Welcome to the University of Toronto. We hope that you enjoy your time here, and that you find the conference rewarding. We wish to acknowledge that the land on which the University of Toronto operates is Indigenous land. For thousands of years it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit River. Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.

Day 1: Friday, May 4

Session 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>BL205</th>
<th>BL313</th>
<th>BL325</th>
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</table>
| 9.00–9.30| Fantastic Reality and Realistic Fantasy: The Witch and the Experience of Bewitchment  
Michael Ostling  
Arizona State University | Muslim Movie Stars: The Celebrity Politics of Islam in Public  
Kristian Petersen  
University of Nebraska Omaha | Everywhere and Nowhere: Process Theology in Terrence Malick’s The Tree of Life  
Sean Steele  
York University |
| 9.30–10.00| Job’s Wife: A Reading of The Witch  
Syed Adnan Hussain  
St. Mary’s University | The Stuff of Life: Water, Women’s Bodies, and Quotidian Islam in Ragad  
Rebecca Moody  
Syracuse University | Sontag’s Secularist Cinema: Marking a Shift in Film Studies  
Mark Cauchi  
York University |
Laurel Zwissler  
Central Michigan University | Faith After Trauma: Subjectivities and Institutions Against the Catastrophe of Sexual Abuse in the Films Calvary and El Club  
Samuel Lagunas Cerda | |

Break: 10.30–11.00

Session 2

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| 11.00–11.30| Eternal Now: Recent Time Loop Movies and the Sanctity of the Moment  
John Lyden  
Grand View University | A Mormon Maid Forgotten  
Elisabeth Weagel | Into the Labyrinth: Errol Morris  
Brett David Potter  
Toronto School of Theology |
| 11.30–12.00| Noah: A Journey into the Heart of God  
Lindsey Macumber & Magi Abdul-Masci  
St. Mary’s University | Blessed Be the Fruit: Mediated Adaptations of Margaret Atwood’s The Handmaid’s Tale  
Rachel Wagner  
Ithaca College | Guilt and Forgiveness in Frantz: Religious Motifs as Filmic Means  
Stefanie Knauss  
Villanova University |

Lunch: 12.00–2.00

We encourage you to explore the neighbourhoods surrounding the University of Toronto to find a wonderful lunch for yourself.
### Session 3

<table>
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<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>BL205 Presider: Kristian Petersen, University of Nebraska Omaha</th>
<th>BL313 Presider: Tamara Cohen, University of Toronto</th>
<th>BL325 Presider: Stefanie Knauss, Villanova University</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Suzanne Schier-Happell Otterbein University</td>
<td>Jamie Scott York University</td>
<td>Galen Watts Queen’s University</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Danielle Widmann Abraham Ursinus College</td>
<td>Jyoti Mishra Indian Institute of Technology Madras</td>
<td>Grace Chiou Gordon College</td>
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**Break:** 3.00–3.30

**Screening:** 3.30–6.00 (BL205)

Please join us for a screening of Richie Mehta’s award-winning film Amal followed by a Q+A with the director

### Day 2: Saturday, May 5

### Session 4

<table>
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<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>BL205 Presider: William Blizek, University of Nebraska Omaha</th>
<th>BL313 Presider: Kristian Petersen, University of Nebraska Omaha</th>
<th>BL325 Presider: Michael Ostling, Arizona State University</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jennifer Harris University of Toronto</td>
<td>Venu Mehta University of Florida</td>
<td>Mariola Marczak University of Warmia and Mazury</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.30–10.00</td>
<td>Myth and Monstrosity: Teaching Indigenous Films</td>
<td>“Love-Jihad” and Bollywood: Constructing Muslims as “Other”</td>
<td>Re-forming Film as Parable: Toward a Ricoeurian Parabolic Hermeneutic</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ken Derry University of Toronto</td>
<td>Nadira Khatun Xavier University Bhubaneswar</td>
<td>Joel Mayward University of St Andrews</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.00–10.30</td>
<td>Medieval Muslims and Crusaders in Modern Arabic Cinema: Youssef Chahine’s <em>Al-Nāṣir Šalāḥ al-Dīn</em> and the Politics of Arab Nationalism During the Age of Nasser</td>
<td><em>Plus One</em>: The West African Trickster as a Figure of Religious Satire</td>
<td>Adwoa Opoku-Agyemang University of Toronto</td>
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</tbody>
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The 2018 International Conference on Religion & Film is sponsored by the *Journal of Religion & Film*, the University of Toronto’s Department for the Study of Religion, and the University of Toronto Mississauga’s Department of Historical Studies.

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| 11.00–11.30| **Picturing Jesus:** The Place of Jesus Films in the Visual Canon of Jesus Christ  
Megan Wines  
Loyola University Chicago | **Religion in Sub-Saharan African Cinemas of the 2000s**  
Adzhoa Sika Oulia Makkonen  
University of Helsinki | **The Faith of the Californian Ideology in *Mad Men* and the Documentaries of Adam Curtis**  
Anders Bergstrom  
University of Waterloo |
| 11.30–12.00| **Neo-gnosticism at the Movies**  
Michael Kaler  
University of Toronto | **Ask the Beasts of the Southern Wild:** Exploring Human Identity as Beast, Being, and Beholder in *Ask the Beasts: Darwin and the God of Love and Beasts of the Southern Wild*  
Stephanie Cherpak Clary | **Thematic Power of Deception:** An Experimentally Intertextual Reading of *1 Samuel 14*, *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*, and *Star Wars: The Last Jedi*  
Diana Abernethy  
Duke University |
| 12.00–12.30| **“Do You Want to See a Miracle?” Alice Rohrwacher’s *Corpo Celeste* (**Heavenly Body**, 2011)**  
Silvia Angeli  
University of Westminster | **Visual Grandeur, Imagined Glory:** Identity Politics and Hindu Nationalism in *Bajirao Mastani*  
Baijayanti Roy  
Goethe University | **Religion and Popular Culture:** Exorcism in Film and Practice in the United States  
William Chavez  
University of California Santa Barbara |