

International Symposium at Glastonbury Abbey and Harvard Divinity School (June 6–9, 2013)

Sponsored by the Harvard Divinity School, the Harvard Center for Health and Global

ForumACS Environment, and the

General Information

If we instinctively seek a paradisiacal and special place on earth, it is because we know in our inmost hearts that the earth was given to us in order that we might find meaning, order, truth and salvation in (Thomas Merton)it.

The International Symposium on Urbanism, Spirituality & Well Being will convene experts in the fields of architecture, landscape design, urbanism, religious studies, public health and other related disciplines to address leading-edge global culture and urbanism issues from contemplative, spiritual, philosophical, design and ethical perspectives. The 2 1/2 day program of scholarly presentations and panel discussions is sponsored by the Harvard University Divinity School, the Harvard Center for Health and the Global Environment and the Forum for Architecture, Culture and Spirituality.

The symposium topics include scholarship on the history of cities and architecture planned according to spiritual motivations or principles; the contemporary built urban environment and the plethora of forces that shape it; and the prospects of future urban life that nurtures meaningful, sustainable, and spiritually inspiring built environments and architecture.

How we draw from past and present contexts to cultivate new urban and architectural visions is an imperative that theologians, public health experts, architects and urban designers are well placed to address through philosophical, theoretical and practical considerations and contemplation. This international symposium will focus on the history and potential of the city to spiritually uplift the human spirit, contextualize and symbolize our shared "human condition," accommodate communal activities and rituals that give meaning to our lives, and provide connections to knowledge and understanding of the transcendent dimension of existence in architecture and the urban setting.

will take place June 6 – 9, 2013 at Glastonbury Abbey, Hingham, USW Symposium
The Massachusetts & Harvard University Divinity School, in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

The deadline for presentation/paper proposals is

January 14, 2013

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Submission Details

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is an international scholarly environment [Forum for Architecture, Culture and Spirituality](#) The
established in 2007 to support architectural and interdisciplinary scholarship, research, practice, and
education on the significance, experience and meaning of the built environment.