



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH

School of Divinity

Centre for the Study of World Christianity

Research Seminars, Autumn 2021

Fortnightly on Tuesdays from 4:10pm to 5:30pm in Rainy Hall and Zoom

For Zoom details, please email Alexander.Chow@ed.ac.uk

21 Sep **Welcome Session**

22 Sep *For information:* Centre for Global History Seminar (4:00pm, online).
Christopher Tounsel, *Chosen Peoples: Christianity and Political Imagination in South Sudan* (Duke University Press 2021). For details, contact Professor Emma Hunter (Emma.Hunter@ed.ac.uk).

5 Oct **Panel: ‘Commemorating Professor Andrew F. Walls OBE (1928–2021)’**
Margaret Acton (University of Edinburgh), Dr Barbara Bompani (University of Edinburgh),
Professor James L. Cox (University of Edinburgh), and Professor Jehu J. Hanciles
(Candler School of Theology, Emory University)

19 Oct **Centre PhD Student Papers**
Dongjun Seo, ‘Reactive Ecumenism: Christian Unity against the National Threat, 1961-1994’

Victoria Turner, ‘The Changed Heart of the General Secretary Bernard Thorogood in the Lead up to the Restructure of the Council for World Mission’

2 Nov **‘The Theatre of Conversion: Catholic Drama and the (Re)presentation of China’**
Professor Anthony Clark (Whitworth University)

From the sixteenth century, Jesuits have written and staged plays to serve their mission of conversion, and after the Society returned to China in 1842 missionaries turned again to this medium as a mechanism for conversion. The contours of this seminar presentation shall trace the evolution of the West’s imagination of China from the Jesuit valorizations of the early Qing (1644–1911) to the Jesuit mission in China during the late Qing that employed the dramatization of Boxer era Christian martyrs to ‘canonize China’ as an East Asian *terra sancta* (holy land) that was to be transformed into an entrepot of Christianity and Western cultural sensibilities.

16 Nov **Duff Lecture: ‘Fleeing the hot spots: Climate change, migration and mission’**
Dr Ruth Padilla DeBorst (International Fellowship for Mission as Transformation)

Using Central America as a case study, Dr Padilla DeBorst will address concerns around the vulnerability of people because of changing climatic conditions that effect many parts of the globe, She will examine how this forces migration, and what the role of the church in the midst of these realities.

30 Nov **Centre PhD Student Papers**
Jane Meng, ‘Christ-human and the Unity of Equilibrium and Harmony: A Neo-Confucian Interpretation of Jia Yuming’s Experiential Spirituality’

Zhongchao Ma, ‘The gifts of the Holy Spirit in the Chinese American church of San Gabriel Valley’