Matthew and the Jewish Leaders: From Text to Film

Prof. Adele Reinhartz

Monday, March 25, 2019
1:00-1:50 p.m., Simboli Hall 135
Boston College Brighton Campus

This lecture will discuss two passages from the Gospel of Matthew that have had a long and unfortunate legacy in Jewish-Christian relations, chapters 23 and 27. The first passage raises issues about the troubling use of the term “Pharisee” as a synonym for hypocrite. The second passage is the scriptural locus for the charge of deicide—the killing of God—a charge that was lifted from the Jews in the Vatican II document, Nostra Aetate (1965). Professor Reinhartz will show how these two Gospel texts have been portrayed in two cinematic features: Pier Paolo Pasolini’s masterful film, The Gospel According to St. Matthew (1964), and in Jesus of Montreal, directed by Denys Arcand (1989). Clips from both films will be shown.

Prof. Adele Reinhartz will be speaking in Prof. Angela Harkins’ “Gospel of Matthew” Class.

Adele Reinhartz, Ph.D. (McMaster University, 1983) is Professor in the Department of Classics and Religious Studies at the University of Ottawa, in Canada. She is the author of numerous books and articles, including Befriending the Beloved Disciple: A Jewish Reading of the Gospel of John (2001), Jesus of Hollywood (2007), and Bible and Cinema: An Introduction (2013). Her most recent book is Cast Out of the Covenant: Jews and Anti-Judaism in the Gospel of John (2018). Adele was the General Editor of The Journal of Biblical Literature from 2012-2018 and currently serves as Vice-President and President-elect of the Society of Biblical Literature. She was elected to the Royal Society of Canada in 2005 and to the American Academy of Jewish Research in 2014.

This event is free and all are welcome. Please email cjlearning@bc.edu if you would like to attend.