and not-so-young men meet their spiritual needs by beating each other to a pulp. Tyler Durden, the club's founder, quickly becomes a cult hero of epic proportions, a new messiah for a dead generation. This film is replete with imagery and metaphor that is fertile soil for extracting religious meaning. There have been as many interpretations of what the essential message of this film is as there have been viewers. Punctuated with biting humor and irony, this film offers for many a heavy critique of corporate America while at the same time questioning the evil inherent in the status quo.

Directed by David Fincher, 1999, 139 minutes (Color and Black & White, USA).

### **Veterans of Hope Project: Bernice Johnson Reagon: The Singing Warrior and Andrew Young: Minister to the Beloved Community (A168)**

Sunday, 8:30 pm-10:30 pm

Sponsored by the Afro-American Religious History Group

Vincent Harding, Iliff School of Theology, Presiding

The Veterans of Hope Project: A Center for the Study of Religion and Democratic Renewal is an experiment in creative education for humane, spirit-grounded social change. Based at the Iliff School of Theology in Denver, Colorado, the project sponsors courses, a videotaped interview series, lectures, retreats and other programs addressing the connections between religion and social transformation. The centerpiece of the work of the Veterans of Hope Project is the development of an educational video archive. For the archive, the project conducts public interview-conversations with religious leaders, activists, artists, educators and others who are veterans of struggles for peace and justice in this country and in other parts of the world. In videotaped interviews these men and women are invited to reflect on the role of religion/spirituality in their life and work. The films shown will be *Bernice Johnson Reagon: The Singing Warrior* and *Andrew Young: Minister to the Beloved Community*.

### **Aimée & Jaguar (A252)**

Monday, 8:30 pm-11:00 pm

Sponsored by the Lesbian-Feminist Issues and Religion Group and Religion, Film, and Visual

Culture Group

Sue E. Houchins, Harvard University, Presiding

*Aimée & Jaguar* is a superbly directed and acted German film about the power of love in 1943 Nazi Germany. Based on the true story (taken from a book written by Erica Fisher) the film is about a lesbian relationship that developed between a mother of four, married to a Nazi officer, and a young Jewish woman who was part of the resistance underground. Director Max Färberböck sets the stage in modern day Germany with the former Nazi woman Lilly (Juliane Kohler) confronting an old friend. Told in a voice-over flashback we see how Lilly met her lover-to-be, Felice (Maria Schrader), through a mutual friend. Lilly and Felice strike a friendship and in time Lilly realizes that she has found the love she has always wanted. What Lilly does not know is that Felice is a Jewish woman disguising herself as a Nazi. An unusual and passionate love between them blossoms despite the danger of persecution and nightly bombing raids during WWII. *Aimée & Jaguar* is subtly directed, beautiful to look at, and excellently paced. Fäberböck allows us to feel the passion through magnificent performances and visually stunning camerawork.

Directed by Max Fäberböck, 1999, 126 minutes (Color and Black & White, Germany).

### **Sessions on Professional Practices & Institutional Location**

Strengthening the profession, qua profession, is a continued focus for the Academy. This year's Annual Meeting includes new opportunities to engage a range of issues around professional practices and the relationship between institutional location and intellectual identity.

#### **Chairs Workshop (A1-A5)**

Friday, 8:00 am-4:00 pm

#### **Religion and Media Workshop (A7-A11)**

Friday, 9:00 am-5:00 pm

#### **Women's Caucus Workshop (A12)**

Friday, 12:00 pm-5:00 pm

#### **EIS Center Orientation (A13)**

Friday, 7:00 pm-9:00 pm

#### **The Study of Religion Counts: What We Know (and What We Don't) about the Shape of the Field (A28)**

Saturday, 1:00 pm-3:30 pm

#### **Teaching as Autobiography: First Year Courses and Experiences (A29)**

Saturday, 1:00 pm-3:30 pm

#### **"If I Knew Then What I Know Now": Lessons From the First Year on the Job (A52)**

Saturday, 4:00 pm-6:30 pm

#### **Identity, Scholarship and Teaching: Studying Religion Cross-Culturally and Ethnically (A53)**

Saturday, 4:00 pm-6:30 pm

**Crossing Boundaries and Creating Connections: Religion and the Research University (A113)**

Sunday, 1:00 pm-3:30 pm

**Digital Culture: Critical Implications of Technology for Religious Studies Teaching and Research (A139)**

Sunday, 4:00 pm-6:30 pm

**Religion in the Schools Day (A176)**

Monday, 9:00 am-10:00 am

**Ethnic and Religious Pluralism in the Classroom: What Can We Learn from the British Experience? (A201)**

Monday, 1:00 pm-3:30 pm

**Books Under Discussion**

**North American Religions Section (A33)**

Saturday, 1:00 pm-3:30 pm

Grant Wacker, *Heaven Below: Early Pentecostals and American Culture*

**Religion and the Social Sciences Section and Womanist Approaches to Religion and Society Group (A97)**

Sunday, 9:00 am-11:30 am

Cheryl Townsend Gilkes, *If It Wasn't for the Women: Black Women's Experience and Womanist Culture in Church and Community*

**Theology and Religious Reflection Section (A101)**

Sunday, 9:00 am-11:30 am

John Thiel, *Senses of Tradition*, and Terrence Tilley, *Inventing Catholic Tradition*

**Women and Religion Section and Lesbian-Feminist Issues and Religion Group (A102)**

Sunday, 9:00 am-11:30 am

Marcella Maria Althaus-Reid, *Indecent Theology: Theological Per/versions in Sex, Gender, and Politics*

**Native Traditions in the Americas Group (A106)**

Sunday, 9:00 am-11:30 am

Vine Deloria, Jr., *Singing for a Spirit; God Is Red: A Native View of Religion*; and *Red Earth, White Lies: Native Americans and the Myth of Scientific Fact*

**Theology and Continental Philosophy Group (A110)**

Sunday, 9:00 am-11:30 am

Robert R. Williams, *Hegel's Ethics of Recognition* and Robert Gibbs, *Why Ethics?: Signs of Responsibility*.

**Chinese Religions Group (A124)**

Sunday, 1:00 pm-3:30 pm

J. J. Clarke, *The Tao of the West, Western Transformations of Taoist Thought*

**Arts, Literature, and Religion Section (A140)**

Sunday, 4:00 pm-6:30 pm

Lynda Sexson, *Ordinarily Sacred*

**Philosophy of Religion Section (A145)**

Sunday, 4:00 pm-6:30 pm

Pamela Sue Anderson, *A Feminist Philosophy of Religion: The Rationality and Myths of Religious Belief*; Grace M. Jantzen, *Becoming Divine: Towards a Feminist Philosophy of Religion*; and Ellen T. Armour, *Deconstruction, Feminist Theology, and the Problem of Difference: Subverting the Race/Gender Divide*

**Theology and Religious Reflection Section and Kierkegaard, Religion, and Culture Group (A208)**

Monday, 1:00 pm-3:30 pm

Martin J. Matušítk, *Postnational Identity: Critical Theory and Existential Philosophy in Habermas, Kierkegaard, and Havel*

**North American Religions Section (A230)**

Monday, 4:00 pm-6:00 pm

Diana L. Eck, *A New Religious America: How a "Christian Country" Has Become the World's Most Religiously Diverse Nation*

**Gay Men's Issues in Religion Group (A240)**

Monday, 4:00 pm-6:30 pm

Mark D. Jordan, *The Silence of Sodom: Homosexuality in Modern Catholicism*

**Academic Teaching and the Study of Religion Section (A254)**

Tuesday, 9:00 am-11:30 am

American Association for Higher Education, *Service Learning and Religious Studies*

**Receptions and Breakfasts**

**Department Chairs Brunch (A24)**

Saturday, 11:00 am-12:15 pm

Edward R. Gray, American Academy of Religion, Presiding

The AAR's Academic Relations Program invites chairs of departments to a brunch to learn more about enrolling in the AAR's newest initiative: Institutional Memberships. Seating is limited to the first 50 chairs, please RSVP to [chairs@aarweb.org](mailto:chairs@aarweb.org).

**Scholars to Schools Luncheon (A27)**

Saturday, 12:30 pm-2:00 pm

The AAR's Religion in the Schools Task Force invites secondary school teachers to join scholars

in the fields of world religions, ethics, American religious history, Bible, and religion and literature for conversation about the challenges and opportunities in teaching young adult learners about religion. The luncheon will also include a progress report on activities of the task force, the Freedom Forum, the Council on Islamic Education, and the Council for Spiritual and Ethical Education. Panelists include Jon Butler, Yale University; Bruce Grelle, California State University, Chico; D. Keith Naylor, Occidental College; Katrina M. Poetker, Fresno Pacific University; and Stephen Kaplan, Manhattan College. Advance reservations necessary, please email [ristf@aarweb.org](mailto:ristf@aarweb.org) to express interest.

**AAR Donors Reception (A78)**

Saturday, 5:30 pm-6:45 pm

Individuals whose generosity has allowed us to continue many of our special programs are invited to a reception hosted by the AAR Board of Directors to learn about some exciting new initiatives.

**Reception for Racial and Ethnic Minority Members (A79)**

Saturday, 6:15 pm-7:00 pm

Interested persons are invited to a reception celebrating the contributions of racial and ethnic minority scholars in the Academy.

**AAR Members Reception (A83)**

Saturday, 8:30 pm-10:00 pm

Back by popular demand, AAR members are invited to join one another at the re-instated AAR Members Reception. This year the reception is complete with music and dancing.

**Women's Caucus Reception (A85)**

Saturday, 9:00 pm-11:00 pm

The AAR's Womanist Approaches to Religion and Society Group and the Women's Caucus invite interested persons to a reception honoring women's contributions in the Academy.

**AAR Annual Business Meeting and Continental Breakfast (A88)**

Sunday, 7:30 am-8:45 am

AAR members are encouraged to join the AAR's Board of Directors for the annual business meeting of the Academy. A light breakfast will be provided.

**Retired Members Reception (A162)**

Sunday, 5:30 pm-6:30 pm

All members of the AAR who are retired from full-time employment are cordially invited to an open house hosted by Barbara DeConcini, AAR executive director, and Rebecca Chopp, president.

**JAAR Editorial Board Reception (A169)**

Sunday, 8:30 pm-10:00 pm

JAAR Editorial Board members are invited to a reception in their honor.

**Reception for Religion Scholars in Part-Time, Adjunct, Independent, and Nonacademic Positions (A170)**

Sunday, 9:00 pm-10:00 pm

This conversation and reception, hosted by Mark Lloyd Taylor of the AAR's Board of Directors,



will explore ways in which the AAR might better support members employed in part-time, administrative, or nonacademic positions. Planning toward a session on adjunct teaching issues within the program of a future annual meeting will continue.

### **International Members Continental Breakfast (A174)**

Monday, 7:30 am-8:45 am

All AAR international attendees are invited to an information session and continental breakfast hosted by the AAR's Committee on International Connections.

### **Reception for Program Unit Chairs and Steering Committee Members (A253)**

Monday, 9:00 pm-10:30 pm

AAR program unit chairs and steering committee members are invited to a reception in their honor hosted by the AAR's Program Committee.

## **Especially for Students**

### **Student Liaison Group Business Meeting (A22)**

Saturday 9:00 am-10:45 am

Appointed and elected Student Liaison Group members will gather to discuss business.

### **Introduction to the AAR (A77)**

Saturday, 5:00 pm-6:15 pm

This session provides an orientation to AAR structures, publication programs, and services. A brief presentation will be given and ample opportunity for questions and general discussion will follow.

### **Reception for Student Members (A86)**

Saturday 10:00 pm-11:00 pm

AAR and SBL student members are invited to drop by an open house hosted by the AAR and SBL executive staffs.

### **Who Says My Degree Isn't Practical? Careers in Religion Publishing and Writing (A161)**

Sunday, 4:30 pm-6:00 pm

The concept of public scholarship has become increasingly important to today's academics, in religion as in other fields. One of the primary ways religion academics become "public scholars" who help shape the wider culture is by writing books for general audiences. In the past decade, as public interest in religion and spirituality has risen, many such books have enjoyed notable commercial success. This year's special session features a panel discussing the topic alternative careers in writing and publishing with a degree in religion, theology, and/or Bible.

### **Students Talk About Teaching Luncheon: "The Transition from Student to Teacher" (A199)**

Monday, 11:45 am-12:45 pm

The [Wabash Center](#) cordially invites AAR student members to gather for conversation with experienced faculty about the emerging identity of a new teacher. A light lunch will be provided. Attendance is limited to the first 50 students who sign up. Please view the 2001 Annual Meeting Wabash Student Luncheon RSVP page to sign up.

Be sure to see the Student Pages on this website, as well.