

IFTR WG Performance, Religion and Spirituality

2017 Post-conference Report

For the 2017 IFTR Conference in São Paulo, Brazil, the Performance, Religion, and Spirituality Working Group helped organize a pre-conference workshop, prepared three, formal working group sessions, and contributed to a New Scholars Forum panel. PRS collaborated with the Performance as Research Working Group to make possible Laurelanne Porter's pre-conference "Ile Ogbon Ati Aye" physical theatre workshop, patronized by, roughly, twenty conference participants. PRS's Working Group sessions aimed to deal with space, devotion, and storytelling. Active PRS members chaired and contributed to a NSF panel that revolved around ritual transformations of space. Active PRS members were able to fulfill one of PRS's goals for the 2017 conference, by attending working group sessions prepared by other working groups, including the Performance as Research WG, the Historiography WG, and the Embodied Research WG, in order to tentatively establish contact. Although late cancelations limited some of what PRS expected to accomplish, active PRS members were able to assess the working group's relationships with other IFTR working groups, to attract the interest of new participants, and to develop some concrete and promising plans for the working group's future.