

“Reality Has Never Betrayed Me”

Friday, Saturday, Sunday
January 13-15, 2017

METROPOLITAN PAVILION

125 West 18th Street
(between Sixth and Seventh Aves)
New York, NY 10011

2017

**EVENTS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
AND FREE OF CHARGE**

NO REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

FOOD/DRINK

A food court on the ground floor of the Metropolitan Pavilion will offer a variety of food and drink during the event.

TRANSPORTATION

The Metropolitan Pavilion is very close to 1, F, M subway lines. N, Q, R, L, 4, 5, 6 subway lines stop at Union Square (12-minute walk).

“Reality as it emerges in experience is so positive that it presents itself as inexorably appealing. Instead of appealing we might use another word ... promising.”

– Luigi Giussani

We all have the intuition that life, even with all its hardships, is fundamentally good. Its original appeal is continuously being reawakened by things and people—an appeal we can resist, but never eliminate.

And yet, we have a hard time relating to many aspects of life: family, work, politics, society, even our own bodies and the very food we eat. We should be the masters of our destiny, but often don't know what to do with ourselves, and rely on experts to face all kinds of problems. We want to be independent in our decisions, and yet we live in fear of missing out and afraid of really committing ourselves to anything. We claim to be in control of our time, but are constantly anxious about the future. We think we know how to love, but repeatedly feel tossed around by our emotions. We look for “beautiful experiences,” trying to capture the moment, but are left wondering if we are truly experiencing life.

In the end, since life does not bend to our desires and its meaning remains elusive, we use our ingenuity to construct our own reality and give sense to life. We believe this is the pinnacle of human dignity and freedom. But the reality we try to create, when put to the test of experience, does not deliver on its promises, and too frequently the ensuing frustration turns into anger and violence.

What are we missing? Why do we often perceive reality as disappointing? What can help us reconcile with reality and engage life as it is?

Join us for a weekend of public discussions, exhibits, and live performances, to encounter people who, by facing the concrete circumstances of their lives, experience the positivity of reality.

**NEW YORK
ENCOUNTER** X

www.newyorkencounter.org

Auditorium ground floor

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13 | 6:00 pm

- **6:30 pm | Positive Because Appealing**
The Encounter opens with music and a conversation with **Richard CABRAL**, Actor and former gang member in East Los Angeles, and **Fr. Vincent NAGLE**, Fraternity of St. Charles Borromeo
- **9:00 pm | Shadow and Sound: The Journey of Helen Keller**
A reflective, original stage adaptation of Helen Keller's life, including music from the famous composer who shared one of her limitations

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14 | 9:30 am

- **10:00 am | "Economy with a Truly Human Purpose" (Pope Francis): Is It Possible?**
A discussion on Pope Francis' proposals for an integrally human economic development
Speakers:
 - × **Brian GRIM** | President, Religious Freedom and Business Foundation
 - × **Joseph KABOSKI** | Professor of Economics, University of Notre Dame
 - × **Carolyn WOO** | President and CEO, Catholic Relief Services
 - × **Paolo CAROZZA** (moderator) | Director, Kellogg Institute at the University of Notre Dame
- **11:30 am | The Simple Joy of Eating Well**
Recovering a friendly relationship with food and the experience of eating
Speakers:
 - × **Ginny LARACY** | Therapist
 - × **Karen LE BILLON** | Author
 - × **José PORRO** | System Analysis and Design Director
 - × **Fr. Samuel FONTANA** (moderator) | Associate Pastor, St. Joseph Church, Rayne, LA
- **2:00 pm | Reality Does Not Betray. Really?**
A conversation on this year's Encounter theme
Speakers:
 - × **Michael WALDSTEIN** | Professor of Theology, Ave Maria University
 - × **John WATERS** | Author
 - × **Fr. José MEDINA** (moderator) | US Coordinator of Communion and Liberation
- **4:00 pm | An American Dream ... Come True!**
The life of some American saints and their relevance for our times
Speakers:
 - × **Timothy Cardinal DOLAN** | Archbishop of New York
 - × **Matt MALONE, S.J.** | President & Editor in Chief of *America Media*
 - × **Claire VOUK** | College student
 - × **Paige SANCHEZ** (moderator) | Associate Superintendent for Mission Effectiveness, Archdiocese of New York

- **6:00 pm | "Never Lose Infinite Hope"**
(Martin Luther King, Jr.)
Stories of reconciliation with life
Speakers:
 - × **Dan JUSINO** | Founder and CEO of EMERGE, a re-entry, transitional work program for ex-inmates
 - × **Steven MCDONALD** | NYPD Detective who was shot in 1986 and left quadriplegic
 - × **Tommaso BARDELLI** (moderator) | Political Science PhD candidate, Yale University
- **9:00 pm | Invasion 14: The Prisoner, the Priest**
A new work by Christopher Vath, musician, for narrator, violin, cello and piano set in the squalid WWI prison of the Maxence Van Der Meersch novel. Performers: **Kenneth GENUARD**, narrator; **David Han MARKS**, violin; **Rubin KODHELLI**, cello; and **Christopher VATH**, piano
Tickets: \$10/Open seating

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15 | 8:30 am

- **9:00 am | Holy Mass**
Celebrated by **Seán Cardinal O'MALLEY**, OFM, Cap., Archbishop of Boston, and **Christophe PIERRE**, Apostolic Nuncio to the US with the **Choir of Communion and Liberation** directed by **Christopher VATH**
- **11:00 am | The Art of Science**
Speakers:
 - × **Dr. Luca MATONE** | Astrophysicist, Member of the LIGO Scientific Collaboration that detected gravitational waves
 - × **Dr. Polly MATZINGER** | Immunologist, NIH, who described the "Danger Model"
 - × **Dr. Maria Teresa LANDI** (moderator) | Principal Investigator, NIH
- **2:00 pm | Beauty Does Not Betray**
A discussion on the themes in the soon-to-be-released book, *Disarming Beauty* by Fr. Julián Carrón
Speakers:
 - × **Fr. Julián CARRÓN** | President of the Fraternity of Communion and Liberation
 - × **Joseph WEILER** | Joseph Straus Professor of Law, New York University
- **4:00 pm | Are the American People Betraying Their Dream? Or Is the American Dream Betraying its People?**
A conversation on American culture and society
Speakers:
 - × **David BROOKS** | Editorialist, *The New York Times*
 - × **Rusty RENO** | Managing Editor, *First Things*
 - × **Maurizio MANISCALCO** (moderator) | President of New York Encounter
- **6:00 pm | Life as It Is**
Wrapping up the Encounter
- **8:00 pm | Singing about this Brightness**
Final night of celebration and songs with the Encounter volunteers

SCHOOLS CONTEST AWARD CEREMONY
Saturday, January 14 | 5:00 pm

POETRY CONTEST AWARD CEREMONY
Sunday, January 15 | 5:00 pm

📍 Second floor

Reality Did not Betray Me: Life in the Midst of Rubble

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14

- **12:30 pm | From 9/11 to Priesthood**
A witness by **Fr. Tom COLUCCI**, Parochial Vicar, St. Mary, Mother of the Church, Fishkill, New York, former Captain of the New York City Fire Department
- **3:15 pm | Anchored to a Presence**
A witness by **Msgr. Giampietro DAL TOSO**, Secretary of the Pontifical Council "Cor Unum" on the Holy See's initiatives to help the Syrian and Iraqi people

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15

- **3:15 pm | An Encounter that Reawakens Life's Promise**
Stories of a life-changing encounter
Speaker:
× **Tom LEOPOLD** | Writer and Comedian

📍 Fifth floor

EXHIBITS

"I see what you see, but I see more." (Luigi Giussani)
The art of making pictures through the eyes of photographers:
Carrie Boretz, Giovanni Chiamonte, Marcello De Masi,
Howard Finkelson, Ken Heyman, Tony Vaccaro

Presentation: January 13, 7:30 pm

"There is a crack in everything. That's how the light gets in." (Leonard Cohen)
Stories from the Journey

Presentation: January 13, 8:15 pm

Education: Discovering the Promise of Reality

An exploration of the role of experience in Giussani's pedagogy in the American context

Presentation: January 14, 1:15 pm

An American Dream ... Come True

A journey with Isaac Jogues, Jean de Brébeuf and Companions, Junípero Serra, Damian of Molokai, and Katharine Drexel

Presentation: January 14, 4:00 pm

From My Life to Yours

The life and teachings of Msgr. Luigi Giussani, theologian and educator who with his faith has inspired people around the world

GUIDED TOURS for each exhibit will be available every day. Please check the Encounter's website for scheduled tour times.

📍 Second floor

THE HUMAN ADVENTURE SERIES PEOPLE AT WORK; THE WORKS OF A PEOPLE

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14

- **5:15 pm | The Work of Life**
A witness, sponsored by the WorkCenter, by **Alejandro MARIUS**, Founder of Trabajo y Persona, a Venezuelan NGO
- **7:00 pm | The Devil's Tricks**
A commentary and staged reading of C. S. Lewis' *The Screwtape Letters* organized by the Well-Read Mom reading group. Reading by **Jacob DONALDSON**, Actor
Speakers:
James COMO | A Founder of the New York C. S. Lewis Society
Marcie STOKMAN | Well-Read Mom Founder
- **8:00 pm | The Awakened Heart**
Debut screening, organized by AVSI USA, of an award-winning documentary about an education and nutrition center in Mexico, presented by co-directors **Giovanni MORRICONE** and **Simonetta D'ITALIA**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15

- **10:15 am | Our Elders as a Resource**
A presentation organized by the Association of Medicine and the Person
Speakers:
Anthony LECHICH | MD, Sr. V.P. for Clinical Strategy ArchCare NY
Mila VILLACERAN | RN, MSN, FNP Case Manager, Memorial Sloan Kettering CC NY
- **12:45 pm | An Ultimate Concern**
A presentation on Flannery O'Connor's approach to reality organized by Crossroads Cultural Center
Speaker:
Gregory WOLFE | Editor of *Image*

