



Tkach, Colleen

From: Inform
Subject: EM: Today @Scripps 4:30pm Zhuangzi: The Butterfly in the Mirror

From: Faith Balbuena



ASIAN PHILOSOPHICAL TRADITIONS
SCRIPPS HUMANITIES INSTITUTE



**BROOK
ZIPORYN**
University of
Chicago

Zhuangzi: The Butterfly in the Mirror
February 12 @ 4:30 pm in the Hampton Dining Room

Starting with a brief exploration of classical Chinese thinking around the concept of Dao 道 as it emerges in the Daodejing, this talk will focus on the development and implications of the ideas of agnosis, perspectivism and transformation in the Daoist text Zhuangzi. What does it mean to “use the mind as a mirror,” or to “sit and forget,” or to “fast the mind,” as the text suggests? How does radical skepticism not only about the world but also about the self, not only about what is so but also about what is good, lead not only to peace of mind but also to unusual skill in the unknown self’s faring through the unknown world, accomplishing unknown goods? Knowledge of what is true and right is thought to have many uses: freeing one from the perturbations of uncertainty, fostering self-preservation, settling interpersonal disputes, generating skillful activity, correcting objectionable behaviors both political and personal. We will find Zhuangzi suggesting that agnosis—thorough non-knowing—can actually do these jobs even better than knowledge does. To see how this can be so will require us to explore Zhuangzi’s way of thinking from the ground up, which will be our task in this talk.

Have any questions or want more information? Email fbalbuena@scrippscollege.edu

Best,

Faith Balbuena

Administrative Assistant
Phone: (909) 621- 8237 (ext.18237)

Humanities Institute

Scripps College | 1030 N Columbia Ave, Claremont, CA 91711