Religion in Urban Contexts

The symposium addresses the topic of religion in contemporary urban contexts from different disciplinary perspectives. Covering case studies from Asia and Europe, the presentations discuss various aspects of religion in the urban multicultural space – ranging from practices of place-making, mediatization processes and imaginations of the ‘urban’ to aspects of material culture and the role of religion in public spaces of pluralist, (post-)secular cities.

The symposium is a collaboration between the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies at Utrecht University and the Cluster of Excellence “Asia and Europe in a Global Context” at Heidelberg University involving doctoral students from Heidelberg University, as well as PostDocs and Researchers from the Netherlands, Switzerland, United Kingdom, and Finland.

Start Date: 1 April 2016, 14.00
End Date: 2 April 2016, 14.00
Location: Sweelinchzaal, Drift 21
Registration: Katja Rakow (k.rakow@uu.nl)
## Religion in Urban Contexts

### Programme Symposium

**Friday April 1, 2016**

14.00 - 14.10 Welcome and Introduction

1st Paper Session “Asia”

14.10 - 14.50 Xenia Zeiler (Helsinki): Mediatized Hindu Festivals - Transformed practices in Indian megacities


15.30 - 16.10 Katja Rakow (Utrecht): The STAR in Singapore’s Skyline: Christian place-making in secular commercial spaces

16.10 - 16.30 Coffee Break

Keynote Lecture

16.30 - 18.00 Anna Strhan (University of Kent): Time, Transcendence, and the City: Evangelicals, hope, and the urban imagination

18.00 Reception

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**Saturday April 2, 2016**

2nd Paper Session “Europe”

9.00 - 9.40 Daan Beekers (Utrecht): Dreams of an Iconic Mosque: Spatial and temporal entanglements of a converted church in Amsterdam

9.40 - 10.20 Oskar Verkaaik (Amsterdam): Practising Secularism in Dutch Mosque Issues: Constitutional versus nativist secularism

10.20 - 11.00 Irene Becci (Lausanne): Place Keeping, Making and Seeking: Religious actors’ spatial strategies in urban contexts

11.00 - 11.30 Coffee Break

3rd Paper Session “Asia and Europe”

11.30 - 12.10 Esther Berg (Heidelberg): Urban Christians, small groups and “Asian culture”: A transcultural approach to the study of religions

12.10 - 12.50 Xinzi Rao (Heidelberg): Imaging the City: Chinese Christians in Heidelberg

13.00 - 13.30 Concluding Discussion

13.30 - 14.00 Lunch