

CHARLES M. STANG

Professor of Early Christian Thought
Director of the Center for the Study of World Religions
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Academic Appointments

Director, Center for the Study of World Religions Harvard Divinity School	2017-
Professor of Early Christian Thought Harvard Divinity School	2015-
Associate Professor of Early Christian Thought Harvard Divinity School	2012-2015
Assistant Professor of Early Christian Thought Harvard Divinity School	2008-2012
Affiliate Faculty, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations Harvard University, Faculty of Arts and Sciences	2023-
Affiliate Faculty, Department of the Classics Harvard University, Faculty of Arts and Sciences	2019-

Other appointments: *Professor honoris causa*, International Institute for Hermeneutics, University of Warsaw, 2021-; Weatherhead Center Distinguished Research Faculty Associate, Fall 2014; Theologian in Residence, The Memorial Church of Harvard University, Fall 2014; Visiting Professor, The University of the South (Sewanee), June 2012, 2015, and 2017; Golda Meir Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Comparative Religion, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, 2011-12; Affiliated Scholar, Real Colegio Complutense, Summer 2009.

Education

Th.D. Harvard Divinity School Theology	2008
MDiv. University of Chicago	2001
A.B. Harvard University Philosophy, <i>magna cum laude</i>	1997

Publications

Monographs:

Our Divine Double (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2016).

Reviewed in: [Ancient Jew Review](#), [Bryn Mawr Classical Review](#), Choice, Gnosis, [Medieval Review](#), Medium, [Reading Religion](#), Review of Biblical Literature

Apophysis and Pseudonymity in Dionysius the Areopagite: "No Longer I." (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012). Full pdf available [here](#).

Winner of the Manfred Lautenschläger Award for Theological Promise, 2013.

Reviewed in: Journal of Theological Studies, Modern Theology, Journal of Ecclesiastical History, Speculum, [Marginalia Review of Books](#), Theology, Journal of Early Christian Studies, Religious Studies Review, [Medieval Review](#), Religion and Theology, Anglican Theological Review, Zeitschrift für Antikes Christentum

Translations:

The Gnostic Trilogy of Evagrius Ponticus (Oxford University Press, 2023). Co-edited and translated with Robin Darling Young, Joel Kalvesmaki, Columba Stewart, and Luke Dysinger.

Reviewed in Catholic Historical Review, The Classical Review, Journal of Anglican Studies, Church History

Evagrius of Pontus, *Letter to Melania*. Co-edited and translated with Adam Bremer-McCollum (Center for the Study of World Religions, Harvard University Press, 2025).

Henry Corbin, *The Paradox of Monotheism* (in preparation).

Edited Volumes:

Platonism as a Living Tradition. Co-edited with Gregory Shaw (in preparation).

Theosophy and the Study of Religion. Co-edited with Jason Ānanda Josephson Storm. Aries Book Series: Texts and Studies in Western Esotericism (Leiden: Brill, 2024).

Invitation to Syriac Christianity: An Anthology. Co-edited with Scott Fitzgerald Johnson, Michael Philip Penn, and Christine Shephardson (University of California Press, 2022).

Winner of the Best Historical Materials (2023), American Library Association

Reviewed in: Bryn Mawr Classical Review, Reading Religion, New York Review of Books, Church History, Religion, Restoration Quarterly, Fides et Historia

Law and Lawlessness in Early Judaism and Christianity, Wissenschaftliche Untersuchungen zum Neuen Testament (Mohr Siebeck, 2019). Co-edited with David Lincicum and Ruth Sheridan.

Reviewed in: Trinity Journal, The Bible Today, Theologische Literaturzeitung, Old Testament Abstracts, New Testament Abstracts, Revue d'Histoire de Philosophie religieuses, Bulletin for Biblical Research, Review of Biblical Literature, [Reading Religion](#)

The Open Body: Essays in Anglican Ecclesiology (New York: Peter Lang, 2012). Co-edited with Zachary Guiliano.

Reviewed in: Anglican Theological Review, [Anglicans Online](#), Religion and Theology

Rethinking Dionysius the Areopagite (Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2009). Co-edited with Sarah Coakley.

Reviewed in: Church History, Journal of Theological Studies, Review of Biblical Literature, Theological Studies

The Waking Dream of T.E. Lawrence: Essays on His Life, Literature, and Legacy (New York: Palgrave, 2002).

Reviewed in: English Literature in Transition

Journal Articles

“The Imaginal Geography of Philip Pullman’s Novels,” *Religiographies* 4:1 (2025): 1-14.

“Psychedelic Futures and Altered States in the Religions of the Ancient Mediterranean,” *Harvard Theological Review* 117:4 (2024): 851-870.

“What is the Subtle Body?” *Harvard Theological Review* 116:2 (2023): 302-315.

“Origen’s Theology of Fire and the Early Monks of Egypt,” in Pui Ip (ed), a special issue of *Modern Theology* on “Rethinking Origen of Alexandria” 38:2 (2022): 338-362.

“Calling a New Séance: Theosophy and the Study of Religion,” in a roundtable on “Theosophy and the Study of Religion” in the *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 89:4 (2022): 1143-1152.

“Flesh and Fire: Incarnation and Deification in Origen of Alexandria,” and “Back to Origen: Towards a New Ressourcement,” in *Adamantius: Annuario di Letteratura Cristiana Antica e di Studi Giudeoellenistici* 25 (2020): 123-132, 144-146.

“In my end is my beginning,” in a special symposium on John Behr’s *John the Theologian & his Paschal Gospel*, in *Pro Ecclesia: A Journal of Catholic and Evangelical Theology* 29:2 (April 2020): 1-9.

“The Two ‘T’s of Christ: Revisiting the Christological Controversy,” *Anglican Theological Review* 94:3 (Summer 2012): 529-547.

[“From the Chaldean Oracles to the Corpus Dionysiacum: Theurgy between the 3rd and 6th centuries.”](#) *Journal of Late Antique Religion and Culture* 5 (2011): 1-13.

“Digging Holes and Building Pillars: Simeon Stylites and the ‘Geometry’ of Ascetic Practice,” *Harvard Theological Review* 103:4 (2010): 447-470.

“Dionysius, Paul and the Significance of the Pseudonym,” *Modern Theology* 24:4 (2008): 541-555.

Book Chapters et al.

“‘Knowledge is said to be in a place’: Teaching an Ancient Esoteric Text Through Experimental, Embodied Reading Practices,” in Sravana Borkataky-Varma and Sarabindh Levy-Brightman (eds), *Transforming the Classroom: Embodied Pedagogies in the Study of Religion* (forthcoming).

“Henry Corbin and the Destiny of Neoplatonism,” in Hadi Fakhoury (ed), *New Perspectives on Henry Corbin*, Palgrave Studies in New Religions and Alternative Spiritualities (forthcoming).

“Of Demons and Doubles, Between Earth and Ether,” in Kurt Almqvist and Louise Belfrage (eds), *The Double Self in Religious Experience* (forthcoming).

“Apophysis and Angelology: Henry Corbin’s Neoplatonism,” in Kurt Almqvist and Louise Belfrage (eds), *Ideas and Influences on Eranos* (forthcoming).

“The Apophatic Theology of Dionysius the Areopagite,” in John Betz and Rik Van Nieuwenhove (eds), *The Oxford Handbook of Apophatic Theology* (forthcoming).

“Psychedelics, Spirituality, and ‘The West,’” Foreword to Jeffrey Breau and Paul Gillis-Smith (eds), *Psychedelic Intersections: Crosscultural Manifestations of the Sacred* (Center for the Study of World Religions, 2024), pp. v-ix.

“The *Pearlson*: Allegory, Story, and Symbol.” Foreword to Adam Bremer-McCollum, *Pearlson*, 4T series (Center for the Study of World Religions, Harvard University Press, 2025), pp. viii-xviii.

“Introduction” (with Jason Ānanda Josephson Storm) and “H.P. Blavatsky and Origen of Alexandria,” in *Theosophy and the Study of Religion*, edited by Charles M. Stang and Jason Ānanda Josephson Storm (Leiden: Brill, 2024), pp. 1-17, 50-69.

“The Divine Double in Late Antiquity,” in Kimberley Patton (ed), *Gemini and the Sacred: Twins in Religion and Myth* (London: I.B. Tauris, 2022), pp. 368-393.

“Iamblichus and Proclus,” in Mark Edwards, Dimitrios Pallis, and George Steiris (eds), *Oxford Handbook to Dionysius the Areopagite* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2022), pp. 122-135.

“The Pearl of Great Value,” in Olivier Duport, Alan Marzo, and Carl Åhnebrink (eds), *Nahma: A Gulf Polyphony / نهمة: تعدد الغناء الخليجي* (FLEE Project: 2021), pp. 62-75.

“Flesh and Fire: Incarnation and Deification in Origen of Alexandria,” in Andrew Orlov (ed), *“Suddenly, Christ”: Studies in Jewish and Christian Mysticism in Honor of Alexander Golitzin* (Vigiliae Christianae Supplements; Leiden: Brill, 2020), pp. 128-143.

“The Doubled Self and the Worship of the Gods,” in Maren R. Niehoff and Joshua Levinson (eds), *Constructions of the Self in the Roman Empire* (Mohr Siebeck, 2020), pp. 149-168.

“The ‘Nestorian’ (*jingjiao*) Monument and its Theology of the Cross,” in H. Teule, E. Keser-Kayaalp, K. Akalin, N. Doru, M.S. Toprak (eds), *Syriac in its Multi-cultural Context* (Louvain: Peeters, 2017), pp. 107-118.

“Doubt, our modern crown of thorns,” *Doubting Christianity: The Church and Doubt* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2016), pp. 437-455.

“Evagrius of Pontus on the ‘great gift of letters,’” in M. Doerfler, E. Fiano, K. Smith, and L. Van Rompay (eds), *Syriac Encounters: Papers presented at the Sixth North American Syriac Symposium Held at Duke University, 26-29 June 2011* (Louvain: Peeters, 2015), pp. 151-161.

“Negative Theology from Gregory of Nyssa to Dionysius the Areopagite,” in Julia Lamm (ed), *The Wiley-Blackwell Companion to Christian Mysticism* (Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012), pp. 161-176.

“Writing,” in Amy Hollywood and Patricia Z. Beckman (eds), *The Cambridge Companion to Christian Mysticism* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012), pp. 252-263.

“Introduction” (co-authored with Zachary Guiliano) and “The Beginning and End of All Hierarchy,” in Zachary Guiliano and Charles M. Stang (eds), *The Open Body: Essays in Anglican Ecclesiology* (New York: Peter Lang, 2012), pp. 1-18, 103-124.

“La herencia cristiana de la teurgia pagana,” in Mercedes López Salvá (ed), *De cara al Más Allá: Conflicto, convivencia y asimilación de modelos paganos en el cristianismo antiguo*, (Zaragoza: Libros Portico, 2010), pp. 185-202.

“Dionysius, Paul and the Significance of the Pseudonym,” in Sarah Coakley and Charles M. Stang (eds), *Rethinking Dionysius the Areopagite* (Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2009), pp. 11-25.

“Being Neither Oneself Nor Someone Else’: The Apophatic Anthropology of Dionysius the Areopagite,” in Catherine Keller and Chris Boesel (eds), *Apophatic Bodies: Negative Theology, Incarnation, and Relationality* (New York: Fordham University Press, 2009), pp. 59-75.

“The Many Ways of T.E. Lawrence” and “Does Not Care’: Lawrence, Herodotus, and Nietzsche on History,” in Charles M. Stang (ed), *The Waking Dream of T.E. Lawrence: Essays on His Life, Literature, and Legacy* (New York: Palgrave, 2002), pp. 1-15, 25-50.

“Reflections on a Life of Philosophy: Interview with Stanley Cavell,” in Phineas Upham (ed) *Philosophers in Conversation* (New York: Routledge, 2002), pp. 126-138.

Essays

“Water, Souls, and the Motions of the Stars,” in Sarah Schorr, *Ephemeral Field Journal* (forthcoming).

“Water Worlds,” [Theosis 1](#) (Center for the Study of World Religions, 2024).

[“The Smoldering Superhuman.”](#) *Harvard Divinity Bulletin* (Spring/Summer 2024).

[“The Dream of the Sphere: A Dispatch from the Flatland.”](#) *Tank Magazine* 94 (Spring 2023).

[“Dune, or The Order of Time.”](#) *Harvard Divinity Bulletin* (Spring/Summer 2022): 58-65.

[“The Time of Stars.”](#) in *The Wings of Herons*, the first in a series of chapbooks published by the [Constellation Project](#) (April, 2022).

[“Giorgio Agamben, the Church, and Me.”](#) *Harvard Divinity Bulletin* (Spring/Summer 2020): 62-70.

[“All Flesh Must Once Again Become Fire: Origen’s Untamed Thinking.”](#) *Harvard Divinity Bulletin* (Autumn/Winter 2017): 6-9.

[“Doubting Thomas, Restaged: Between Athens and Berlin.”](#) *Harvard Divinity Bulletin* (Winter/Spring 2013): 41-50.

[“Nox, or the Muteness of Things.”](#) *Harvard Divinity Bulletin* 40:1&2 (Winter/Spring 2012): 65-68.

[“Ash and Breath: Christ on *The Road*.”](#) *Harvard Divinity Bulletin* 39:1&2 (Winter/Spring 2011): 71-76.

Book Reviews:

Review of Stephen J. Davis, *The Gnostic Chapters: A Critical Edition and Translation of Evagrius Ponticus’ Kephalaia Gnostika in Arabic*, *Religious Studies Review* 50:3 (2024): 611.

“Everything is Full of Gods,” review of Maurizio Bettini, *In Praise of Polytheism*, in *Wayfare* Issue 3: Spring 2024.

Review of Brouria Bitton-Ashkelony, *The Ladder of Prayer and the Ship of Stirrings: The Praying Self in Late Antique East Syrian Christianity*, *Journal of Early Christian Studies* 29:4 (2021): 639-641.

Review of John Dillon, *The Roots of Platonism: The Origins and Chief Features of a Philosophical Tradition*, [Bryn Mawr Classical Review 2021.07.31](#).

Review of Darlene L. Brooks Hedstrom, *The Monastic Landscape of Late Antique Egypt: An Archaeological Reconstruction*, *Journal of Early Christian Studies* 27:1 (2019): 135-136.

Review of Robin Darling Young and Monica J. Blanchard (eds), *To Train His Soul in Books: Syriac Asceticism in Early Christianity*, *Vigilae Christianae* 67 (2013): 319-321.

“[The Closing of the American Nietzsche](#),” Review of Jennifer Ratner-Rosenhagen, *American Nietzsche: A History of an Icon and His Ideas*, *Commentary* (May 2012): 64-66.

Review of Miguel Herrero de Jáuregui, *Orphism and Christianity in Late Antiquity*, *Vigilae Christianae* 66:1 (2012): 332-334.

Review of Michael Stuart Williams, *Authorised Lives in Early Christian Biography: Between Eusebius and Augustine*, *Journal of Early Christian Studies* 19:3 (2011): 475-477.

Review of Rosemary A. Arthur, *Pseudo-Dionysius as Polemicist: The Development and Purpose of the Angelic Hierarchy in Sixth-Century Syria*, *Speculum* 86:2 (2011): 459-461.

Review of Benjamin John King, *Newman and the Alexandrian Fathers: Shaping Doctrine in Nineteenth-Century England*, *Journal of Early Christian Studies* 18:2 (2010): 339-341.

Review of Christian Schäfer, *The Philosophy of Dionysius the Areopagite*, *Journal of Early Christian Studies* 16:1 (2008): 118-120.

Review of Frederick Williams and Lionel Wickham (trans), Gregory of Nazianzus, *On God and Christ: The Five Theological Orations and Two Letters to Cledonius*, *Journal of Early Christian Studies* 12:2 (2004): 249-251.

Review of James S. Cutsinger (ed), *Paths to the Heart: Sufism and the Christian East*, *Anglican Theological Review* 85:2 (Spring 2003): 384-386.

Lectures and Presentations

“Phoenicians, Makers of the Mediterranean,” “Ibn Battuta: Travels with a Tangerine,” and “Antoine de Saint-Exupéry’s *Wind, Sand, and Stars*,” all presented as part of the Harvard Alumni Travel tour, “Moroccan Discovery” (March 12-24, 2025).

“The Church of the Eagle and the Condor: Reflections from a Legal Expert,” presented at a symposium on “Psychedelics in Monotheistic Traditions: Sacramental Practice and Legal Recognition,” at Harvard Law School (March 5-6, 2025).

“*Daimonia* in Aristophanes’ *Clouds*,” presented to the Harvard Episcopal Chaplaincy (March 1, 2025).

“Sensing the *Daimôn*: The Aesthetics of Ancient Demonology,” presented at a conference entitled “The Aesthetics of Esoteric Practices: Materialities, Performances, Senses,” at the Fondazione Giorgio Cini in Venice, Italy (November 12-14, 2024).

“A Solar Theology for the New Hermopolis,” presented at a conference entitled “Ancient Wisdom, Future Self: Towards a New Paradigm,” at the New Hermopolis Center in New Hermopolis, Egypt (October 24-26, 2024).

“Evagrius of Pontus and Melania the Elder: A Philosophical Correspondence in Armenian,” co-authored with Julia Hintlian, presented at a conference entitled “The Female Voice in Philosophical Conversations,” at the Australian Catholic University Campus in Rome, Italy (May 29-June 1, 2024).

“Blue Matter, Blue Mind: Water, Consciousness, and the End of Our World,” presented at a conference entitled “Materiality at the Intersection of Ecology and Religious Studies,” at the Fondazione Giorgio Cini in Venice, Italy (May 21-23, 2024).

“Of Demons and Doubles,” presented at a symposium on “The Double Self in Religious Experience,” hosted by the Axel and Margaret Ax:son Johnson Foundation at the Engelsberg Ironworks in Västmanland, Sweden (November 9, 2023).

“On the Origins of Theurgy,” presented at a Roundtable on “Theurgy—from Antiquity to Today,” hosted by the Axel and Margaret Ax:son Johnson Foundation at Halewell, England (February 1, 2024).

“North and South in the Novels of Philip Pullman,” presented at a conference entitled “Occultural Transfers Between North and South,” at the Fondazione Giorgio Cini in Venice, Italy (November 1-3, 2023).

“[The Call of the Ancient: Psychedelic Pasts and Futures](#),” presented at a conference entitled “Archives of the Impossible,” at Rice University (May 11-13, 2023).

“Apophysis and Angelology: Henry Corbin’s Neoplatonism,” presented (online) at a conference entitled “[Ideas and Influences on Eranos](#),” hosted by the Axel and Margaret Ax:son Johnson Foundation in Engelsberg, Sweden (April 27, 2023); and (in person) at the annual meeting of the International Society for Neoplatonic Studies in Catania, Italy (June 13-18, 2023).

“Corbin’s Imaginal Geography in the Novels of Philip Pullman,” presented at a conference entitled “The Eranos Experience: Spirituality and Arts from a Comparative Perspective,” at the Fondazione Giorgio Cini in Venice, Italy (November 17-19, 2022).

“*Pistis Sophia* and the Divine Double,” presented (online) at the [BRANE \(Bible and Religions of the Ancient Near East\) Collective’s Primary Text Lab on *Pistis Sophia*](#) (April 4, 2022).

“[Henry Corbin, Platonism, and the Divine Double](#),” presented (online) at the Cambridge Centre for the Study of Platonism, University of Cambridge (March 22, 2021).

“*Jingjiao*, or the ‘Luminous Religion’: Christians in China during the Tang Dynasty,” at IKTCDS University (Taiwan), 10th Annual Conference on “The Inheritance and Innovation of Chinese Classical Culture” (December 22, 2020).

“The Doubled Self and the Worship of the Gods,” at Bard College (February 6, 2020).

“Gnosticism and Film,” presented at a conference entitled “The Religion of No Religion,” at the Center for Theory and Research, the Esalen Institute in Big Sur, CA (December 8-13, 2019).

“An Experiment with Fire: Origen’s Influence on the Early Monks of Egypt,” a seminar at the Center for the Study of Antiquity and Christianity, University of Aarhus, Denmark (October 23, 2019).

“The Word Became Flesh,” presented at a conference entitled “Incarnation,” at the Center for Theory and Research, the Esalen Institute in Big Sur, CA (April 14-19, 2019).

[“Flesh and Fire: Reincarnation and Universal Salvation in the Early Church.”](#) Price Lecture at Trinity Church Boston (March 10, 2019).

“Flesh and Fire: Incarnation and Deification in Origen of Alexandria,” presented at a conference, “The Rediscovery of Origen in Twentieth-Century Theology: A Legacy for the New Millennium?” at L’Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore in Milan, Italy (October 17-19, 2018); also presented at a conference entitled “Deification and Evolution,” at the Center for Theory and Research, the Esalen Institute in Big Sur, CA (November 25-30, 2018).

“Doubled Selfhood in Late Platonism,” presented at a conference, “Contours and Expressions of the Self in Ancient Mediterranean Cultures,” at the Israel Institute of Advanced Studies in Jerusalem, Israel (May 27-31, 2018).

“The Other Divine Double: The Problem of Evil in Neoplatonism and Early Christian Thought.” Center for Late Antique Studies, Duke University (March 19, 2018).

“Pearl Divers: The Christian Mystical Tradition of the Arabian Gulf.” New York University Abu Dhabi Institute in Abu Dhabi, UAE (February 21, 2018).

“Monks on Fire,” presented at a conference entitled “Bodies of Light and Super Saints,” at the Center for Theory and Research, the Esalen Institute in Big Sur, CA (November 6-11, 2016).

“The Apostle Thomas and the Origins of Syrian Christianity.” Oklahoma University, as part of a series on “Syrian Christianity from Jesus to Refugees” (September 19, 2016).

“Reading Events,” presented at a conference, “The Further Reaches of the Imagination II,” at the Center for Theory and Research, the Esalen Institute in Big Sur, CA (November 1-6, 2015).

“Centres and Peripheries between the Eastern Mediterranean and the Silk Road,” the Rhode Island Medieval Circle Lecture, Annmary Brown Memorial, Brown University (October 29, 2015).

“Our Divine Double,” presented at a conference, “Esoteric Anatomies and the Dual Aspect of the Soul,” at the Center for Theory and Research, the Esalen Institute in Big Sur, CA (April 5-10, 2015).

“Doubt, our modern crown of thorns” plenary lecture at the Ecclesiastical History Society on the theme of “The Church and Doubt,” University of London (January 17, 2015).

“Centres and Peripheries between the Eastern Mediterranean and the Silk Road,” presented at a conference, “Linking the Mediterranean: Regional and Trans-Regional Interactions in Times of Fragmentation (300-800 CE),” at the Institute for Medieval Research at the Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften in Vienna, Austria (December 12, 2014).

Participant in a panel entitled “Fresh Trends in Theology in the Episcopal Church in the 21st Century,” part of the Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes Annual Conference in Atlanta, GA (March 1, 2014).

Roundtable discussion on “Christians and Muslims: Early Encounters,” a symposium at Brown University, responding to keynote speakers, Sidney H. Griffith and Michael Penn (February 23, 2014).

“Eros and Apostasy: C.P. Cavafy and the Emperor Julian,” presented in the Mahindra Humanities Center seminar on Modern Greek Literature and Culture, Cambridge, MA (December 11, 2013).

“Patristics and Philosophy: Strategies of Retrieval in Jean-Luc Marion and Giorgio Agamben,” presented at the International Association of Patristic Studies on the theme of “Patristic Studies in the Twentieth-first Century,” Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel (June 27, 2013).

“The Evil That Is Not: Plotinus and Proclus on God and Evil,” presented at the annual meeting of the North American Patristics Society, Chicago, IL (May 24, 2013).

“Partitive vs. Univocal Exegesis: are we really ‘beyond’ Alexandria and Antioch?” presented at the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature in Chicago, IL (November 18, 2012).

Respondent to a panel on “The Philosophy of Evagrius of Pontus,” presented at the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Chicago, IL (November 17, 2012).

“The Divine Double: ‘Twinning’ in the Eastern Christian Tradition,” presented at the Fourth Annual Conference of the Society of Catholic Priests in North America, Los Angeles, CA (October 11, 2012).

“Syriac into Chinese: the Theology of the ‘Nestorian’ (*jingjiao*) Monument,” presented at the International Syriac Studies Symposium on “Syriac in its Multi-Cultural Context,” Mardin, Turkey (April 19, 2012).

“The Exile and Return of the Unbegotten God,” presented at Università di Napoli Federico II, Naples, Italy (March 20, 2012).

“Writing as a Mystical Practice,” presented at Università di Napoli l'Orientale, Naples, Italy (March 19, 2012).

“The Negative Ontology of Evil,” presented at a conference entitled “After Sin and Evil: Poetry, Philosophy and Theology,” Van Leer Jerusalem Institute (November 24, 2011).

“Doubting Thomas, between Athens and Berlin,” the Sternberg Lecture on the Study of Religion, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel (November 13, 2011).

“Evagrius’ Grammatology: Writing in *The Great Letter*,” presented at the Sixth North American Syriac Symposium, Duke University (June 28, 2011).

“Why Eastern Christianity was the first ‘World Religion’: the case of the so-called “Nestorian” or *jingjiao* monument from 8th c. China,” presented at the Department of History and Archaeology of the American University of Beirut, Lebanon (May 24, 2011).

“The Beginning and End of All Hierarchy,” presented at the New England Anglican Studies Conference, entitled “The Open Body,” Cambridge, MA (April 2, 2011).

“How a ‘Nestorian’ Remembers the Alexandrian and Antiochene Traditions,” presented at the American Society of Church History Annual Meeting, Boston, MA (January 8, 2011).

“The ‘Twin’ in the Literature of Thomas, Mani, and Plotinus,” presented at the Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA (November 21, 2010).

“Apophatic Angelology and the Ontology of ‘dissimilar similarities’ in Pseudo-Dionysius” and “Remarks on Jason David Beduhn’s *Augustine’s Manichean Dilemma I*,” both presented at the North American Patristics Society Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL (May 28, 2010).

“After the Afterlife: Evagrius of Pontus on the *apokatastasis*,” presented at the Madrid-Harvard Colloquium, “Imagining Other Worlds: Eschatology and Utopia in Ancient Greece and Rome,” Cambridge, MA (May 6, 2010).

“Eros, Ecstasy and Madness: The Apophatic Anthropology of Dionysius the Areopagite,” presented at the Boston College Historical Theology Colloquy, Boston, MA (July 31, 2009).

“The Christian Inheritance of Pagan Theurgy,” presented at the Real Colegio Complutense, Cambridge, MA (July 15, 2009).

“No Longer I’: Rethinking the Pseudonym of the *Corpus Dionysiacum*,” presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Boston, MA (November 24, 2008).

“The Nestorian Monument,” presented at the Center for the Study of World Religions, Harvard Divinity School (November 17, 2009) and again at the Real Colegio Complutense, Cambridge, MA (February 18, 2010). A revised version, “The Nestorian (*jingjiao*) Stele and the Historiography of Early Christianity,” presented at the Boston Patristics Group, Harvard Divinity School (December 16, 2010).

“No Longer I’: the Apophatic Anthropology of Dionysius the Areopagite,” presented at a conference entitled “Apophatic Bodies: Incarnation, Infinity, Ethics,” Drew University (September 30-October 2, 2006).

“Simeon Stylites and the Geometry of Ascetic Practice,” presented at the North American Patristics Society Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL (May 2006).

“Beneath the Areopagus: Layers of Meaning in the Dionysian Pseudonym,” presented at the North American Patristics Society Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL (May 2004).

“C.P. Cavafy on Julian the Apostate,” presented at a conference entitled “Kavafis in Magna Graeca,” University of Catania, Catania, Italy (May 2002); also presented at the Cavafy Museum, Alexandria, Egypt (April 2002).

“T.E. Lawrence and C.P. Cavafy,” presented at the Columbia Club, New York, NY (June 2001).

“The Bliss of Discipline: Thoreau and Epicurus,” presented at the National Arts Center, New York, NY (February 2000) and again at Athens College, Athens, Greece (March 2000).

Selected Conferences and Symposia Organized

“Subtle Bodies and Esoteric Anatomies,” hosted by the Esalen Institute’s Center for Theory and Research in Big Sur, CA (December 8-13, 2024); co-organized with Sravana Borkatky-Varma and Simon Cox.

“The Teachings and Legacy of G.I. Gurdjieff,” hosted at the Center for the Study of World Religions at Harvard Divinity School (December 4-5, 2024).

“A Symposium on Consciousness,” hosted by Wonderstruck (August 1-5, 2024), at Kinross House (Kinross, Scotland); co-organized with Elizabeth Rovere and Sophie Roell.

“Platonism as a Living Tradition,” hosted at the Center for the Study of World Religions at Harvard Divinity School (May 16-18, 2024); co-organized with Gregory Shaw.

“Indigenous Plant Medicine Movements,” hosted by the Esalen Institute’s Center for Theory and Research in Big Sur, CA (October 8-13, 2023).

“Entheogenic Humanities,” hosted by the Esalen Institute’s Center for Theory and Research in Big Sur, CA (August 6-11, 2023); co-organized with Jeffrey J. Kripal and Wouter Hanegraaff.

“A Symposium on Wisdom and Pedagogy,” hosted by Wonderstruck (July 28-31, 2023), at Domaine de Primard (Guainville, France); co-organized with Elizabeth Rovere and Sophie Roell.

“A Symposium on Embodiment,” hosted by Wonderstruck (July 29-August 1, 2022), at Borgo Finocchieto (Siena, Italy); co-organized with Elizabeth Rovere and Sophie Roell.

“Adventures in the Imaginal: Henry Corbin in the 21st Century,” hosted at the Center for the Study of World Religions at Harvard Divinity School (May 11-14, 2022); co-organized with Hady Fakhoury.

THEOSOPHY AND THE STUDY OF RELIGION

SUBTLE BODIES

PSYCHEDELICS: MIND, MATTER AND METHOD

ABRAHAMIC TRADITIONS

Media appearances

“[The Concept of the Daimon in Pre-Platonic and Platonic Thought](#),” *The Lectern* (September 27, 2024).

“[Evagrius of Pontus: The Gnostic Trilogy](#),” *New Books Network* (July 28, 2024).

“[From the Eleusinian Mysteries to Modern Mysticism: The Role of Religion in the Psychedelic Experience](#),” *Psychedelics Today* (June 11, 2024).

“[Evagrius’ Gnostic Trilogy](#),” *PatristiCast* Episode 38 (June 6, 2024).

“The Path of a Seeker – A Conversation with Charles Stang,” *Faith Matters* (August 12, 2023); print version in *Wayfare: Explorations in Faith*, [Issue 2](#) (Summer 2023). [Audio](#); [Print](#).

“[Transcendence, Transformation, Rationality, Ritual, and the Divine Double](#),” *Voices with Vervaeke* (November 28, 2022).

“[The Ancient Belief of the Divine Counterpart](#),” *Life Examined*, KCRW (April 9, 2022).

“[Charles Stang Doubles Down](#),” *The Secret History of Western Esotericism Podcast*.

“[Charles Stang: Meeting the Divine Within](#),” *Inner Truth* with David Newell..

“[The Psychedelic Moment, Pt. 1: Charles Stang on the Mystical Experience](#),” *Voice of Esalen* (January 8, 2021).

“[Seven Pillars of Wisdom](#),” Episode 13 of *Writ Large: A Podcast About the Books That Changed the World*.

“[Dwelling with God in Tents and Temples](#),” Episode 6 of *You Never Walk Alone* (October 2, 2020).

“[Keeping the Faith](#),” Episode 147 of *Unorthodox* (August 15, 2018).

“Doubting Thomas,” commentator on second season finale of CNN series, *Finding Jesus* (2017).

Awards, Fellowships, Grants

Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Grant for Tenure-Track Faculty Book Manuscript Conference, November 2014

Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Junior Faculty Synergy Semester, Fall 2014

Theologian in Residence, The Memorial Church (Harvard University), Fall 2014

Manfred Lautenschläger Award for Theological Promise, 2013

Golda Meir Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship, Hebrew University (Jerusalem), 2011-2012

NEH Fellowship at the W.F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research in Jerusalem, 2011-12 (declined)

Outstanding Teacher of the Year, Harvard Divinity School, 2011

Faculty Research Grant, Collaboration with Max Deeg (Cardiff University), Center for the Study of World Religions, Harvard Divinity School, 2010-2011 (with James Robson, EALC)

Faculty Research Grant, “Christianity along the Silk Road,” Center for the Study of World Religions, Harvard Divinity School, 2009-2010

Dean’s Fellowship, Harvard Divinity School, 2007-08

Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship (Arabic), US Department of Education, 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07

Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University, 2004, 2005

Episcopal Church Foundation Doctoral Fellowship, 2002-2005

Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship, 2001-2002

J. Rylaarsdam Prize, University of Chicago, 2001

Schloerb Scholarship, University of Chicago, 1998-2001

Annenberg Fellowship, Eton College (Windsor, England), 1997-1998

Professional Societies and Other Affiliations

Trustee, [The Esalen Institute](#)

Associate Editor, *Journal of Early Christian Studies*

Associate Editor, *Harvard Theological Review*

Advisory Board, [Wayfare Magazine](#)

Advisory Board, [Guide to Evagrius Ponticus](#), Joel Kalvesmaki (ed)

Faculty Associate, Global Network of Research Centers for Theology, Religious and Christian Studies

Faculty Associate, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs (Harvard University)

University Service

Canvass Committee, Harvard Study of Psychedelics in Society and Culture, 2023-24

Director, Center for the Study of World Religions, 2017-

Committee on the Study of Religion (FAS), 2015-

Standing Committee on Medieval Studies (FAS), 2012-

Steering Committee, Special Program in Byzantine Studies (FAS), 2020-

Faculty Board, Advanced Leadership Institute, 2019-

Advisory Board for the selection of the Director of the Mahindra Humanities Center, 2019-20
Faculty Council (elected), Harvard Divinity School, 2010-11, 2015-17, 2021-24

Languages

Reading knowledge of Greek, Latin, Arabic, Syriac, Coptic (elementary), German, and French