Atmospheres of the Spiritual: Somaesthetic Explorations

December 4

9:15-9:30: Registration

9:30-10:00: Greetings and Introduction

RICHARD SHUSTERMAN

Center for Body, Mind, and Culture

Florida Atlantic University

10:00-Noon: Session 1: Spirituality, Embodiment, and the Arts

Chair: Ilaria Serra, FAU

"Eliot and Woolf: How Poetry Sublimates Split and Dismembered Bodies"

JEAN-MICHEL RABATÉ, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

"Spiritualization of Beauty, Love, and Suffering—Bostonian Art and Aesthetics at the End of the 19th Century"

NORA HORVATH, SZÉCHENYI ISTVÁN UNIVERSITY, GYŐR, HUNGARY

"Poetry, Breath, and Atmosphere: The Symbolist Atmospheric Legacy"

ALBERTO PARISI, KOBE UNIVERSITY, JAPAN

Noon-1:30: Lunch

1:30-3:30: Session 2: Spiritual Atmospheres in Music, Dance, and Noise

Chair: Katharina Rynkiewich, FAU

"Generative Noise: Somaesthetics and Atmospheres of the Spiritual"

MARK TSCHAEPE, PRAIRIE VIEW A & M UNIVERSITY

"Atmospheric Dance Partnering"

ERIC MULLIS, QUEENS UNIVERSITY OF CHARLOTTE

"DISCOVERY AND TRANSCENDENCE IN MUSIC THERAPY (THE BONNY METHOD OF GUIDED IMAGERY AND MUSIC)"

FRED MAUS, UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

3:30-4:00: Coffee Break

4:00-6:00: Session 3: Atmospheric Perspectives from Asia and Science

Chair: T.J. Bonnet, FAU

"Spiritual Atmosphere: Aesthetic Sensibility of 'Envelopment' and 'Permeation' in East Asia—The Intersection of Weather and Spirituality"

AOKI TAKAO, HIROSHIMA UNIVERSITY, JAPAN

"The Relational Ontology of Spiritual Atmospheres"

KEVIN SCHILBRACK, APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY

"Zen-Based Practices for Anxiety and Mood Improvement in Middle-Aged and Older Women with Hypertension"

KENNETH HOLLOWAY, FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

December 5

9:30-11:30: Session 4: Atmospheres of Hierarchy, Simplicity, and Healing

Chair: Mehrdad Sedaghat, FAU

"Ambedkar's Navayana Pragmatism and the Atmospheres of Caste"

SCOTT STROUD, UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

"Edible Gardens and Spirituality"

ROSETTA CAPONETTO, AUBURN UNIVERSITY

"Aesthetics of Quakerism"

CRISPIN SARTWELL, AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR PHILOSOPHICAL AND CULTURAL THOUGHT

11:30-Noon: Closing Comments

Conference Location: CU Building 301, FAU, Boca Raton Campus

The Center for Body, Mind, and Culture is an interdisciplinary initiative dedicated to promoting research, programming, and teaching of topics concerning the body-mind-culture nexus. The Center's motivating logic affirms that the three terms constituting its name are essentially interdependent rather than separate entities and that they therefore need to be studied in terms of their interrelations and through interdisciplinary research.

This conference is a collaboration with The Center for Cosmopolitan Culture, and we are grateful for the support of the Schmidt Family Foundation and the Levenson Chair of Japanese History.

Poster image: "Cloudy Mountains, Misty Trees," by Mifu, (1052-1107), National Palace Museum, Taiwan

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FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY



ATMOSPHERES OF THE SPIRITUAL: SOMAESTHETIC EXPLORATIONS

DECEMBER 4-5, 2025
FLORIDA ATLANTIC, BOCA RATON

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CENTER FOR BODY, MIND, AND CULTURE

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Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters