

The Art of Change

The main theme of the third issue of *The Journal* is the role of art in faith, spirituality and social change. Four contributors consider various aspects of this complex topic, considering the practical potential as well as the theological and philosophical dimensions of art.

The first contribution, 'Faith Crafting' by Martin Byrne and Pauline Logue Collins, explores how theologically informed art practices can be used within a Western inner city to challenge social exclusion. A series of colour plates enrich this article with graphic illustrations. June Boyce-Tillman develops the theme of practical engagement in our second article, drawing on her extensive personal experience to consider the role of 'Hymnody as Social Protest'. Again the discussion is illustrated, this time with examples of hymns. Caroline Bliss's lively article continues the practical emphasis but applies it to a far less traditional medium; Bliss discusses how she uses the power of New Media to enable students to explore spiritual values and social issues.

To close our consideration of the art of change, we shift both focus and style with a more philosophical piece. Tim Clark's wide-ranging discussion of Milbank, Duchamp, and 'Poincaré's Sarcasm' considers the challenge of secular modernity and argues for an engagement between critical theologies and contemporary art.

The final article breaks with the specific theme and considers religion and social change in a Yoruba Community. Adelowo Felix Adetunji uses an anthropological and historical study of the Shao community to illustrate ways in which religion can bring social change.

As usual we close with *Reflections*, which on this occasion is a response to a piece published in our first issue. Paul Johnson and Robert M. Vanderbeck present their argument that 'Islamic Marital Order and the Threats of Homosexuality in Nigeria' should not have been published.

Our third FSSC conference has been combined with an international interfaith conference to consider [Interfaith Encounters & Social Change: Engagements from the Margins](#).

The Editors