

“Humanity Redeemed: The Theological Vision of Georges Rouault”

A Theology and Arts Symposium

Gordon Conwell-Theological Seminary / Charlotte, NC

Sept 23-24, 2022

**Symposium Overview**

Georges Rouault (1871–1958) was unique among French modernist artists due to his Christian commitment and its influence on his work. The theological vision unveiled through his art is honest and complex, one that reflects the changing climate and tumultuous events of the early twentieth century. In doing so, Rouault showed the possibility of salvation and hope within the inexplicable suffering and mundane realities of human life. His close friend Jacques Maritain identified this as “the art of humanity redeemed.”

This symposium will gather teachers, pastors, artists, ministry leaders, and others to reflect on the theological vision of Georges Rouault and his ongoing impact. Prominent scholars and practitioners with expertise in theology, art history, philosophy, therapy, and community leadership will be offering papers and leading the discussion. One of the speakers, Philippe Rouault, is the great grandson of Georges Rouault and will be providing a personal introduction to his life, work, and family. In addition, several artists will present new work inspired by Rouault, which will both enrich our experience together and show the ongoing generativity of Rouault’s vision and style.

For speakers, schedule, and more information, please visit <https://www.gordonconwell.edu/event/rouault-symposium/>

**Call for Visual Artists and Poets**

We are seeking eight artists (visual and poetic/spoken word) to create and present a piece that converses with or improvises upon the work of Georges Rouault. The improvisational link can be thematic and/or stylistic, not imitating Rouault but demonstrating creative inspiration and influence. Artists should be available to present and facilitate brief dialogue about their work as a part of one symposium session on September 23-24, and the registration fee for the symposium will be covered. Each submission will be considered for publication in a volume collating all symposium contributions. Visual art will remain exhibited at Gordon-Conwell Seminary until mid-December.

**Specifications**

* Visual art can be any medium and any size capable of fitting through an interior door.
* Poetry should be no more than 1000 words.

**Submission and Acceptance**

* The deadline for submission is August 12, and artists should complete all submission details below and email them to wvanderlugt@gordonconwell.edu.
* Artists will be notified of acceptance by August 19, and all decisions are final.
* Each accepted artist will receive a $250 honorarium
* If accepted, artists are giving the curators and symposium organizer the right to publish written work or reproductions of visual work.

**Process after Acceptance**

* Deliver visual art to Gordon-Conwell Seminary no later than September 16. All visual art must arrive exhibit ready, delivered with all necessary framing, wiring, or stands.
* On September 23-24, attend at least the session where you are scheduled to submit your work, but you are welcome and encouraged to attend the entire symposium and enjoy the communal meals.
* If a visual artist desires, their work can be for sale at Gordon-Conwell, with 100% of the proceeds going to the artist. The symposium organizer will put any interested buyers directly in touch with the artist.
* For visual artists, pick up work at Gordon-Conwell during business hours the week of December 12.

**Submission Details**

Personal Information

* Name:
* Email:
* Phone:
* Website:
* Address:
* Brief bio (if not on website):

Artwork Information

* The title of the work you are submitting:
* Briefly describe the concept behind your work and how it converses with or improvises upon the work of Georges Rouault:
* For visual art, indicate medium, dimensions, and any display requirements:
* For visual art, submit a high-quality digital image of the work, titling the file with your last name.
* For poetry, submit a digital manuscript of no more than 1000 words, titling the file with your last name.

Contact Information

* For all symposium and submission questions, please email Dr. Wes Vander Lugt at wvanderlugt@gordonconwell.edu.