

Vaishnavism as Fine Literature

Yale University (New Haven, CT)
May 27-29, 2022

Schedule

All times are in Eastern Daylight Time (EDT)

Friday, May 27

The Poetry of Vedāntadeśika

Session Chair: Akshaya Tankha

9:45 – 10:00 AM:

Conference and Day Introduction

Steven Wilkinson, Henry R Luce Director, the Whitney and Betty MacMillan Center for International & Area Studies

10:00 – 10:40 AM:

Suganya Anandakichenin (University of Hamburg)

À propos Vedānta Deśika's theological verses in Tamil

10:40 – 11:20 AM:

Yigal Bronner (Hebrew University of Jerusalem) and Lawrence McCrea (Cornell University)

The Celibate Seducer: Vedānta Deśika's Domestication of Kṛṣṇa's Sexuality in the Yādavābhyudaya

11:20 – 12:00 PM:

Shiv Subramaniam (Columbia University)

Poetry As Vivid Remembering: Fine Literature in the Śrīvaiṣṇava Tradition

12:00 – 1:00 PM:

Lunch Break

Śrīvaiṣṇavas and Telugu Poetry

Session Chair: Eben Graves

1:00 – 1:40 PM:

Harshita Mruthinti Kamath (Emory University)

Loving and Making Love to God: The Telugu Padams of Tāllapāka Annamayya

1:40 – 2:20 PM:

Ilanit Loewy Shacham (Tel Aviv University)

Śrīvaiṣṇavism as Poetic Framework: Perspectives from Kṛṣṇadevarāya's Āmuktamālyada

2:20 – 3:00 PM:

General Q&A Time

Saturday, May 28

The Bhāgavata Purāṇa in Vernacular Poetry and Classical Poetics

Session Chair: Supriya Gandhi

9:45 – 10:00 AM:

Day Introduction

10:00 – 10:40 AM:

Kiyokazu Okita (Sophia University)

Scholars Won't Get It but Devotees Will: A Contested Place of Devotion in the History of Sanskrit Aesthetics

10:40 – 11:20 AM:

Swapna Sharma (Yale University)

Vaishnava Literature: Krishna's Play and Play of Words

11:20 – 12:00 PM:

Jack Hawley (Columbia University)

The Literary – and Vaishnava? – Excellence of Surdas

12:00 – 1:00 PM:

Lunch Break

The (Self-)construction of Poetry and Poets in Tamil Literature

Chair: Sasha Restifo

1:00 – 1:40 PM:

Whitney Cox (University of Chicago)

Crossing the Godāvārī: thoughts on 'translation' and the Kamparāmāyaṇam

1:40 – 2:20 PM:

[POSTPONED]

Archana Venkatesan (University of California, Davis)

Purposeful Poets and Trickster Gods: The Worlds of the Āḷvār Poem

Dr. Abhishek Ghosh will talk about changes in the Journal of Vaishnava Studies (JVS) instead.

2:20 – 3:00 PM:

General Q&A Time

Sunday, May 29

Vaishnavism and Literary Genres: Part One

Chair: Abhishek Ghosh

9:45 – 10:00 AM:

Day Introduction

10:00 – 10:40 AM:

David Buchta (Brown University)

Praising Kṛṣṇa, Not Kings: Rūpa Gosvāmin's Repurposing of the Virudāvalī Genre

10:40 – 11:20 AM:

Aleksandar Uskokov (Yale University)

On the Origins of Allegory in Sanskrit Literature: The Story of Purañjana

11:20 – 12:00 PM:

Rembert Lutjeharms (University of Oxford)

Threading Verses: The dual authorship of Rūpa Gosvāmī's Padyāvalī

12:00 – 1:00 PM:

Lunch Break

Gauḍīya Vaishnavism and Literary Genres: Part Two

Session Chair: Aleksandar Uskokov

1:00 – 1:40 PM:

Thibaut d'Hubert (University of Chicago)

Brajabuli: Sanskrit and Vernacular Poetics Redefined

1:40 – 2:20 PM:

Ishan Chakrabarti (University of Chicago)

The Person of Rāmānanda Rāya: Penetrating Insight in Biographical Memory and Literary History

2:20 – 3:00 PM:

General Q&A Time