

Sacred Silence in Literature and the Arts Conference 2019

SLA/RLA ACU Conference No 10: 2019- preliminary flier No 1



Leonard Brown Mother of God 'Vladimirskaya' 2017;
©Mark Rothko, *UNTITLED (No. 73)*, 1952 High Museum of Art, Atlanta.



You are invited to be part of this experience as Australian and international speakers and performers present Silence as the core opening of all the arts into the Sacred. The conference is preceded by a forum on Meditation and Well-being with **Laurence Freeman OSB** & an **Islamic Elder** (tba). This event is open to all, but is especially for students. The conference also will have an exhibition of art by noted Australian contemporary and canonical icon artist **Leonard Brown**.

Date: Friday **4th October** 8.30am- 7.30pm;
Saturday 5th October 9am- 7pm, 2019

Where: **Australian Catholic University**, 25A
Barker Road, Strathfield, NSW 2135

Program highlights:

Friday 4th October open Forum on Meditation and Well-Being with Laurence Freeman OSB & local Islamic Elder (tba); <http://www.wccm.org/> ; twice daily (voluntary) interfaith (& non-faith) meditations, led by Laurence Freeman OSB.

Conference opening with Rachael Kohn, including presentations by Laurence Freeman OSB on Russian/American spiritual abstract artist Mark Rothko; by Sasha Grishin on Spirituality and the Russian Avant Garde, The ACU Choir, Carole M. Cusack on Julian of Norwich and Father Michael Whelan on Silence and Truth. Leonard Brown, canonical icon and contemporary artist will exhibit his work; See:

<http://www.artistprofile.com.au/leonard-brown/> ; Uncle Max Dulumunmun, Indigenous Yuin Elder, on Sacred Silence.

Saturday 5th October

Performance and presentation on music and silence by international celebrated shakuhachi player Riley Lee; Zen Roshi Susan Murphy on Yongjia Xuanjue and the varieties of silence experienced in Zen. Prize-winning poet Judith Beveridge reading from her work and exploring how poetry, through its silences, can approach the divine. Jennifer Carpenter on silence and silences in 13thC mystics;

Debra Phillips on silence as the 'sacre coœur' of art-making; Michael Griffith on Sacred Silence in Patrick White and the Australian Spiritual Imagination. Concluding plenary discussion session with all presenters.

This conference is a coming together of artists, writers, musicians, academics and practitioners of the sacred from different faith and no-faith traditions. The conference will offer opportunities to explore and experience.

Come and share your search for meaning and your love of the arts with like-minded people, in a friendly, supportive atmosphere.

The focus is on the ways in which the practice and expression of silence is a dynamic spiritual core of all art forms, including meditation.

Registration by 8 July is encouraged. Early Bird rates \$105 single day/ \$195 two day package; After 8 July: \$120 single day /\$210 day package. Free Gallery viewing and all refreshments provided.

Concessions available for seniors and unwaged; \$60/ day; Secondary teachers interested in bringing R.E./ art or literature students to the conference please contact Ann O'Connor (see below)

Program and registration details at: www.acu.edu.au/sacredsilence; Inquiries: Michael.Griffith@acu.edu.au and Ann.O'Connor@acu.edu.au

