

Friday Bulletin, March 28, 2014

Department of Religion, University of Florida

Upcoming Events

The Center for the Study of Hindu Traditions (CHiTra) at UF is sponsoring a talk by Professor **Gil Ben-Herut** (Department of Religious Studies, University of South Florida), on Thursday, April 3, 2014, 2:00-3:30pm, in 117 Anderson Hall. The title of Professor Ben-Herut's talk is: "Things Standing Shall Move: A Look at the Virashaiva Tradition of South India."

On Monday, April 7, 2014, 4:00-5:00pm, in Walker Hall 201, Professor **Robert Kawashima** will speak on "Narration and Knowledge: The 'Archaeology' of the Sabbath," part of a larger project: *The Archaeology of Ancient Israelite Knowledge*. This event is part of the 2013-14 Fellowship Brown-Bag Series, which features informal talks by the Center for the Humanities and the Public Sphere's Rothman Faculty Summer Fellows, Tedder Doctoral Fellows, and Rothman Doctoral Fellows. For further details, see: <http://www.humanities.ufl.edu/calendar/20140415-BB-Kawashima.html>

On Tuesday, April 8, 2014, 3:30-5:00pm, in 216 Anderson, Professor **Sam Gill** (University of Colorado at Boulder), will be giving a talk on "Moving and Gesturing: Shaping the Academic Study of Religion." Sam Gill is professor of religious studies at the University of Colorado at Boulder. He has studied Native American religions for twenty-five years, including extensive field experience in the American southwest. His many publications also explore theoretical issues in the study of religion. In the early 1990s, Sam became an enthusiastic student of dance, engaging in field study in Bali and Java; Ghana and Mali; Thailand and Nepal; and Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, and Puerto Rico. Sam is a dancer, choreographer, and dance teacher. For many years, he owned a dance studio in Boulder. His *Dancing Culture Religion* (2012) presents his theory of dancing, particularly as a category for the comparative study of religions and cultures. His recent book, *Brain Body Movement*, draws on neuroscience, cognitive science, and philosophy to address how self-moving is important to the study of religions and cultures.

Presentations

This weekend, Professor **Manuel Vasquez** is giving the inaugural Distinguished Lecture in Religion and Politics at the Hemispheric Institute of Performance and Politics at New York University. He is also presenting a paper entitled "Vascularizing the Study of Religion: Multi-Agent Figurations and Cosmopolitics" at "Entangled Worlds: Science, Religion, and Materiality," an interdisciplinary conference at Drew University. Other presenters include **Karan Barad, Jane Bennett, and Catherine Keller**.

News

MA student **Matt Pesek** passed his oral examination administered by Professors **Anna Peterson** and **David Hackett**. The test is required of all non-thesis Masters students so Matt will be able to graduate this coming May. Congratulations Matt!