

# **Paradox: An Interdisciplinary Symposium**

**April 30<sup>th</sup> 2021, 10:00am-3:30pm**

**Welcome (10:00-10:10)**  
[Anna Harrison]

## **Session 1: The Paradox of Nothing, Structures, and Disciplines (10:10-11:20)**

- 1. Paul Harris (ENG) “Nothing but Paradox, Paradoxes about Nothing”**
- 2. Diarmuid Breathnach (THST) “Eisai and the Zen Paradox”**
- 3. Ray Toal (CMSI) “The Paradox that Led to the Founding of Computer Science as a Discipline”**

**Break (11:20-11:25)**

## **Session 2: Paradox, God, and the Taming of Evil (11:25-12:35)**

- 1. David Kovacs (PHIL) “Liars Lying and the Underlying Truths of the Eucharist”**
- 2. Eric Haruki Swanson (THST) “The Buddhist Lord of Desire and the Paradox of Enlightenment in Medieval Japan”**
- 3. Gil Klein (THST) “The Paradox of Domesticating Demons in Rabbinic Literature and Jewish Incantation Bowls”**

**Lunch Break (12:35-1:05)**

## **Session 3: Paradox, Desire, and Wonder (1:05-2:15)**

- 1. Fr. Frank Stephen Kuwornu (THST) “Is Earthly Desire Paradoxical?: Bernard of Clairvaux’s On Loving God, Part I”**
- 2. Anna Harrison (THST) “The Paradox of Celestial Desire: Bernard of Clairvaux’s On Loving God, Part II”**
- 3. Sarah Maclay (ENG) “Presence through Absence: A Poetry of Paradox”**

**Break (2:15-2:20)**

## **Keynote Presentation (2:20-3:00)**

**Asuka Sango (Carleton College)**  
“Buddhist Debate in Medieval Japan: Its Epistemic Paradox and Soteriological Possibility”

## **Roundtable Discussion (3:00-3:25)**

[Moderator: José Garcia Moreno, Director, Academy of Catholic Thought and Imagination]

**Concluding Remarks (3:25-3:30)**

[Eric Haruki Swanson]

*\*20 min presentations per speaker, 10 min Q&A following each session*

**Sponsored by the Academy of Catholic Thought and Imagination and the Department of Theological Studies**

**"Hell of Dissection" (13th century, Japan)**  
Image courtesy of the [MIHO MUSEUM](https://www.miho-museum.org/)