

August 9, 2013
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Sarah Levine
404-727-3049; slevine@aarweb.org



2013 American Academy of Religion Book Awards Announced

The American Academy of Religion (AAR) has selected the 2013 recipients of the Awards for Excellence in the Study of Religion and the Best First Book in the History of Religions:

Award for Excellence in Religion: Analytical-Descriptive Studies

Anna Fedele, CRIA – Lisbon University Institute

Looking for Mary Magdalene: Alternative Pilgrimage and Ritual Creativity at Catholic Shrines in France
Oxford University Press, 2012.

Award for Excellence in Religion: Constructive-Reflective

Jeffrey L. Kosky, Washington and Lee University

Arts of Wonder: Enchanting Secularity - Walter De Maria, Diller + Scofidio, James Turrell, Andy Goldsworthy

University of Chicago Press, 2012.

Award for Excellence in Religion: Historical Studies

Christian K. Wedemeyer, University of Chicago Divinity School

Making Sense of Tantric Buddhism: History, Semiology, and Transgression in the Indian Traditions
Columbia University Press, 2012.

Award for Excellence in Religion: Textual Studies

Emily T. Hudson, Boston University

Disorienting Dharma: Ethics and the Aesthetics of Suffering in the Mahabharata
Oxford University Press, 2012.

Best First Book in the History of Religions

A. Azfar Moin, Southern Methodist University

The Millennial Sovereign: Sacred Kingship and Sainthood in Islam
Columbia University Press, 2012.

The Awards for Excellence and Best First Book in the History of Religions recognize new scholarly publications that make significant contributions to the study of religion. The awards honor books of distinctive originality, intelligence, creativity, and importance; books that affect decisively how religion is examined, understood, and interpreted. For more information, please visit <http://www.aarweb.org/programs-services/book-awards>. Awards will be presented at the AAR's 2013 Annual Meeting in Baltimore, Maryland on Sunday, November 24, 2013, 8:00–9:30 PM.

Founded in 1909, the American Academy of Religion is the world's largest association of religion scholars. Its mission is to foster excellence in the study of religion by promoting research, publishing, and teaching about religion in academia. As a learned society and professional association of teachers and research scholars, the AAR has about 9,000 members who teach in some 900 colleges, universities, seminaries, and schools in North America and abroad. The Academy is dedicated to furthering knowledge of religion and religious institutions in all their forms and manifestations. This is accomplished through Academy-wide and regional conferences and meetings, publications, programs, and membership services.

###