



RELIGION AND IDEAS ROUNDTABLE

MODERN THINKING IN ISLAM SERIES 2019



SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES & COMMUNICATION ARTS

Religion and Society Research Cluster,
School of Social Sciences & Psychology,
Western Sydney University

By Dr Milad Milani (WSU)
& Dr Vassilis Adrahtas (Macquarie)

**Presenter: Emeritus Professor Garry
W. Trompf**

TITLE

Questions of Gnostic Islam

ACADEMIC PROFILE

Garry Winston Trompf is Emeritus Professor in the History of Ideas, and Adjunct Professor in Peace and Conflict Studies, at the University of Sydney. He was formerly Professor of History at the University of Papua New Guinea, and Head of the Department of Religious Studies, University of Sydney. He has held Visiting Professorships at the Universities of California, Utrecht, Edinburgh, Warsaw, and the Jung Institute, Zurich. His monographs include *The Idea of Historical Recurrence in Western Thought* (1979); *In Search of Origins* (1990); and *Payback: The Logic of Retribution in Melanesian Religions* (2008). Among his edited books are *Cargo Cults and Millenarian Movements* (1990); *The World of Religions* (2001); and *The*

Gnostic World (2018). He is founding editor of the monograph series *Studies in World Religions; Gnostica; and Religion, Politics and Society*.

ABSTRACT

Professor Trompf will introduce the subject of Gnostic Islam. He will spend some time discussing the influences of Gnostic thought in Late Antiquity and its implications for the emergence of Islam; and then consider the historical transferences of Gnostic elements into early Shi'ite cosmologies, Sufism, Isma'ilism, and on into the contemporary Islamic world (discussing Twelver Shi'ite Gnoseology, Western Sufism, and the Nation of Islam).

LOCATION AND TIME

Western Sydney University
Parramatta South Campus, The Female
Orphan School, PS-EZ.1.57 (Geoffrey
Roberson Boardroom)
Friday, 5 April, 10.00am – 12.00pm

