



A bimonthly audio magazine of contemporary culture & Christian conviction

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Part 2

- David Bentley Hart, on why historic theism (with all of its metaphysical claims) explains reality better than materialism does
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* An asterisk means that the book is in print; if you wish to purchase it from our friends at Eighth Day Books, call 1.800.841.2541. The issue date for Volume 122 is July/August 2014. It was published August 2014.

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Makoto Fujimura in context

Information about purchasing Makoto Fujimura's Golden Sea (Dillon Gallery Press, 2013), as well as a preview of the Golden Sea DVD, is available at www.makotofujimura.com. That website also features many essays written by Fujimura. In his book Refractions: A Journey of Faith, Art, and Culture* (NavPress, 2009), Fujimura has collected 23 personal essays in which he muses about his work (including specifics about the traditional Nihonga technique that forms his paintings) and about the various challenges faced by artists and Christians in contemporary culture. During the conversation with Fujimura, he and Ken Myers discuss Jacques Maritain's Creative Intuition in Art and Poetry (Princeton University Press, 1953), which is sadly out of print but readily available from used book stores. Maritain is a significant figure in Thomas Hibbs's Rouault-Fujimura: Soliloquies* (Square Halo Books, 2009). In 2009, Hibbs (Distinguished Professor of Ethics & Culture at Baylor University) was asked to write the text for a book that featured paintings by Georges Rouault (1871-1958) and Fujimura. The book accompanied a Dillon Gallery exhibit of works by both artists; Maritain was a common feature in their lives. Fujimura has long been fascinated with Maritain's Creative Intuition in Art and Poetry, and has been deeply influenced by Maritain's discussion of beauty. That book was significantly shaped by Maritain's relationship and conversations with Rouault.

more on **America in the 1950s**

George Marsden's The Twilight of the American Enlibghtenment: The 1950s and the Crisis of Liberal Belief* (2014) is published by Basic Books. Marsden highly recommends Robert Wuthnow's The Restructuring of American Religion: Society and Faith Since World War II* (Princeton, 1988), calling it "the best systematic exploration of the collapse of the Protestant establishment." He also recommends Alan Ehrenhalt's The Lost City: The Forgotten Virtues of Community in America* (Basic Books, 1995) as an engaging personal account of urban social life in the 1950s. Marsden relied on David Halberstam's The Fifties* (Random House, 1993) for an overview of this period. Mass Culture: The Popular Arts in America (Free Press, 1957), edited by Bernard Rosenberg and David Manning White, is a good contemporary survey of the concerns about popular culture during this period. James Hudnut-Beumler's Looking for God in the Suburbs: The Religion of the American Dream and its Critics, 1945-1965* (Rutgers, 1994) looks at how the complacent religion of the 1950s metamorphosed into the radi-

cal religion of the 1960s. Alan Petigny, in The Permissive Society: America, 1941-1965* (Cambridge, 2009), argues that the 1960s accelerated trends already well under way.Edward A. Purcell, Jr.'s The Crisis of Democratic Theory: Scientific Naturalism and the Problem of Value* (Kentucky, 1973) is a classic study of the dilemma of grounding public ethical concerns in pragmatism and materialism. David Brooks, in Bobos in Paradise: The New Upper Class and How They Got There* (Simon and Schuster, 2000) relates the rise of the "bourgeois-bohemians" to the social critiques of the 1950s. David Hollinger's After Cloven Tongues of Fire: Protestant Liberalism in Modern American History* (Princeton, 2013) begins with a chapter entitled "The Accomodation of Protestant Christianity with the Enlightenment: An Old Drama Still Being Enacted." Another chapter title is "Justification by Verification: The Scientific Challenge to the Moral Authority of Christianity in Modern America."

Other Works Mentioned

N. T. Wright's *Paul and the Faithfulness of God** (2013) is published by Fortress Press, as were the earlier volumes in this series. Fortress also recently published a collection of essays by Wright called *Pauline Perspectives: Essays on Paul, 1978-2013* (2013). David Bentley Hart's *The Experience of God: Being, Consciousness, Bliss** (2013) is published by Yale University Press, as was Hart's *Atheist Delusions: The Christian Revolution and Its Fashionable Enemies** (2009). Thomas Lessl's *Rhetorical Darwinism: Religion, Evolution, and the Scientific Identity** (2012) is published by Baylor University Press, as was the anthology *After the Genome: A Language for Our Biotechnological Future** (2013), edited by Michael J. Hyde and James A. Herrick. That volume contained the essay by Lessl discussed during our interview.

The **MARS HILL AUDIO** *Journal* is produced at our studio in rural central Virginia, outside of historic Charlottesville. The *Journal* is one of several audio products we distribute, all of them intended to encourage greater wisdom about interaction with contemporary culture.

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