

## **John Thomas Giordano**

### **Lecturer in Philosophy**

*My experience teaching in various cultural settings have sensitized me to the hidden wisdom of myths, religious practices, music, art and folklore. And I have been interested in how older more local forms of thinking preserve themselves through various strategies. In my own writings, I have attempted to awaken the meaning of these forms of wisdom through experimenting with various approaches to comparative philosophy. The aim has been to reflect on my own philosophical biases, and to shed some light on the dangers of prevailing global forms of narrative and power.*

#### *Education:*

##### **University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point**

Stevens Point, Wisconsin 54481, USA  
B.Sc. Wildlife Management and Biology 1980

##### **Duquesne University**

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15232, USA  
Ph.D. Philosophy. 1995

Dissertation:

*"The Destinies of the Work of Art: Aesthetic Theories in Hölderlin and Adorno"*

#### *Teaching Employment:*

##### **Assumption University of Thailand**

Graduate School of Philosophy and Religion  
Hua Mak, Bangkok 10240, Thailand  
2003 - present

##### **Ateneo de Manila University**

Department of Philosophy  
Quezon City, Philippines  
1997 - 2003  
Assistant Professor

##### **Njiro Hill Spiritan Seminary**

Arusha, Tanzania  
sponsored by *The Spiritan Associates*, Duquesne University  
1991 - 1994

#### *Visiting Professor:*

##### **Mahatchulalongkorn Buddhist University**

Bangkok, Thailand

First semester 2004 and 2005

**Royal University of Phnom Penh**

Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Summer Semester April – May, 1999

sponsored by *New Humanity*, Rome, Italy

**St. Joseph's Theological Seminary**

Hilton, Republic of South Africa

Spring semester 1993

sponsored by *The Spiritans*. Pietermaritzburg, RSA

*Paper Presentations and Articles*

1. "Kilimanjaro International Airport" (1995) presented at IAPL conference, Fairfax Virginia 1995, published in *Budhi* vol. 1
2. "Photo-graphing Spirit" (1999) published in *Budhi* vol. 1, 1999
3. "Celestial Girls in the Brocade-Hung Pavilions of Heaven" (2000) published in *Budhi* vol. 2, 2000
4. "Translucence" (2002) presented at *Conference on Mysticism*, Bangkok, 2002, published in *Prajna Vihara* vol. 3, 1: 2002
5. "Catchwords: On Heidegger and Americanism" (2003) published in *Philosophia*, vol. 32, 1: 2003
6. "Seams and Flows in Metro Manila" (2003) presented at *Budhi / Thesis Eleven* conference, Manila, Philippines.
7. "This Flowing Exchange" (2003) *Measuring the Effect of Iranian Mysticism on Southeast Asia*, Assumption University, Bangkok Thailand. published in proceedings)
8. "Kinnari: on Traditional and Corporate Myth" (2004) presented at *AACP conference 2004*, Bangkok Thailand, published in *Prajna Vihara*
9. "Ta Prohm: Some Reflections on Oblivion and Redemption" (2004) presented at *Socio-Cultural Congress on Cambodia 2004*, Royal University of Phnom Penh. published in proceedings
10. "Service Station Spirit House" (2004) presented at *Budhi / Thesis Eleven Conference 2004*, Manila, Philippines. published in *Budhi*, 2005
11. "Sacred Commodities" (2005) presented at *Socio-Cultural Congress on Cambodia 2005*, Royal University of Phnom Penh. published in *Prajna Vihara*, vol. 9 no.2
12. "Garuda Indonesia, registered trademark" (presented at *AACP conference 2006*, Bandung, Indonesia, published in *Prajna Vihara* 7.2)
13. "Naga Casino: On Fate, Fortune and the Future" (2006) presented at *Socio-Cultural Congress on Cambodia 2006*. Royal University of Phnom Penh
14. "Friday Offerings: On the Uses of Political Theology" (2007) presented at the "Conference on Religion and Politics in Thailand." Bangkok, December 2007
15. "The True Gods of Sound and Stone" (2008) presented at the COMIUCAP 3<sup>rd</sup> world congress on "Philosophy, Religions, and Transcendence," Manila Philippines, September, 2008

16. "Good Luck" (2008) Presented at the 8<sup>th</sup> International Conference of the AACCP: *"The Role of Christian Thinkers in the Global Age"* December 12-14, 2008. Chung Yuan Christian University, Chung-Li, Taiwan.
17. "Teacher's Heads" (2009) presented at the International Conference on *"The Role of Philosophy in the Development of South East Asia"* Organized by The Philosophical Association of Cambodia, UNESCO, and the Council for Research in Values and Philosophy, Royal Academy of Cambodia, 24-25, June, 2009
18. "Jesus / Rizal" (2009) presented at the Conference: *"Australian Caravans: Empires. Regions. Utopias,"* a conference of regional journals: *Prajna Vihara, Budhi,* and *Thesis Eleven* Latrobe University, Melbourne Australia, July 2009
19. "Friday Offerings: On the uses of Political Theology" (2010) presented again at the *UNESCO International Asia-Arab Philosophical Conference: "Culture of Peace and Human Dignity"*. 14-17 May 2010. Thistle Beach Resort, Port Dickson, Malaysia.
20. "On Distance, and on things which from far away look like flies" (2010) presented at the *International Conference on The Problems of Values and Ontology in Contemporary Philosophy*, Department of Philosophy of National Taiwan University, 22-23 October 2010. published in the proceedings
21. "Messianic Machines: An Essay Against the Language of Development" (2011) presentation at the Vietnamese Institute of Social Sciences, sponsored by the Council for Research in Values and Philosophy (CRVP) Southeast Asian Biennial Conference *"Cultural Traditions and Sustainable Development"* Hanoi, Vietnam, June 2011, published in proceedings.
22. "The Thin Veneer of Values" (2012) presented at *UNESCO conference, "International Conference on Human Ethics for Peace and Security,"* Kunming, Yunnan, People's Republic of China, 16-18 November 2012
23. "A Quarrel in the Heavens: On Metaphysics in a Multi-Polar World." (2013) presented at the conference on *"The Rise of the Asian Century: Trends in Asian and Christian Philosophy for Building a Just and Sustainable World,"* Ateneo de Manila University, Philippines. 10-11 April 2013.
24. "Chiron and the Machines of Loving Grace" (2013) presented at the conference on *"Ecological, Social and Economic Sustainability - Perspectives for Thailand and ASEAN,"* Assumption University of Thailand, 28th November 2013.
25. "Orientations Towards the Faded Heavens and the Faded Earth" (2014) presented at the conference: *"Extremism and Social Peace."* Paramadina University, Jakarta, Indonesia, 12 May 2014.
26. "The Gift of the Divs: On the Diversity of Knowledge among the Ikhwan al-Safa" (2014) presented at *The First International Conference on Thoughts on the Human Sciences in Islam* held by the Sadra International Institute & STFI Sadra. Jakarta, Indonesia, 19-20 November 2014
27. "The Death of Semar" (2015) presented at *"Terms of Reference: International Conference on Ethics, Values and Local Wisdoms."* Association of Indonesian Ethics Lecturers. Atma Jaya Catholic University, Jakarta, Indonesia 6-10 August 2015  
Published in *ResponS: Jurnal Etika Sosial* vol. 20. Nomor 02 Desember 2015
28. "Al-Khwarazmi – Algorithm: On the Religious and Cultural Unconscious of Science." (2015) presented at *"The Second International Conference on Thought on*

- the Human Sciences in Islam*” held by Sadra International Institute, Jakarta, Indonesia, 18-19 November 2015
29. “The Imperfect City: Leo Strauss reading al-Farabi reading Plato” (2016) presented at *The Third International Conference on Thought on the Human Sciences in Islam* held by Sadra International Institute, Jakarta, Indonesia, 16-17 November 2016
  30. "On Wandering Scholars, and On the Flows and Disruptions of Cultural Interaction: Reading Victor Segalen with Michel Serres." (2017) presented at the conference *Re-Learning to Be Human for Global Times: Cultural Development, Justice and Responsibility*. Center for Moral Culture Studies, Hunan Normal University, Changsha, P.R. China, July 15-16, 2017
  31. "Narot, Copyrighted, All Rights Reserved: On the Tension between Music Copyright and Religious Authority". (2017) presented at the conference *Music, Myths and Realities*. Fourth Princess Galyani Vadhana International Symposium August 30th-September 1st, 2017 [Link](#)
  32. "Navigating Around the World Island, Among Enemies" (2018) presented at the conference *A Meeting of East and West: Philosophy and Religion* Benedict XVI Study Center n Regensburg and the Graduate Program in Philosophy and Religion, Assumption University. December 6-7, 2018.
  33. "Viewing the World from a Mountain Top: From Al-Biruni to Contemporary Globalization". (2018) presented at the conference *Relearning to Be Human for Global Times: A Dialogue Between Islam and Culture*. Paramadina Institute of Ethics and Civilizations (PIEC) Faculty of Philosophy and Civilization Paramadina University IC-THUSI and CRVP-Washington. Jakarta. January 3-4, 2018.) [Link](#)
  34. "Stumpf's Cylinders: On the Externalization of Musical Memory and the Future of Traditional Music" (2018) presented at the conference Fifth Princess Galyani Vadhana International Symposium August 30th-September 1st, 2018
  35. "Epimetheus Unbound: On the Stupidity of Philosophers” (2018) presented at the conference *Fairness and Justice in the Social Development of ASEAN Countries*. Assumption University of Thailand and Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, September 21, 2018
  36. "The Twilight of the Gods: On the Orchestration of Sound by the Flows of Capital" (2019) presented at the conference *Sixth Princess Galyani Vadhana International Symposium* August 30th-September 1st, 2018)
  37. "The Language of the Birds, and the Flight of Ideas through Cyberspace" (2019) Perspectives on Media and its Social Impacts in the Age of Globalization. Assumption University of Thailand. 14 November 2019
  38. "The Verdict of the Genii: Perfection, Imperfection and the Human in the Ikhwan al-Safa". (2019) International Association for Environmental Philosophy. Twenty-third Annual Meeting. 2 - 4 November 2019. The Pittsburgh Marriot, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA.
  39. "The Idea of Diversity in the Writings of the Ikhwan al-Safa: Its Importance and Relevance for the Contemporary World" (2020) presented at the conference *Kalam, Philosophy, Humanities: International Webinar*. Philosophy and Theology Department Fakultas Ushuluddin Uin Ar-Raniry, Banda Aceh. 14 December 2020
  40. The Marriage of Preah Thong and Neang Neak: On Cultural Memory, Universalism and Eclecticism." ASEACCU Annual Conference 2022. 23-2 August 2022 Phnom

- Penh, Cambodia. Published in *Memory and Identity: The Proceedings of the 28th ASEACCU Annual Conference*. Macau: University of Saint Joseph Press
41. "The Merchants of Heavenly Grace: On Academic Publication and Cultural Difference." (2023) presented at the conference *Spiritual Values and the Challenges of the World Today* sponsored by Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iasi, Romania and Dokuz Eylül University, Türkiye. August 22 and 23, 2023. Published in *Methexis* vol. 3 no. 2, 2023.

*Conference organized:*

*Cartographies of Culture, Religion and Thought* (a conference of regional journals: *Prajna Vihara*, *Budhi*, and *Thesis Eleven*). Assumption University of Thailand, Bangkok. June 26-28, 2007

I am the Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Prajna Vihara* published out of Assumption University of Thailand.