

---

# PERFORMANCE RELIGION & SPIRITUALITY

---



*Volume 1, Number 1*

*Autumn 2017*

<b>Editorial: Scholarship as Spiritual Activism</b>	<b>3</b>
<i>Claire Maria Chambers</i>	
<b>Gestural Legacy: Bridging the gap between the Black Church and the Black Lives Matter Movement</b>	<b>9</b>
<i>Danielle [Danee] Conley</i>	
<b>Theology and Belief in Digital Speech Acts and Online Protests: A Singapore Case Study</b>	<b>25</b>
<i>Alvin Eng Hui Lim</i>	
<b>Sermonic Performance as Cultural Protest in New France</b>	<b>43</b>
<i>Joy Palacios</i>	
<b>Situating the Web of the Necro-Techno Complex: The Church of Nano Bio Info Cogno</b>	<b>43</b>
<i>Praba Pilar</i>	
<b>Forum: Devised Theatre as Activism in a Religious and Spiritual Context</b>	<b>78</b>
<i>Robert Choiniere, Catharine Christof Dada, and Victoria Rue</i>	
<b>Reviews</b>	<b>109</b>
<i>Kristen Toby: Plowshares: Performance, and Religious Identity in the Nuclear Age (Anna Renée Wignet)</i>	
<i>Philip Salim Francis: When Art Disrupts Religion Aesthetic Experience and the Evangelical Mind (Neil Kristian Scharnick)</i>	
<i>Donnalee Dox: Reckoning with the Spirit in the Paradigm of Performance (Charles A. Gillespie)</i>	
<i>Catharine Christof, Rethinking Religion in the Theatre of Grotowski (Ben Fisler)</i>	

Shannon Craigo-Snell: *The Empty Church: Theater, Theology, and Bodily Hope* (David Mason)

Hager El Hadidi, *Zar: Spirit Possession, Music, and Healing Rituals in Egypt* (Donnalee Dox)

## About the Journal

*Performance, Religion and Spirituality* is a biannual, peer-reviewed, open access scholarly journal affiliated with the Performance, Religion and Spirituality Working Group of the International Federation of Theatre Researchers (IFTR) and the Religion and Theatre Focus Group with the Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE). For more information about the journal, its full editorial board, and submission information, please see the journal's website, [prs-journal.org](http://prs-journal.org).

## Editorial Team

The four members of the editorial team jointly lead the journal and are responsible for its content. The four will cycle through particular roles on a biennial basis.

**Editor:** Claire Maria Chambers, Songang University, Seoul, South Korea

**Reviews Editor:** Joshua Edelman, Manchester Metropolitan University, U.K.

**Communications Editor:** Edmund B. Langan, University of Toledo, U.S.A.

**Managing Editor:** Kim Skjoldager-Nielsen, Stockholm University, Sweden

## Editorial Board

Jane Bacon (UK), Professor, Dance, University of Chichester

Donnalee Dox (USA), Associate Professor, Head of Dept. of Performance Studies, and Director of the Interdisciplinary Programme in Religion, Texas A&M University

Peter Eversmann (NL), Associate Professor, Dept. of Theatre Studies and Associate-Director of Art, Religion, and Cultural Sciences, University of Amsterdam

Lance Gharavi (USA), Associate Professor and Artistic Director of Theatre in the School of Film, Dance & Theatre, Arizona State University

Trevor A. Heart (UK), Rector, Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church, St. Andrews and Honorary Professor of Divinity in the University of St. Andrews

Shimon Levy (ISR), Professor, Dept. of Theatre Arts, Tel Aviv University

Ketu Katrak (USA), Professor of Drama, University of California, Irvine

Chae Young Kim (KOR), Professor of Religious Studies, Sogang University

Claire MacDonald (UK), Rev. Dr., Minister with Lewisham Unitarians, and Professorial Fellow at the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, University of London

David V. Mason (USA), Associate Professor, Chair of Dept. of Theatre, and Director of Asian Studies, Rhodes College

Mitsuya Mori (JAP), Professor Emeritus of Theatre, Seijo University, Tokyo

David O'Donnell (NZ), Associate Professor, Head of School of English, Theatre, Film, and Media Studies, Victoria University of Wellington

Femi Osofisan (NGA), Professor Emeritus of Drama, University of Ibadan

Nils Holger Petersen (DK), Associate Professor, Section of Church History, University of Copenhagen

Katharina Pewny (BE), Professor, Theatre, Performance and Media Studies, Ghent University

William Peterson (AUS), Senior Lecturer, Dept. of Drama, Flinders University

Cody Poulton (CAN), Professor, Japanese Studies Coordinator and Adviser, Pacific and Asian Studies, University of Victoria

Te Ahukaramu Charles Royal (NZ), Director, Ngā Manu Atarau:

Communities/Repatriation/Sector Development, Te Papa Museum of New Zealand

William Sax (GER), Professor and Head of Department of Anthropology, South Asia Institute,  
Heidelberg University

Kevin Wetmore (USA), Professor & Chair of Theatre Arts, College of Communication and Fine  
Arts, Loyola Marymount University

David Wulff (USA), Professor Emeritus, Psychology Dept., Wheaton College

Farah Yeganeh (IR), Lecturer, Department of English Language and Literature, University of  
Qom