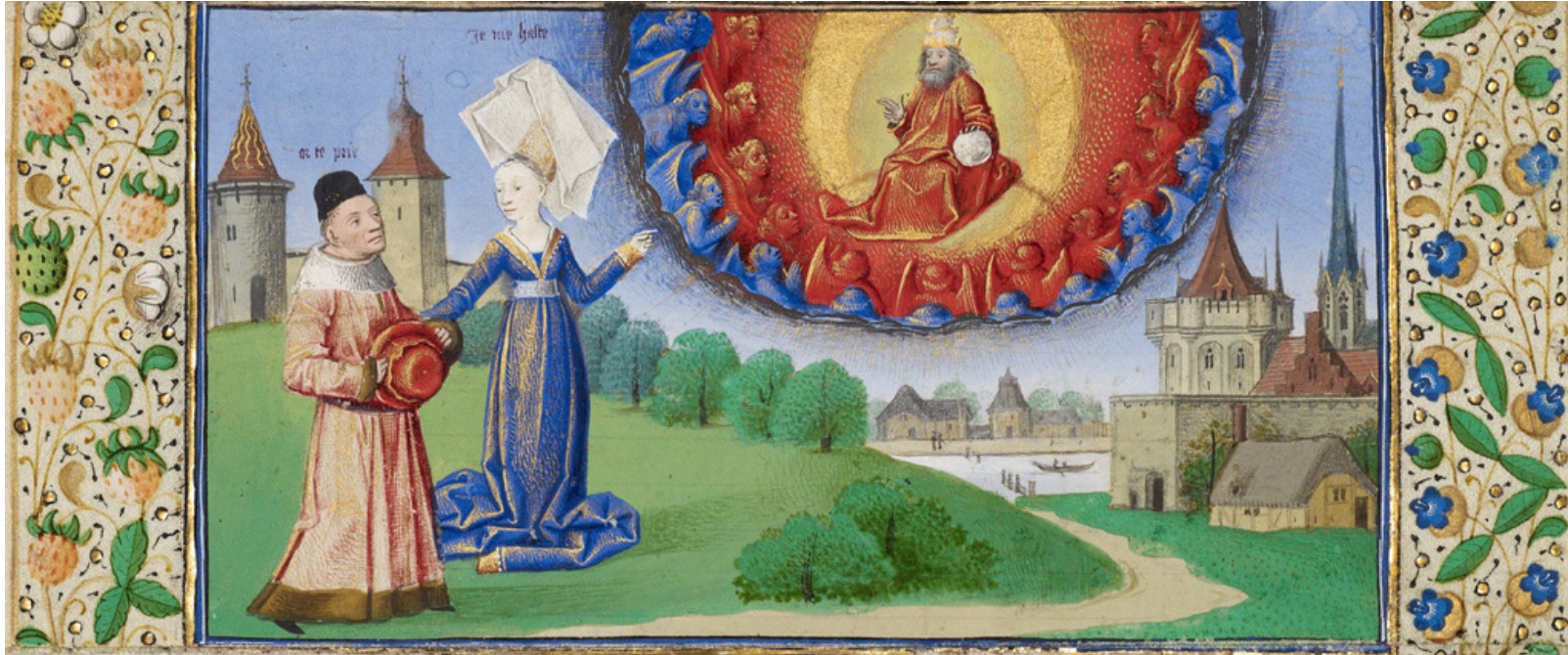


Christian Platonism and the Spiritual Imagination

A TWO-DAY COURSE COMBINING PHILOSOPHY AND PRACTICE

With Tom Bree, Daniel Docherty and Valentin Gerlier

6, 7 October 2018 Wells, Somerset, UK



Lady Philosophy instructs Boethius on the role of God

‘The mystical vision of harmony can become a model for the artist only if it has first taken possession of his soul and become the ordering principle of all its facilities and aspirations.’

Abbot Suger of St. Denis (1081-1151)

Details/bookings: info@emma-clark.com

CHRISTIAN PLATONISM AND THE SPIRITUAL IMAGINATION

Twelfth century Western Christianity experienced a great revival of interest in the knowledge of the ancient world. This showed itself in the study of philosophy, theology, science and the arts. In the soaring pointed arches of a Gothic cathedral and the Platonic theology of ascent the Christian Platonism of the 12th century sought a middle path of Wisdom. This middle path or 'ideal mean' viewed the relationship between opposites as a guiding principle for the embodied soul to orientate its vision towards the Divine. This notion of harmony and balance lay at the heart, not only of poetic descriptions of nature and the cosmos as well as harmoniously proportioned scriptural illuminations, but also the musical compositions that incorporated the harmony of the spheres. During this weekend workshop we will approach such Christian Platonic themes through talks, discussion and the drawing of beautiful geometric patterns. We will also consider some of the differing perceptions of Platonism associated with St Augustine, St Dionysius and Boethius and how geometry, music, cosmology and theology become united through their mutual 'Love of Wisdom'.

Course tutors:

Tom Bree is a geometer-artist, teacher and writer who specialises in the use of geometry in sacred art and philosophy.

Daniel Docherty is co-founder of SAOG Studios and a PSTA tutor with a particular interest in how the philosophy and practice of sacred geometry and the other 'quadrivial' arts inform the cultural traditions of the world.

Valentin Gerlier is a writer and musician, a tutor for the Temenos Academy and member of its Board.

He is also a member of St Edmund's College, Cambridge.

In the Chair: Emma Clark of The Prince's School of Traditional Arts and the Temenos Academy

The cost of the workshop is £225 inclusive of tools/materials/refreshments. Full details of the workshop will be forwarded to participants in advance of the weekend. A non-refundable deposit of £50 is required by 30 July 2018.

It is a non-residential workshop so a list of local hotels and B&Bs will be sent to participants.

For further enquiries and bookings please contact Emma Clark: info@emma-clark.com