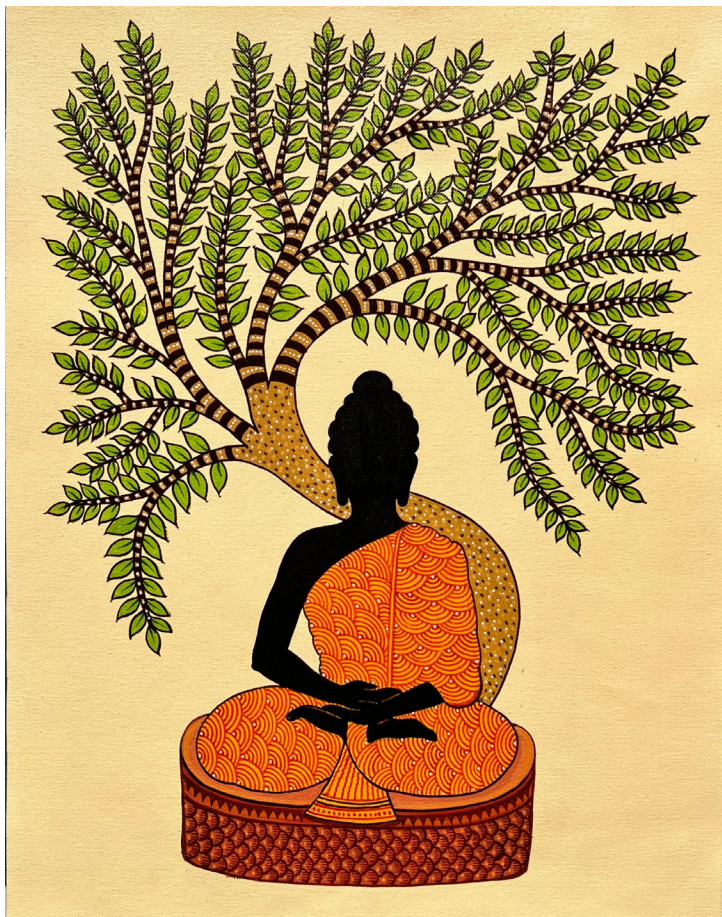




ANDRÉ

LACOCQUE

LECTURE & SCHAALMAN AWARD



“Standing Against the Status Quo: Buddhism and
Black Liberation Theology”

Dr. Rima Vesely-Flad

Thursday, March 16, 2023

ABOUT THE SPEAKER



Dr. Rima Vesely-Flad is the Visiting Professor of Buddhism and Black Studies at Union Theological Seminary. She is the author of *Black Buddhists and the Black Radical Tradition: The Practice of Stillness in the Movement for Liberation* (NYU Press, 2022) and *Racial Purity and Dangerous Bodies: Moral Pollution, Black Lives, and the Struggle for Justice* (Fortress Press, 2017). She leads retreats and classes for dharma centers throughout the U.S.

ABOUT THE AWARDEE



Jamel Garrett is currently a doctoral student and Hoodoo scholar-practitioner. His dissertation will focus on analyzing Hoodoo culture as a source of intrapersonal and communal-based holistic healing and empowerment. Jamel is from Racine, Wisconsin by way

of Yazoo City, Mississippi and is the Child of JoAnn Garrett and James Maple III.

PROGRAM

Welcome.....Dr. Brad R. Braxton
President and Professor of Public

Opening Reflection.....Rabbi Dr. Rachel Mikva
Herman E. Schaalman Professor of Jewish Studies

Presentation of the Herman E. Schaalman
Interreligious Award.....Kim Schultz
Coordinator of Creative Initiatives, InterReligious Institute

Striving for our Future.....Haley Hudler
Manager of Donor Engagement

Reading: “Gazing at the Moon” by Saigyo
translated by Meredith McKinney.....Thomas Morgan
MDiv Student

Introduction to the Speaker.....Rev. Dr. JoAnne Marie Terrell
Kenneth B. Smith, Sr. Professor of Public Ministry

2023 LaCocque Interreligious Lecture

“Standing Against the Status Quo: Buddhism and
Black Liberation Theology”Dr. Rima Vesely-Flad
*Visiting Professor of Buddhism and Black
Studies, Union Theological Seminary*

Response and Dialogue.....Dr. JoAnne Marie Terrell

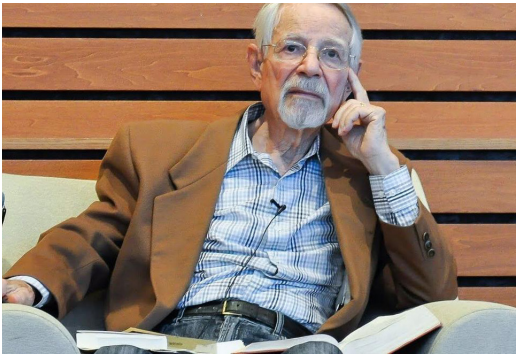
Open Q&A.....hosted by Dr. JoAnne Marie Terrell

Closing.....Dr. Brad R. Braxton

ABOUT THE LECTURE

The André LaCocque Lecture (previously the IRI Spring Lecture) showcases the diversity faith can take on in the human experience. It is named in honor of André LaCocque, the longtime CTS professor and stalwart supporter of interreligious work, who passed away in January 2022. Presented each spring, the LaCocque Lecture aims to provide a forum for underrepresented religious minorities to make their voices heard.

André LaCocque was born in Liège, Belgium. He earned a PhD in Jewish Literature in 1957 and a ThD in Old Testament in 1961, both from



the University of Strasbourg, France. He taught at the Faculté Protestante Universitaire de Bruxelles in Brussels, Belgium, from 1957 to 1968. He joined CTS in 1966 as Professor of Hebrew Bible.

Dr. LaCocque quickly formed a bond with Dr. Otto Betz, Chair of New

Testament Studies, who inspired him to create a center for interreligious studies—advancing interfaith understanding. The Center of Jewish-Christian Studies (CJCS) was intended to be a research center for doctoral candidates, as well as a hub for public conferences. Later, Dr. LaCocque expanded the CJCS to include Islamic scholars and lectures, and organized the first national conference on women and Islam headlined by Muslim scholars. This reimagined Center for Jewish, Christian and Islamic Studies (JCIS) was one of the first centers dedicated to interreligious understanding among the Abrahamic traditions in the country. Its work continues today in the form of the CTS InterReligious Institute (IRI), which has expanded to include interreligious work among all spiritual lifestances.

At Dr. LaCocque's recommendation, CTS hired Rabbi Herman E. Schaalman to teach Jewish Studies—a decision that ultimately facilitated our endowed chair in Jewish Studies. The two remained close friends throughout their lives, and they co-taught many courses together. Dr. LaCocque retired in 1996, but he remained active at CTS and beyond for many years afterwards.

UPCOMING EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 12:00pm CST (virtual)

VICTOR OBENHAUS LECTURE SERIES

Jamie Fluker: "Faith on the Frontlines: Womanist Theology, Public Activism, and Fannie Lou Hamer"

TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 12:00pm CST (virtual)

VICTOR OBENHAUS LECTURE SERIES

Rebecca Blackburn: "Waves, Games, And Chaos: A Comparative Approach to Privilege-Critical Hermeneutics"

SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 4:00pm CST (in-person)

2023 CHICAGO INTERFAITH TROLLEY TOUR & IFTAR

Starting Location TBA

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 12:00pm CST (virtual)

WEDNESDAY GATHERINGS

Rev. Greg Millikin: Being Called, Being Gay

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 12:00pm CST (virtual)

WEDNESDAY GATHERINGS

Investiture of Dr. Ken Stone as Distinguished Service Chair

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 12:00pm CST (virtual)

WEDNESDAY GATHERINGS

Sanderson and G. Campbell Morgan Preaching Awards

FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 10:00am CST (in-person)

COMMENCEMENT 2023

Trinity United Church of Christ

THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 6:30pm CST (virtual)

2023 CASTAÑEDA-JENNINGS LECTURE

Dr. Teresa L. Smallwood, James Franklin Kelly and Hope Eyster Kelly Associate Professor of Public Theology,