



PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY

DIANE AND GUILFORD GLAZER
INSTITUTE FOR JEWISH STUDIES

SURVEYING
Sacred Space

AN INTERDISCIPLINARY,
INTERFAITH SYMPOSIUM

PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY
February 17 & 18, 2012

SURVEYING *Sacred Space*

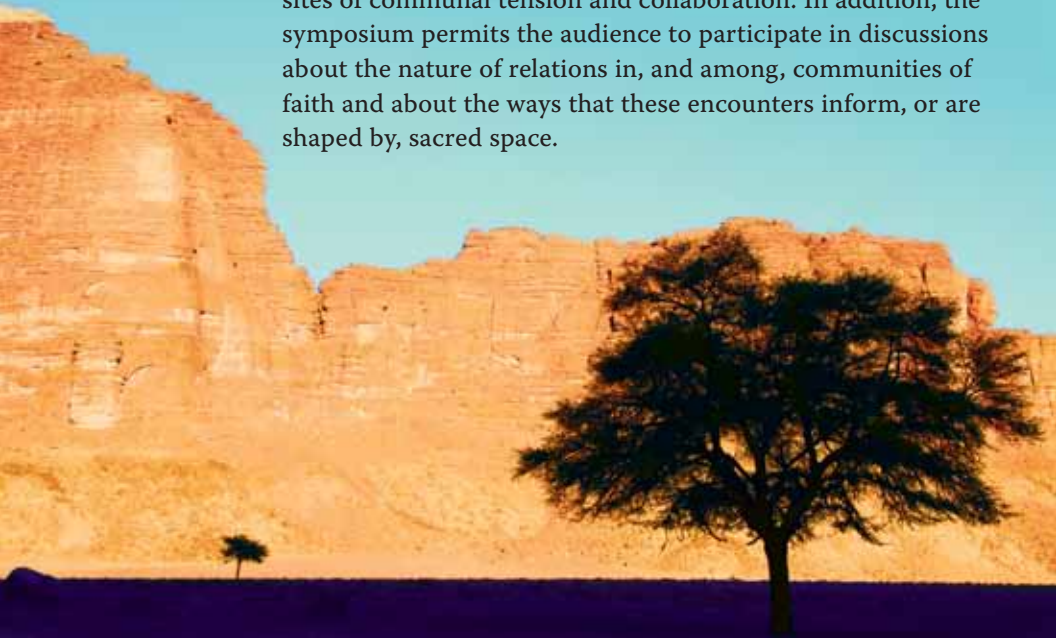
AN INTERDISCIPLINARY, INTERFAITH SYMPOSIUM

PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY • February 17 & 18, 2012

Seven specialist scholars of sacred space from universities across the country have come to Pepperdine to engage and collaborate with faculty and students from different divisions in an interdisciplinary symposium on space, place, and religious meaning in the Abrahamic and other traditions. These visiting scholars will present on a range of topics, including gendered spaces in Judaism, the role of church architecture in modern American faith, and ritual practices in Asia—to name but a few.

Approaching from a variety of different disciplines, Pepperdine faculty members will be presenting on such subjects as: the negotiation of Jewish ritual space in Los Angeles; holy places and political geography in 21st-century Israel; and Muslim spaces of the later Ottoman Empire. A group of Pepperdine undergraduates will also present their research or participate in debates on issues of historical and contemporary relevance in the study of ritual space.

This unique gathering of Pepperdine faculty and students with specialist visiting scholars provides a productive forum for examining theories, research methods, current events, and sites of communal tension and collaboration. In addition, the symposium permits the audience to participate in discussions about the nature of relations in, and among, communities of faith and about the ways that these encounters inform, or are shaped by, sacred space.



Day 1 • Friday, February 17 • 1:30–5:30 PM • Hahn Fireside Room

1:30–1:45 PM

WELCOME and INTRODUCTION

David Simonowitz, PhD

Visiting Assistant Professor of Middle East Studies, Pepperdine University

1:45–3:30 PM

PANEL ONE: JEWISH TRADITIONS AND SACRED SPACE

Rebecca Golbert, PhD

Visiting Assistant Professor of Jewish Studies and Codirector of the Glazer Institute for Jewish Studies, Pepperdine University

“Sacred or Profane?: The Jewish Domestication of Public Space”

Karla Goldman, PhD

Sol Drachler Professor of Social Work and Director of the Jewish Communal Leadership Program, University of Michigan

“Gender, Decorum, and Aesthetics in the Shaping of the American Synagogue”

Robert Lloyd, PhD

Associate Professor of International Relations, Pepperdine University

“We Are Here and You Are There: Negotiating Territory and Borders in a Mixed-Up World”

Sienna Jackson

Journalism Major, Pepperdine University

“The Life and Works of Rashid al-Din: Jewish Vizier in the Mongol Ilkhanid Court”

3:30–3:45 PM

COFFEE BREAK

3:45–5:30 PM

PANEL TWO: SPATIAL PRACTICES IN EARLY AND LATE ANTIQUITY

Cynthia Colburn, PhD

Associate Professor of Art History, Pepperdine University

“Sacred Spaces and the Politics of Performance in Early Bronze-Age Crete”

Ann I. Steinsapir, PhD

Adjunct Professor of Art History, Pepperdine University

“The Narrative of a Sacred Landscape in the Beqqa Valley in Late Antiquity”

Susan Graham, PhD

Assistant Professor of Theology, Saint Peter’s College

“Stephen’s Relics: Jews and Christians in Early Byzantine Jerusalem”

Courtney Bryant, Senior

Telecommunications (Broadcast News) Major, Pepperdine University

“The Jewish Community in the Early Muslim Period”

This event would not be possible without the generous support and sponsorship of the International Studies and Languages Division, the Office of the Associate Provost for Research, the Center for Faith and Learning, and the Office of Intercultural Affairs.

www.pepperdine.edu/glazer-institute/events

Day 2 • Saturday, February 18, 2012 • 9 AM–3:45 PM

• Center for Communication and Business, Room 140 (CCB 140)

9–10:15 AM

PANEL THREE: PILGRIMAGE AND VISITATION IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD

Anna Tiner

Art History Major, Pepperdine University

“Transformation of a Sufi Shrine: From a Spiritual Complex to a Dynastic Edifice”

Cory Batza

Pre-Business Administration Major, Pepperdine University

“Sufism, Ziyara, and the Mausoleum of Imam Shafi’i”

David Simonowitz, PhD

Visiting Assistant Professor of Middle East Studies, Pepperdine University

“Pilgrimage and Sacred Space in the Late-Ottoman Middle East”

10:15–10:30 AM

COFFEE BREAK

10:30 AM–12 NOON

PANEL FOUR: STRATEGIES OF RECONCEIVING RITUAL SPACE

Joanne Punzo Waghorne, PhD

Professor of Religion, Syracuse University

“Reading *Walden Pond* at Marina Bay Sands—Singapore”

Kristen Kesonen

Art History and English Major, Pepperdine University

“The Fatimid Dynasty and the Impact of Isma’ilism on the Mosques of al-Azhar and al-Aqmar in Cairo”

Munir A. Shaikh, MA

Adjunct Professor, Claremont Lincoln University, and Executive Director of the Institute on Religion and Civic Values

“Space Invaders: Contemporary Muslim-American Debates Regarding Gendered Mosque Configurations”

Sabena Virani

International Studies Major, Pepperdine University

“Social Networking as Safe Space and Sacred Space”

12 NOON–1 PM

LUNCH BREAK

1–3:30 PM

PANEL FIVE: SACRALIZING CITIES AND THE TRANSFORMATION OF A NATION

David Bains, PhD

Associate Professor of Religion, Sanford University

“Placing Denominations in Mid-19th-Century Washington, D.C.”

Jeanne Kilde, PhD

Professor and Director of Religious Studies, University of Minnesota

“The Mosaic of Religion and Ethnicity in the Twin Cities, 1849-1924”

Leonard Primiano, PhD

Professor and Chair of Religious Studies, Cabrini College

“I Have Made Philadelphia the International Country Seat of the World! Father Divine’s Sacralization of the American City and Suburbs”

3:30–3:45 PM

CLOSING REMARKS