



*Santa Sabina Center*

# *Intersections*

Faith and the New Cosmology

**A CONTEMPLATIVE SYMPOSIUM · JUNE 26-30, 2017**

With John Haught, Heather Eaton & Anne Marie Dalton

Symposium welcome from Brian Thomas Swimme

Symposium facilitated by Margaret Galiardi, OP

## *Program Overview*

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The symposium opens Monday evening with a reception and dinner. Each day has a particular focus, yet moves into a fuller whole as the program unfolds. We will close on Friday with a full panel dialogue and lunch.

### **June 26**

#### *Symposium Welcome*

— Brian Thomas Swimme

### **June 27**

#### *Resting on the Future: Science and Spirituality in an Unfinished Universe*

— John Haught

### **June 28**

#### *Spiritual Challenges, Insights & Implications from the New Cosmology*

— Heather Eaton

### **June 29**

#### *From Attention to Engagement: the New Cosmology and the Practice of Hope*

— Anne Marie Dalton

### **June 30**

#### *Final Dialogue with the presenters and Closing*

Participants in the symposium may find a new sequence of courses by Mary Evelyn Tucker and John Grim useful preparation for this symposium. These online offerings under the title Journey of the Universe: A Story for Our Times are available through Coursera:

[www.coursera.org/specializations/journey-of-the-universe](http://www.coursera.org/specializations/journey-of-the-universe)

The sequence repeats several times between October 2016 and April 2017.

# What does it mean to live an authentic faith in the 21st Century? How does the New Cosmology reconstruct and redirect our focus and ultimately our faith?

## *Contemplative Symposium Process*

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What better means to engage with these questions than to enter into a contemplative symposium with presenters who themselves work with these questions personally and in their own research, teaching and writing?

We are thrilled to have John Haught, Heather Eaton and Anne Marie Dalton guide our exploration. Brian Thomas Swimme will welcome us by video and open the symposium which will be ably facilitated by Margaret Galiardi, OP.

Participants will be invited to use inquiry, dialogue, journaling and personal prayer as a means of integrating their current and expanding understanding of the Cosmos with their faith response.

Who will benefit from this experience? While the presenters come with a Christian background, all spiritual seekers familiar with the New Cosmology and desiring to incorporate the implications of expanding scientific understandings as these intersect with theological questions and the spiritual quest, will find this opportunity a gift.

## *What Can We Expect?*

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As participants we can expect to be inspired, to learn, to be challenged, to engage with one another in our personal efforts to arrive at a deeper integration and articulation of our personal journey, faith and prayer in light of the New Story. We hope to:

- recognize that contemporary scientific discoveries are relevant to understanding our place in the Universe as well as informing our experience of the Divine, the Christ, humanity, life and love;
- see that a mature faith opens the doorway to a deeper communion with all of Existence; and
- come away knowing that a keen and sharp intellect is an asset to faith.

## About Our Presenters

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*Our Presenters are leading theologians who as people of faith have found their way to a fresh articulation of the Mystery of God in light of the New Cosmology.*

### Anne Marie Dalton, Ph.D.



Anne Marie Dalton, Ph.D., Professor Emerita, has recently retired from St. Mary's University in Halifax. Her teaching and research included the areas of religion and ecology, religion and science, religion and international development. In her graduate work, Anne Marie studied with Thomas Berry at Fordham University. She has authored *A Theology for the Earth: The Contributions of Thomas Berry and Bernard Lonergan* and *Ecotheology and the Practice of Hope* (co-authored with Henry C. Simmons). In recent years, she is particularly interested in the implications of the New Cosmology as a source of contemplation and environmental praxis.

### Heather Eaton, Ph.D.



Heather Eaton, Ph.D., holds an interdisciplinary doctorate in ecology, feminism and theology and is currently full professor at Saint Paul University, Ottawa. She is engaged in religious responses to the ecological crisis: the relationship among ecological, feminist and liberation theologies, and the connections between religion and science. Among her publications are *The Intellectual Journey of Thomas Berry: Imagining the Earth Community* (2014) and *Ecological Awareness: Exploring Religion, Ethics and Aesthetics*, with Sigurd Bergmann (2011). She is past president of the Canadian Theological Society. Her recent work includes the intersection of religion, science and ecology.

### John F. Haught, Ph.D.



John F. Haught, Ph.D., is Distinguished Research Professor, Georgetown University, Washington DC. Formerly Professor of Theology at Georgetown University, he specialized in systematic theology with a particular interest in issues pertaining to science, cosmology, evolution, ecology, and religion. He has written extensively in the area of science and religion and is steeped in the work of Teilhard de Chardin. His most recent work is *Resting on the Future: Catholic Theology for an Unfinished Universe*, and we anticipate the release of his newest work: *The Cosmic Story: A Look Inside*.

### **Brian Thomas Swimme, Ph.D.**



Brian Thomas Swimme, Ph.D., a long-time friend of Santa Sabina, is professor at the California Institute of Integral Studies, in San Francisco, where he teaches evolutionary cosmology to graduate students in the Philosophy, Cosmology, and Consciousness program. The Journey of the Universe is an award-winning movie created by Brian Swimme, Mary Evelyn Tucker and John Grim. Their movie and Brian's teachings, writings and retreats at Santa Sabina have inspired this symposium. Together with Thomas Berry, Brian has led many into this ever-deepening journey.

### **Margaret Galiardi, OP**



Margaret Galiardi, OP, is a Dominican Sister from Amityville, New York, whose passion is the contemplative integration of justice and peace for people and planet. She is a "lover of the wild," a spiritual director and workshop and retreat leader who has lectured nationally on the New Cosmology and the Christian Story. She spent a year living with the Trappistine nuns in their monastery on the Lost Coast of Northern California in the Redwood Forest.

### *Special Thank You*

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*We are grateful for the support and counsel of Brian Thomas Swimme, Jim Conlon and Mary Evelyn Tucker in bringing this symposium into being. Likewise we are indebted to the Dominican Sisters of San Rafael, who sponsor Santa Sabina Center, for their generous underwriting of many of the costs that are entailed in an effort such as this.*

## *Costs and Lodging*

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The cost of the Symposium is \$695 which covers meals, lodging, presentations and materials. A deposit of \$250 (US) is due with registration. All who register by May 1, 2017, will receive a \$75 discount. Limited scholarship assistance is available.

The Center kitchen staff prepares nutritious meals and will try to respond to special dietary needs if these needs are indicated at the time of registration. It is not possible to address last minute requests as planning and ordering are done in advance of your arrival.

You may enjoy taking a virtual tour of the Center on our website. For the symposium all rooms are single occupancy unless you desire to share one of our double rooms. Rooms available after 3 p.m. on June 26, 2017.

The Center has wonderful grounds for walking, sitting and meditating, an art meditation space, and local access to a gym and pool facilities at neighboring Dominican University. Participants may use the gym and pool for a daily fee. Bring a personal towel for gym use.

Santa Sabina Center is a ministry of the Dominican Sisters of San Rafael. The impetus for this symposium is rooted in our heritage of contemplation of the Word present in all of Creation.



### **Santa Sabina Center**

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# Registration

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First Name

Last Name

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Address

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City

State

Zip Code

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Telephone – Home

Cell

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Email

In a few words, what is drawing you to this symposium?

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*Rooms are single occupancy unless you arrange to share.*

I request a double room and am sharing with \_\_\_\_\_

Special dietary needs: \_\_\_\_\_

Required deposit is \$250 (US). Please enclose with registration\*.  
Balance is due upon arrival. Cash or check preferred.

*\* Individuals canceling a retreat program 14 or more days prior to the retreat will forfeit \$75 of the deposit. If canceling less than 14 days, the entire deposit is forfeited.*



# *Santa Sabina Center*



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