

**Subject:** Re: ACSF newsletter (March 10, 2018)

**Date:** Saturday, March 10, 2018 at 22:02:03 Eastern Standard Time

**From:** Julio Bermudez

**To:** ACSF (NCSU) Listserv

Dear ACSF members

Here is another iteration of our 'ACSF Newsletter'. This one has a lot more news, articles, design, art and information than others (which usually have more about conferences and the likes). This material has been collected by myself but includes suggestions from several of other ACSF members.

I hope you find this material useful.

Cheers!

Julio

## BOOKS

***Fast*, By Jorie Graham** (Carcanet, 2017)

Review appeared in the Oxonia

<http://www.oxonianreview.org/wp/on-the-brink/>

In its insistence to “rise fall sink breathe—open up—happen”, Jorie Graham’s poetry is often about the *here* and *now*. For Graham this has taken the form of thinking about presence, focusing on the political and ethical demands of the human subject as it navigates a world among others. As she herself has put it, this is “the presence of others—the attempt to rebuild the shattered community of the *we*”. Presence, which in Graham is less a fixed condition and more a constant striving towards and entering into spaces of potential communal activity, is both fragile and redemptive: “the *we* we have got to live in—politically, environmentally, spiritually—is a very sacred space. Because we have to act in unison in it—or ... Well, it’s dire.” This was a sentiment infused in 2002’s *Never* and one that appears in 2008’s *Sea Change*, the latter collection framed around a series of what Graham herself has called “tipping-points” concerning self and environment. 2017’s *Fast* finds a more anxious, exhausted and circumspect Graham questioning the tenability of presence in a world in which understandings of the human and ecological are rapidly transforming the criteria by which such communal relationships can be understood.

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***What Are We Doing Here? Essays* By Marilynne Robinson** (Farrar, 2018)

Review appeared in the Daily Beast

<https://www.thedailybeast.com/marilynne-robinson-and-the-spirituality-of-centrism>

Pulitzer Prize winner Marilynne Robinson has spent all her life trying to rescue, in her own words, “wounded or discounted reputations.” She has resisted blind deference and dogmatic thinking, even if she has always defined herself as a liberal with a religious sensibility (one of her previous books was a dialogue with President Obama). Her most recent book, *What Are We Doing Here?* is an eclectic series of essays ranging from freedom of conscience, theological virtues, and the history of Puritanism to the role of humanities in today’s world, integrity, and slander. They offer modest solutions for preserving one’s intellectual independence and autonomy in an age of increasing ideological conformism.

## ART EXHIBITS

**'Living With Gods' at the British Museum** (appeared in BlouinAtInfo International)

<http://www.blouinartinfo.com/news/story/2874131/living-with-gods-at-the-british-museum>

"It is wholly indeterminate" — so reads a wall text by the American conceptual artist Robert Barry just before you leave the British Museum's small but densely packed exhibition, "Living with Gods: Peoples, Places and Worlds Beyond," on view through April 8. The text could just as well serve as its summary. Amulets, crosses, totems, posters, lamps, textiles, icons, items of clothing — these, and many more, are a kaleidoscopic accumulation of both everyday and venerated objects that form a gateway to discover the myriad forms of religious belief — or faith — that have sustained individuals and communities for millennia.

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**National Gallery exhibit explores St. Francis' reception of stigmata** (appeared in OSV Newsweekly)

<https://www.osv.com/OSVNewsweekly/World/Article/TabId/718/ArtMID/13624/ArticleID/24271/National-Gallery-exhibit-explores-St-Francis-reception-of-stigmata-.aspx>

WASHINGTON (CNS) -- St. Francis of Assisi's reception of the stigmata, the wounds of Christ, at La Verna in Italy and its depiction by artists beginning in the 15th century is the focus of a National Gallery of Art exhibit. "Heavenly Earth: Images of Saint Francis at La Verna" includes 30 pieces of Franciscan art centered on the miraculous 13th-century event. The exhibit was to open Feb. 25. Ginger Hammer, an assistant curator at the museum in Washington, said the display focuses on an "unprecedented event in Western spirituality." No one in recorded history had experience such an occurrence before St. Francis did in 1224. It happened while St. Francis was meditating on the passion of Christ during one of his regular retreats in the mountain wilderness.

## AWARDS

### **Edward S. Frey Award**

In addition to the Religious Art and Architecture Awards, the Interfaith Design knowledge community sponsors the [Elbert M. Conover Memorial Award](#) and the Edward S. Frey Award. The Conover and Frey awards are bestowed upon individuals rather than projects. The Edward S. Frey Memorial Award was established in 1981 by IFRAA, Inc., which later became a part of the AIA. This award is given to an architect to recognize his or her contributions to religious architecture and support of the allied arts. Rev. Dr. Frey dedicated his life to his work as the Executive Director of the Commission on Church Architecture for the Lutheran Church of America. In that role he inspired architects to foster spiritual values in design. Dr. Frey was instrumental in fostering the three organizations that eventually melded together to form Interfaith Design, originally called the Interfaith Forum on Religion, Art and Architecture (IFRAA). He worked tirelessly for a half century writing, lecturing, and mentoring.

### *Eligibility*

Eligible nominees for the Edward S. Frey Award must match the following criteria:

- Be an architect member of the AIA
- Demonstrate a passion for and dedication to quality worship and sacred spaces;
- Foster spiritual values;

- Promote a cross-denominational community focused on religious arts and architecture

*Submission, deadline & entry fee*

Nominations will be accepted from IFRAA members from February 14, 2018 to March 16, 2018. A single letter of recommendation is required. There is no entry fee. To submit a nomination, please e-mail a single letter of recommendation to [ifraa@aia.org](mailto:ifraa@aia.org).

*For all the information,*

visit: <https://network.aia.org/interfaithdesign/home/edwardsfreyaward>

## FILM

**National Design Award winner MASS Design Group releases new documentary "Design That Heals" for academic screenings.**

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**Bring the film to your campus**

### **Can a building help eradicate cholera?**

In Port-au-Prince, Haiti, one of the world's greatest healthcare pioneers uses architecture to fight the worst cholera outbreak in over a century.

After the U.N. inadvertently introduced cholera to Haiti in 2010, Haitian healthcare provider Dr. Jean William Pape from Les Centres GHESKIO asked the architects at MASS Design Group to help develop a long-term solution to fight the disease - one that could address the underlying structural issues that allowed cholera to thrive in the first place.

Design That Heals is the product of a four year design and documentary engagement with the visionary staff of Les Centres GHESKIO and the community members they serve.

The film aims to spark a conversation about who has access to architecture and what role it plays in the provision of global health.

**Contact us to share the film with your students or community.**

If interested, we will send a private link to an online screener of the film.

## NEWS & ARTICLES

**Remembering Billy Graham: His Most Powerful Quotes on Life and Spirituality** (appeared in Parade)

<https://parade.com/648000/beckyhughes/remembering-billy-graham-his-most-powerful-quotes-on-life-and-spirituality/>

Billy Graham died earlier today at 99 at his home in Montreat, North Carolina, according to a spokesman for the beloved minister. Known as "America's Pastor," Graham had a profound influence over the state of spirituality in America and the wider world. During a career that spanned more than six decades of ministry, Graham preached to more than 200 million people in 185 countries, counseled U.S. presidents from both political parties and led religious revivals that often drew hundreds of thousands of followers. In more recent years, Graham withdrew from the public eye as his health declined, spending time with family at his home in Montreat.

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**Celebrating the white** (appeared in TNS)

<http://tns.thenews.com.pk/celebrating-white/#.WqR6D2aZPUI>

As travel plans are being made at the start of a new year, here is an exploration of the cultural and religious diversity of Pakistan through the eyes of two authors who have written books on the subject

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**Mark Cuban says studying philosophy may soon be worth more than computer science—here's why** (appeared in CNBC Makeit)

<https://www.cnbc.com/2018/02/20/mark-cuban-philosophy-degree-will-be-worth-more-than-computer-science.html>

According to billionaire technology entrepreneur Mark Cuban, earning a college degree in computer science might not be the safe investment you think it is. Today, students who study computer science have a high likelihood of scoring a lucrative job: Glassdoor determined computer science and engineering to be the number one highest paying major to study in 2017. Meanwhile, students of liberal arts subjects oftgen make far less. But Cuban, also an investor on ABC's "Shark Tank," expects that to change.

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**New name, same great community**

After many years as the **Interfaith Forum on Religion, Art, and Architecture (IFRAA)** you asked us for a shorter, easier-to-remember name. New members didn't understand what "IFRAA" meant. After two years of careful deliberation, we've embraced a new name: **Interfaith Design**.

We've still got the same great goal of encouraging and supporting excellence in the design of worship spaces and their accoutrements. We're still supporting each other across a broad array of traditions. We're still exchanging ideas relating to religion, art, and architecture. Most importantly, we're still excited about the work that we're doing as a community, and would love for you to join us as we dive deeper.

For more, visit: <https://network.aia.org/interfaithdesign/home>

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**Observations: Can spirituality be linked to land?** (appeared in the UC Observer)  
<http://www.ucobserver.org/editorials/2018/02/observations/>

The Supreme Court of Canada ruled against the First Nation in November (see "Sacred land claim denied," on page 42 of the print edition). "The charter protects the freedom to worship, but does not protect the spiritual focal point of worship," the judgment states. The case raises intriguing questions about how we define religion in this country. Is religion a faith system that exists only in the hearts and minds of believers? Or can spirituality be inextricably linked to land?

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**Repurposing Sacred Spaces: Giving Holy Places New Life** (appeared in the National Catholic Register)  
<http://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/repurposing-sacred-spaces-giving-holy-places-new-life>

When Father Brian Gannon became pastor of St. Theresa Church in Trumbull, Connecticut, the parish's former convent had been turned into office space and meeting rooms. The sisters' chapel remained intact but was used only by some organizations for Benediction or short prayer time. So Father Gannon decided to transform and repurpose the holy space for the spiritual growth of the 3,100-family parish. In October, the Diocese of Bridgeport's Bishop Frank Caggiano dedicated the entirely remodeled sacred space as Our Lady of Fatima Perpetual Adoration Chapel. This repurposing of the sacred space wasn't a simple facelift or name change. The pastor picked a first-class company to transform it from the ground up.

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**The Jewish Sites That Became Sacred Overnight and Lost That Status Just as Quickly** (appeared in Haaretz)

<https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/.premium.MAGAZINE-sacred-overnight-forgotten-over-time-jewish-sites-israel-invented-1.5807362>

Israel had a shortage of holy sites for people to visit after the formation of the state, so one man, Shmuel Zanvil Kahana, stepped up to create dozens of Jewish shrines

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**Sacred Mayan relics are found alongside ancient human remains and Ice Age animal bones in an underwater cave described as the world's 'most important**

**submerged archaeological site'** (appeared in the Daily Mail.com)

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-5412635/Mayan-human-remains-discovered-underwater-cave.html>

Divers made the find while exploring the Sac Actun cave system in the Mexican state of Quintana Roo. They have discovered 200 archaeological sites in the cave system, near the beach resort of Tulum. Around 140 are from the Mayan culture that dominated large parts of the Americas until the 9th century AD. Experts also found bones of giant sloths, ancient elephants and extinct bears from the Pleistocene period

## DESIGN

**Kengo Kuma's Architecture of the Future** (appeared in the New York Times)

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/02/15/t-magazine/kengo-kuma-architect.html?hp&action=click&pgtype=Homepage&clickSource=story-heading&module=second-column-region&region=top-news&WT.nav=top-news>

KENGO KUMA'S FASCINATION with architecture began when he was 10 years old and his father took him to visit Kenzo Tange's famous Yoyogi National Gymnasium, constructed for the 1964 Summer Olympics in Tokyo. Tange's arena — with its high mast and violently sloping roof, its form like a discus emerging obliquely from the earth — was a masterpiece of engineering, and remains the most breathtaking example of Japanese Modernism.

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**Roz Barr Architects completes restoration of west London church** (appeared in the Architects' Journal)

<https://www.architectsjournal.co.uk/buildings/roz-barr-architects-completes-restoration-of-west-london-church/10028430.article>

The restoration and refurbishment of St Augustine's Church's interior sees it stripped back to reveal the bones of the original architecture Roz Barr Architects was appointed by the Order of St Augustine to develop the site and create a new Augustinian Centre, with the restoration of the church as the first phase of the larger building project.

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**Catholics celebrate nation's newest cathedral, growth of church in South** (appeared in The Pilot)

<https://www.thebostonpilot.com/article.asp?ID=181694>

The Diocese of Knoxville dedicated the country's newest cathedral March 3 during a special Mass in which prelates and parishioners celebrated the growth of the Catholic Church in this region of the United States. Bishop Richard F. Stika greeted the gathering of more than 1,000 with a simple phrase after the three-year building project: "Well, we made it." Five cardinals, 21 bishops, more than 100 priests, 58 deacons, and 39 men and women religious took part in the three-hour dedication Mass along with more than 800 East Tennessee Catholics. "Isn't it amazing what can be done with generous offerings, some buckets of paint, slabs of marble, and months of work?" Bishop Stika asked

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**Tour Frank Lloyd Wright's Spectacular Desert Retreat and School in Arizona** (appeared in Dwell)

<https://www.dwell.com/article/tour-frank-lloyd-wrights-spectacular-desert-retreat-and-school-in-arizona-6320cd39>

A masterful extension of the desert landscape in Scottsdale, Taliesin West is a living memorial to the inspiring life and work of Frank Lloyd Wright.

## **PUBLICATION OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Ambiances Journal is celebrating its fifth birthday**

We are pleased to announce that *Ambiances Journal* has published some 60 papers in its first five years, including 43 original scientific articles, 60% being in English. The number of contributors is steadily increasing, as well as the proposals for thematic issues (three of them were published up to now, a fourth one is in preparation). The website of the journal was visited near 65 500 times during the year 2017, i.e. more than 180 visits per day on average, for a total of over 118 000 page views. Furthermore, the journal has been indexed into the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), thus further enhancing its international visibility.

Do not hesitate to send us proposals for papers in your own name or thematic issues gathering several contributions, both developing a sensitive perspective on our living environments. After assessment, the first will be published with the flow of communications and the second with an annual publication: we are counting on you!

The Chief Editors of the *Ambiances Journal*

Céline Bonicco-Donato, Rainer Kazig, Ignacio Requena-Ruiz, Nathalie Simonnot, Daniel Siret

## **CONFERENCES**

### **10th Biennial International Meaning Conference**

#### **"Courage, Faith, and Meaning: Existential Positive Psychology's Response to Adversity"**

August 2-5, 2018 in Vancouver, Canada  
[www.meaning.ca/conference](http://www.meaning.ca/conference)

The International Network on Personal Meaning (INPM) is pleased to announce the 10th Biennial International Meaning Conference to be held August 2-5, 2018 in Vancouver, Canada.

This is the only international conference focusing on second wave positive psychology (PP 2.0), which embraces the dark side of life and empowers humanistic values. It emphasizes cutting-edge research and innovative meaning-oriented interventions from the world's

leading psychologists, including Carol Ryff, Michael Steger, Ken Sheldon, Phil Watkins, Robert Neimeyer, Emmy van Deurzen, Itai Ivtzan, Tim Lomas, Piers Worth, Veronika Huta, Paul T. P. Wong, and more.

Highlights of the conference include:

- \* Summit on Second Wave Positive Psychology to explore the new frontiers of positive psychology in research and applications;
- \* Summit on Meaning-Centered Interventions in professional practices;
- \* Workshops on the mindfulness, meaning, and spirituality;
- \* Workshop on the opioid crisis and interventions;
- \* Practicum in Grief Therapy; and more!

Join our special celebration for the 20th anniversary of the INPM and founder Dr. Paul T. P. Wong's 80th birthday!

To encourage research in PP 2.0, we invite graduate students to enter the Student Scholarship Competition.

We also invite you to submit a Proposal (Symposium, Workshop, Paper, or Poster). The submission deadline is April 30, 2018, and notifications will be sent before May 31, 2018. Please note that the early bird registration deadline is May 31, 2018.

For more information, visit [www.meaning.ca/conference](http://www.meaning.ca/conference)

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*"leap and the net will appear"*