THE INTERDISCIPLINARY HUMANITIES CENTER SERIES:

HUMANITIES DECANTED

PRESENTING NEW PUBLICATIONS AND CREATIVE PROJECTS BY HFA FACULTY

Join us for a dialogue between Dominique Jullien (French and Comparative Literature) and Sowon Park (English) about Jullien’s new book, Borges, Buddhism and World Literature: A Morphology of Renunciation Tales. Refreshments will be served.

Thursday, December 5 | 4:00 pm
McCune Conference Room, 6020 HSSB

DOMINIQUE JULLIEN

Borges, Buddhism and World Literature: A Morphology of Renunciation Tales
(Palgrave Macmillan, 2019)

Jullien’s latest book follows the renunciation story in Borges and beyond, arguing for its centrality as a Borgesian compositional trope and as a Borgesian prism for reading a global constellation of texts. The renunciation story at the heart of Buddhism, that of a king who leaves his palace to become an ascetic, fascinated Borges because of its cross-cultural adaptability and metamorphic nature, and because it resonated so powerfully across philosophy, politics and aesthetics. Ultimately, the enigmatic appeal of the renunciation story aligns it with the open-endedness of modern parables.


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