13th Annual Paideia College Society & University Honors Program

Spring Student Conference
February 26-27, 2010
Dallas Baptist University

‘Desiring the Kingdom’

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: DR. JAMES K. A. SMITH
PROF. OF PHILOSOPHY, CALVIN COLLEGE

Guest Artist: Tom Kimmel
Singer/song-writer,
Nashville, Tennessee
KEYNOTE SPEAKER: DR. JAMES K. A. SMITH

(PhD, Villanova University) is associate professor of philosophy and adjunct professor of congregational and ministry studies at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He has penned the critically acclaimed *Who's Afraid of Postmodernism?* and *Introducing Radical Orthodoxy*, and his edited books include *After Modernity?* and *Hermeneutics at the Crossroads*. Smith is the editor of the well-received Church and Postmodern Culture series [www.churchandpomo.org](http://www.churchandpomo.org).

[http://www.calvin.edu/~jks4/](http://www.calvin.edu/~jks4/)  
[http://forsclavigera.blogspot.com/](http://forsclavigera.blogspot.com/)

Philosopher James K. A. Smith reshapes the very project of Christian education in *Desiring the Kingdom*. This text is the first of three volumes that will ultimately provide a comprehensive theology of culture. The entire set will address crucial concerns in ontology, anthropology, epistemology, and political philosophy. *Desiring the Kingdom* focuses education around the themes of liturgy, formation, and desire. The author contends—as did Augustine—that human beings are “desiring agents”; in other words, we are what we love. Postmodern culture, far from being “secular,” is saturated with liturgy, but in places such as malls, stadiums, and universities. While these structures influence us, they do not point us to the best of ends. Smith aims to move beyond a focus on “worldview” to see Christian education as a counter-formation to these secular liturgies. His ultimate purpose is to re-vision Christian education as a formative process that redirects our desire toward God’s kingdom and its vision of flourishing. In the same way, Smith re-visions Christian worship as a pedagogical practice that trains our love.

**Lecture 1: We Are What We Worship: Or, Why Being Human Takes Practice (Friday Symposium, Friday, February 26, 12 Noon, Rogers Theater, Pilgrim Chapel)**

So Batman, Augustine, and David Foster Wallace walk into a bar… Well, not quite. But this talk will explore how and why we are “liturgical animals,” formed and shaped by bodily practices that “aim” our love. Drawing on Augustine, I’ll sketch a picture of human persons as “desiring creatures” rather than thinking things, defined by what we love and worship. That love is shaped by rituals and drives our actions. We’ll look at how this is illustrated in *Batman Begins* and David Foster Wallace’s *This Is Water*.

**NB: Question/Answer Session with JKAS:** Friday, February 26, 3:00 pm, Strickland 212

**Lecture 2: “I Worship in order to Worldview”: Liturgical Formation and Scholarly Imagination (International Student Center, Saturday, February 27, 11:00 am)**

Augustine and Anselm taught us to confess, “I believe in order to understand.” But how do we come to believe? I will argue that belief takes practice—that before we believe, we do; or, that doing is believing on a different register. To put it otherwise: when we articulate the elements of a Christian “worldview,” we are making explicit an understanding or know-how that is implicit in the practices of Christian worship. So we worship in order to “worldview;” we worship before we “worldview.” We’ll consider the irreducible wisdom embedded in the practices of Christian worship—and how those practices form us as a “peculiar people” (as wonderfully illustrated in *Lars and the Real Girl*).

**Lecture 3: How Worship Works: On Literature and Liturgy (International Student Center, Saturday, February 27, 6:00 pm)**

Liturgies form us precisely because they are affective—they seep into our imaginations by embodying stories and narratives. They pluck our imaginative strings, as it were, and their visions of the good life settle into us like a song (as we’ll see in a clip from *The Visitor*). So in this final talk I want to explore how liturgy is *like* literature in this respect by considering two examples of postmodern novels that describe liturgy-like formation: Nicholson Baker’s, *The Mezzanine* and David Foster Wallace’s cult classic, *Infinite Jest*. [Prior knowledge of these novels not required.]
Guest Artist: Tom Kimmel

Tom Kimmel is one of those unique singer-songwriters whose heartfelt artistry with words and music is both genre-crossing and timeless. Since 1980, when his songs were recorded by Roger McGuinn & Chris Hillman (of Byrds fame) and Levon Helm (of The Band), dozens of his compositions have been covered by a host of major artists including Linda Ronstadt, Johnny Cash, Joe Cocker, Shawn Colvin, Waylon Jennings, the Stray Cats, Randy Travis and the Spinners. Tom’s unique ability to write songs that connect stems from his lifelong career as a touring performer.

Featured in motion pictures such as Runaway Bride, Serendipity, and Twins, and in television shows as varied as Captain Kangaroo, Miami Vice and Touched By An Angel, recordings of Tom’s compositions have sold millions of copies around the world, achieving gold and platinum sales in many countries.

An avid whitewater enthusiast, Tom has kayaked through the Grand Canyon, in the remote Himalayan kingdoms of Bhutan and Nepal, and in the mountains of Mexico and France. A graduate of the University of Alabama, he was born in Memphis and raised in rural south Alabama. 

http://www.tomkimmel.com/

Tom Kimmel in Concert:
DBU’s Wendy Austyn, opening – http://www.myspace.com/wendyaustyn

Friday, February 26, 2010 in the Great Hall, Mahler Student Center - 7:00 pm – FREE

Tom Kimmel is also a published poet!

“Blink 182”

In the window seat beside me on the flight to New York sits a boy of perhaps 12. A thin, pretty boy with a thatch of spiky blond hair. Judging by his design backpack I imagine he is taking that look as far as his upper crust parents or private school will let him get away with. He is wearing his CD player in his lap for the first hour of the flight, carefully changing CDs a couple of times. I am wearing my Cap and a sleeveless flannel shirt, thinking I look unusually young and hip for my age. When he removes his phones again I introduce myself and ask what he is listening to. He replies “Blink 182.” “Are they good?” I ask. “Yeah,” he says. “You’ve never heard of them?” “No,” I say. “Tell me, hey I’m a musician, too, I’ve made some records. I’ve got one right here. Would you like to hear a song?” Thus looking up he raises a slender palm toward me and says, “No thanks.”

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"Tom does with poems what Eudora Welty did with short stories . . . sweet (but unsentimental), understated little slices of actual human life as experienced here in the south, or anywhere, for that matter. He puts you so close to those beauty/truth/goodness moments of the heart (the ones we’ve all known but defy description), that you’re suddenly in them before you realize it. Like Eudora, he speaks softly, sneaks up on you -- and then nails you. Wonderful stuff." – Pierce Pettis

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The Pitch Artist Booking Agency is proud to announce the formation of the New Agrarians, featuring Tom Kimmel, Kate Campbell and Pierce Pettis. The New Agrarians are also launching a tour showcasing stories and music steeped in the cultural foundations of the South. The trio’s name is inspired loosely on the Southern Agrarians, a collection of literary figures of the early 20th Century which, among other things, bemoaned what they viewed as a threat of modernism to the Southern Culture.
Student Paper Presentations:
Saturday, February 27, 2010

Location: International Student Center, Dallas Baptist University
Conference Registration and Continental Breakfast: 8: 15 am
(Schedule tentative and subject to change)

9: 00 - 9: 30 am:

- Mark Allen (SMU prof): “Holistic and Retentive Apologetics in Postmodernity”  
  Room 111 A

- Jason Bader (DBU): “Neo-Confucianism vs. Buddhism”  
  Room 111 B

- Mark Boone (Baylor): “Why My Mother Is Wiser Than Plato”  
  Room 109 A

- Brian Cambra (DBU): “The Mutually Salvific Nature of Friendship in George  
  MacDonald’s The Princess and the Goblin and The Princess and Curdie”  
  Room 109 B

- Asha Hussein (HBU): “Jus Ad Bellum of the Iraq War ”  
  Room 112

- Shaun Morgan (DBU): “Christianity and Postmodernity”  
  Room 110

9: 35 – 10: 05 am

- Grant Daves (Regent College, Vancouver, B.C.): “‘Drudgery into Delight’ - Towards  
  a Theology of Everyday Work”  
  Room 109 A

  Georg Hamann”  
  Room 109 B

- Jeff Green (HBU prof): “The Metaphysics of the Resurrection”  
  Room 111 A

- Leigh Hickman (UT-Tyler): “George Eliot’s Vampire: Naming Nothingness in  
  Middlemarch”  
  Room 111B

- Adam Jones (SMU): “Augustine’s Unusual View of Original Sin and How the  
  Church Tried to Hide It”  
  Room 112

- Lydia Towns (DBU), “Faithfulness in the Face of Persecution: Thomas Helwys’  
  Struggle for a Better World”  
  Room 110
10: 10 – 10: 40 am

- **Christi Hemati (HBU prof):** "Aristotle on Motherhood"
  Room 109 A

- **Karl Immanuel (DBU):** "Leo Strauss’s Political Thought and the Christian Faith"
  Room 109 B

- **Jonathan Manning (DBU) **“The Etymological Foundations of Justice and its Current Application”
  Room 111 A

- **Renea McKinzie:** "Redemption in the Winter of Shakespeare"
  Room 111 B

- **Tavner Threatt (DBU):** “The Importance of Order in Family Life: Functionalist Talcott Parsons’ Perspective and a Biblical Worldview”
  Room 112

- **Caitlin Smith (DBU),** “A Fairy Tale Formula”
  Room 110

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**Morning Liturgy. 2nd Keynote with James K. A. Smith**

**Lunch - International Student Building**

11: 00 – 11: 15 am               **Morning Liturgy**                Dr. David Naugle &
                                 Dr. Phillip Mitchell, presiding

11: 15 - 12: 30 pm               **Keynote Address**              Dr. James K. A. Smith
                                 “I Worship in order to Worldview” ~
                                 Liturgical Formation and Scholarly Imagination

12: 30 – 1: 30 pm                **Pizza Lunch**                  International Center
                                 “Believe it or not, Americans eat 75 acres of pizza a day.” ~ Boyd Matson

1: 45 - 2: 15 pm

- **Brent Stevens (College of Southwestern):** "Darwinism: The Evolution of a Theory"
  Room 109 A

- **Devon Albert (DBU):** “Brick by Boring Brick: Dismantling El Dorado in Voltaire’s Candide”
  Room 109 B

- **Jake Rogers (UD):** The Language of the Beautiful in Kant’s Critique of Judgment”
  Room 111 A

- **Michael Jones (UD):** “Fathers and Sons: Gilded Oars and Baile’s Strand”
  Room 111 B
- Thomas Spooner (DBU): *The Monstrous as Symptom*  
  Room 112

- Samuel Schabel (DBU): "A Biblical Critique of Karen’s Horney’s Psychoanalytic Social Theory of Neurotic Needs"  
  Room 110

- David Miller (DBU alum): "Why do you do that? An Explanation of the Eucharist Liturgy"  
  Front office, International Student Center

2: 20 – 2: 50 pm

- Melissa and Kevin Neece (DBU): “A Labor of Learning: Research Meets Experience in First-Time Motherhood & Fatherhood”  
  Room 109 A

  Room 109 B

- Michael Stone (UT-Dallas): “Peering into the Wardrobe: Myth, Tragedy, and the German Spirit in Thomas Mann’s Short Stories”  
  Room 111 A

- Ryan Swindle (UD): "A Venerable Approach to the ‘Sensus’ and ‘Ordo’ of ‘Caedmon’s Hymns’”  
  Room 111 B

- Holly Williams (UD): “Finding Beauty in Dissonance: The Artistic Value of Heavy Metal”  
  Room 112

- Sara Triana (DBU), “To Protect or To Perfect? The State, The School, and the Student”  
  Room 110

- Joseph Justiss (DBU alum): “The Messiah’s Sin in the Psalter: An Intertextual Solution to a Theological Problem”  
  Front Office, International Student Center

2: 55 – 3: 25 pm

  Room 109 A

- Artyom Tonoyan (Baylor): “Pentecostalism in Russia and the Ukraine: Economic and Civic Consequences”  
  Room 109 B

- Erika Wiegand (DBU): “Real Sex: A Theological Psychology of Sexuality”  
  Room 111 A

- Michael Laminack (DBU): “Worried/Anxious to Death: Søren Kierkegaard on Sin”  
  Room 111 B
Jason Farrar (DBU): “How to Make Pizza” - no, not really - “Regurgitation of Ontological Fragments in Shakespeare’s ‘Titus Andronicus’”
Room 112

Kevin C. Neece (DBU): “The Undiscovered Country: Star Trek and the Christian’s Human Journey” ~ Room 110

3: 30 - 4: 00 pm

Jonathan Cooper (DBU): “Evolutionary Notions: Tracing the Genealogy of Darwinism”
Room 109 A

Shelly Hobbs (UD): “Love Calls Us to the Things of This World: Reflections on the Poetry of Richard Wilbur”
Room 109 B

Scott Perry (DBU), “Monstrosity and Sacrament”
Room 111 A

Lance Lormand (DBU): “Redeeming Technology”
Room 111 B

Room 112

Chris Vitatoe (DBU): “Knowledge is Power: A Critique of Omniscience in Calvinism”
Room 110

Concluding Mexican Buffet Banquet - 6: 00 pm - International Student Building

3rd Keynote Address with Dr. James K. A. Smith
7: 15 pm International Student Building

“How Worship Works: On Literature and Liturgy”

“What in me is dark, illumine, what is low, raise and support.”
- John Milton, Paradise Lost I.

“People aren’t changed by moral exhortation, but by a transformed imagination.”
~ Old Testament Scholar Walter Brueggemann
More Happenings This Spring 2010

March 5, Friday Symposium, Prof. Danny Rose, “President Lincoln's T-Mails (the Telegraph): Electronic Lessons Learned from our 16th President”

March 19, Friday Symposium, Dr. Philip Mitchell, “Legend and History Have Met and Fused: Tolkien’s Answer to Darwin”

March 26, Friday Symposium, Scott Cairns, University of Missouri, “How Poems Be: The Poetic as Contemplative Practice” (Keynote speaker at the annual DBU Literary Festival)

April 9, Friday Symposium, Panel Discussion: “So Much Cooler Online - Is That The Real YOU on Facebook?” with Jonathan Cooper, Greg Hollabaugh, Beverly Powell, Renea McKenzie

April 15, 7: 15 pm, Big Stone Gap House** Lectures/ Conversations, Dr. David Aikman, “The Role of Faith in American Politics: Past, Present, Future” (www.davidaikman.com)

April 16, Friday Symposium, the annual Wilkinson Lecture with Dr. David Aikman, Washington, D. C., “Jesus in Beijing: The Rise of Christianity in China”

Friday Symposium: April 23, Friday Symposium, Prof. Juan Baldor with DBU student Yanely Mesa, “Promise and Deception - Two Insiders' Experiences of Living within Cuba’s Totalitarian State”

April 30, Friday Symposium, Friday Symposium, Prof. Rebecca Dark, “‘Jesus Made Me Do It’ – or – ‘A Woman's Guide on How to Avoid Being Burned at the Stake’”

Coming in November 4-6, 2010: artist Makoto Fujimura (http://www.makotofujimura.com/intro.html)

- Big Stone Gap House Lecture
- Friday Symposium Lecture
- Fall Study Retreat Speaker

Makoto Fujimura was born in 1960 in Boston, Massachusetts. Educated bi-culturally between the US and Japan, Fujimura graduated from Bucknell University in 1983, and received an M.F.A. from Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music with a Japanese Governmental Scholarship in 1989. His thesis painting was purchased by the university and he was invited to study in the Japanese Painting Doctorate program, a first for an outsider to this prestigious traditional program. It was during the six and a half years of studying in Japan that Fujimura began to assimilate the combinations of abstract expressionism explored in the US with the traditional Japanese art of Nihonga.

Fujimura is the founder and head of IAM – The International Arts Movement in New York City and elder at Redeemer Presbyterian Church, NYC. (http://www.internationalartsmovement.org/) (http://www.redeemer.com/)

“Think about it: when I fail to act in ways that are consistent with Jesus’ call to holiness, is it because I don’t know what to do? Really? Isn’t it often the case that, in fact, I have the knowledge but lack the desire? Or that some other desire has trumped what I know?” ~ James K. A. Smith, interview with Trevin Wax, http://trevinwax.com/2010/01/12/spiritual-formation-through-desire-an-interview-with-james-k-a-smith/. Accessed February 16, 2010