

Friday, February 6

9:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

Welcome Plenary - Teatro

Candace West, SSRC
Courtney Bender, NDSP Advisory Committee Chair

9:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Prayer Machines – Library

The Point of Contact: Radio Prayers and the Apparatus of Belief
Anderson Blanton, Max Planck Institute, Göttingen

Pray Pray Revolution: The Re-Invention of Islamic Rites by Engineers

Leor Halevi, Vanderbilt University

A Prayer Machine by Any Other Name

John Modern, Franklin and Marshall College

Discussant: Fabio Rambelli, UC Santa Barbara

Moderator: Charles Hirschkind, UC Berkeley

Prayer and Embodiment – Salone

Prayer as an Embodied Cognitive Activity

Mark Aveyard, American University of Sharjah

Prayer and the Extraordinary Action of Beings Without Bodies

Tom Csordas, UC San Diego

Existential Chabad: Contemplative Prayer and Everyday Transcendence

Don Seeman, Emory University

Discussant: Kevin Ladd, Indiana University South Bend

Moderator: Courtney Bender

11:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Break

11:30 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.

Covering Prayer- Teatro

A Roundtable Moderated By: Sam Freedman, Columbia University and *The New York Times*

Peter Manseau, Freelance Journalist

Emma-Kate Symons, Freelance Journalist

Christine Wicker, Freelance Journalist

Introduction: Diane Winston, University of Southern

California

Prayer and the Political I - Salone

An Ethnography of Religious Labor in an Indian Muslim Community

Parvis Ghassem-Fachandi, Rutgers University

The Politics of Prayer Books: Delegated Intercession, Names, and Community Boundaries in the Russian Orthodox Church

Sonja Luehrmann, Simon Fraser University

Prayers as Life Affirming Practices: Dalit Christianity in Kerala

Sanal Mohan, Mahatma Gandhi University

Prayers of Purification Among Muslim Women in France

Fareen Parvez, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Discussant: Matthew Engelke, London School of Economics

Moderator: Peter van der Veer, Max Planck Institute, Göttingen

1:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Prayer Expo

Teatro

1:45 p.m.

And All God's People Said... Film Screening

Savitri Medhatul, Filmmaker

Salone

3:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Prayer Lab – Teatro

A Roundtable Moderated By: Paul Bloom, Yale University

Shira Gabriel, SUNY Buffalo

Charles Hirschkind, UC Berkeley

Tanya Luhmann, Stanford University

Introduction: Hazel Markus, Stanford University

Saturday, February 7

9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Prayer and the Political 2 - Library

Moving Heaven and Earth: Prayer as Political Praxis in Global Pentecostalism

Ruth Marshall, University of Toronto

The Politics of Aggressive Prayer: Evangelical Spiritual Warfare and Haitian Vodou

Elizabeth McAlistser, Wesleyan University

The Muslim Response to the Pentecostal Surge in Nigeria

Ebenezer Obadare, University of Kansas

Discussant: Matthew Engelke, London School of Economics

Moderator: Peter van der Veer, Max Planck Institute, Göttingen

Theoretical Expansions and Relationships - Salone

What Counts as Prayer?

Fenella Cannell, London School of Economics

As Prayer So Goes Religion

Sam Gill, University of Colorado, Boulder

Landscapes of Prayer: Islam, the Environment and Java

Anna Gade, University of Wisconsin, Madison

Discussant: Marion Katz, New York University and Institute for Advanced Study

Moderator: Courtney Bender, Columbia University

11:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Break

11:15 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Why Prayer? Plenary - Teatro

A Roundtable Moderated by Robert Wright, Journalist and Author

Ebenezer Obadare, University of Kansas

Robert Orsi, Northwestern University

Rebekah Richert, UC Riverside

Stephen Teiser, Princeton University

Introduction: Birgit Meyer, Utrecht University

2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

New Frames of Prayer and Sociality - Salone

Praying Between the Lines: The Prayer Practices of American Nones

Elizabeth Drescher, Santa Clara University

Prayer and Prosocial Behavior

Jeremy Ginges, New School for Social Research

The Intimacy of Secrecy: Contact and Concealment in Korean Group Prayer

Nicholas Harkness, Harvard University

Discussant: Kevin Ladd, Indiana University South Bend

Moderator: Hazel Markus, Stanford University

Honing the Sensorium in Individual and Collective Prayer: Case Studies from Eastern Orthodox Christianity – Library

Listening and the Sacramental Life: Degrees of Mediation in Orthodox Christianity

Jeffers Engelhardt, Amherst College

Materality and the Efficiency of Prayer

Jeanne Kormina, Higher School of Economics St. Petersburg and Daria Dubovka, European University at St. Petersburg

Attending to God in Prayer: The Changing Rhythms of Orthodox Worship

Vlad Naumescu, Central European University

Prayer as Discipline of Charisma

Simion Pop, Central European University

Discussant: Birgit Meyer, Utrecht University

Moderator: Sonja Luehrmann, Simon Fraser University

3:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Break

3:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Old Questions, New Answers Plenary – Teatro

Courtney Bender, Columbia University

Souleymane Bachir Diagne, Columbia University

Kathryn Lofton, Yale University