

The Sacrifice of Isaac

Wednesday, February 12, 2014

7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

St. Vincent DePaul Parish

1010 West Webster Avenue, Chicago



Abraham's binding and near-sacrifice of Isaac is a foundational moment for three major world religions. More than this, it asks us to think about what makes community, family, and ethics possible. Is an act good because it is inherently good, or is it good because it serves some further end, follows some rule, or has been ordained good by someone in authority? Is there anyplace "outside" morality—or anything (or anyone) capable of founding morality that is not also already subject to it? We will discuss these and related questions in a night that will include a live musical performance of Benjamin Britten's "Canticle II: Abraham and Isaac," as well as lectures on how the sacrifice of Isaac has been depicted in the history of European art, and how religious scholars and philosophers have addressed the meaning of Abraham's—and God's—actions that led to Isaac's binding, his ordeal, and his ultimate reprieve.

with

Rev. Christopher S. Robinson, DePaul University, Adjunct Professor of Religious Studies

Lisa Mahoney, DePaul University, Assistant Professor of Art History

Adriaan Peperzak, Loyola University, Professor of Philosophy

Legera Danielides, mezzo-soprano; Tomás Domínguez, tenor; and Brandon Segovia, piano;
DePaul University School of Music