The Journal of Religion & Film and Brehm Film (at Fuller Seminary) cordially invite you to Hollywood, California for the 2024 International Conference on Religion & Film to be held June 26-28, 2024.

Theme: Religion and Film: Past and Future

Location: Hollywood, California

Given the unique location of the 2024 International Conference on Religion & Film, which is taking place for the first time in Hollywood, California, we invite papers which take the rich history of this location into account.

Past: “We might be through with the past, but the past ain’t through with us.”
--Jimmy Gator in Magnolia (1999), dir. P.T. Anderson

We invite papers exploring Hollywood films from their origins in the 1890s through the silent film era as well as the Classic Hollywood studio film era from the 1930s through the end of the Hays Code (1968). How did religion influence the creative process, production, reception, and distribution of these films? How might the intersection of religion and film in this historic era inform our conversations about religion and film today?

Future

We are especially interested in contemporary films that deal with the future and the role of religion in the future. In addition, we seek papers exploring how advances in film technologies and our collective experience of film (in-theater technologies, VR, Streaming) will influence the future of filmmaking. Additionally, how might AI change storytelling and human creativity? How will those who work in Religion and Film Studies adapt/respond to these changes?
General Call

The International Conferences on Religion & Film are gatherings held to foster intellectual stimulation, build networks, and advance scholarship related to Religion and Film Studies. Every conference invites papers that explore the intersection of religion and film through the analysis of individual films, genre studies, religious themes in films, the representation of religion in film, and functionalistic approaches of film as religion. Although there is a thematic emphasis on our location this year in Hollywood, we heartily welcome papers that include films from around the world. Finally, yet critically, we encourage papers that consider the role of race and gender in the intersection of religion and film.

Please submit a 350-word abstract of your proposal by January 15th to brehmfilm@fuller.edu with the subject line “2024 International Conference on Religion & Film, Hollywood-submission.” Please include 2 documents: 1.) your anonymous 350-word abstract; 2.) a document with your name and institution. Your abstract will undergo academic blind peer-review. Paper acceptances will be announced by March 1st.

We invite you to join us June 26-28, 2024 for an unforgettable International Conference on Religion & Film! More details regarding conference schedule, discount hotel options, and the Hollywood tour will be published in late 2023. Discounted Early Bird registration deadline: March 15, 2024; Regular registration deadline May 1, 2024. For further questions you may contact Dr. Jeanette Reedy Solano at jsolano@fullerton.edu.