ALL TALKS ARE AT GREEN COLLEGE IN THE COACH HOUSE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC WITHOUT CHARGE

TERM I

SUNRISE OVER THE SALISH SEA: SACRED SPACE AND ANCESTRAL TIME IN THE STO:ŁO WORLD
Naxaxalhts’i, Albert (Sonny) McHalsie, STO:ŁO Research and Resource Management Centre for STO:ŁO Nation; Michael Blake, Anthropology, UBC
Wednesday, September 13, 2017, 5:00 pm, with reception to follow
This talk is co-sponsored by the Green College Series, “Living with the Dead”

For time immemorial, the STO:ŁO people have understood the enduring connection between time, space, and the material/spiritual realms. Land, water, the heavens, and all living things are interconnected with names, histories and spirit. This talk explores and describes how this ancestral knowledge can be traced over thousands of years—connecting buildings, monuments and locations still visible on the landscape with practices, place names and histories that are taught to the STO:ŁO youth of today. The speakers discuss how STO:ŁO archaeological and historical research carried out during the past thirty years has helped bring some of these connections to light and how STO:ŁO communities are working to protect their tangible and intangible heritage under constant threat of erosion by the settler culture and practices.

UNISON: INNER SPACE AND THE COLLECTIVE BODY IN GREGORIAN CHANT
Paula Pryce, Anthropology, UBC; with the Choir of Christ Church Cathedral, dir. Rupert Lang
Wednesday, October 11, 2017, 5:00 pm
This talk is co-sponsored by the Green College Series, “Transforming Sounds”

“Something happens in the body.” These were the words of a monk who struggled to articulate how Gregorian chant has a visceral power to transform people. For centuries, monastic practitioners of silence and formalized, intentional sound have cultivated a capacity to expand the sensorial boundaries of the individual self to encompass others, both human and divine. With the musical assistance of the accomplished choir of Christ Church Cathedral under the direction of Rupert Lang, this talk will draw from five years of anthropological fieldwork in the silent environments of monasteries and non-monastic retreat houses to explore the role of chant, breath, and synchronous movement in manifesting an experiential collective body that transcends the limits of self and other in a state called “unitive being.”

Dwelling in the wilderness: Landscape, place and the sacred among Catholic monks of the American West
Jason Brown, Institute for Resources, Environment and Sustainability, UBC
Wednesday, November 8, 2017, 5:00 pm
A monk’s purpose is to seek God, and monks in the Roman Catholic tradition are specifically called to seek God in place. This is why twelfth-century Trappist monk Stephen Harding called monks lovers of the place. By devoting their lives to a single community often located in remote and secluded places, monks find God in the eccentricities of fellow monastics, and in the particularities of the created order. To ‘dwell in the wilderness’ might seem like a paradox to contemporary ears, but for the monk whose sole purpose is to seek the paradise of God in the wilderness of the human heart, it is a way of life.

Those attending talks at Green College are warmly invited to come to dinner.
For information on making dinner reservations, see www.greencollege.ubc.ca/how-attend-dinner