



2011 Simone Weil Lecture on Human Value

## On Forgiveness: Narrative and Lyrical

**Prof Kevin Hart, FAHA**

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A common view of forgiveness involves the idea that it happens spontaneously; it is personal, immediate, a gift, miraculous, without reason. There is much to be said for this view, which I call "lyrical forgiveness". However, reflection on moral problems of forgiveness leads one to counter-examples that call forth another perspective, one that I call "narrative forgiveness".

In what ways is forgiveness embedded in narratives, both personal and inter-personal?

How does a narrative approach to forgiveness allow us to understand better the nature of forgiving and the need to forgive?

**Melbourne** Thursday 14 July  
ACU, Melbourne campus  
115 Victoria Pde, Fitzroy.  
Mercy Lecture Theatre; 6.00-8.00pm

**Sydney** Monday 18 July  
ACU, North Sydney campus  
40 Edward St, North Sydney  
Room C3-01; 6.00-8.00pm

**Brisbane** Monday 25 July  
ACU, Brisbane campus  
1100 Nudgee Rd, Banyo  
Holy Spirit Chapel; 6.00-8.00pm



Among Professor Hart's recent books are *The Exorbitant: Emmanuel Levinas between Jews and Christians* (Fordham UP), *The Dark Gaze: Maurice Blanchot and the Sacred* (Chicago UP) and *Counter-Experiences: Reading Jean-Luc Marion* (Notre Dame UP). He co-edits the series "Thresholds" for Notre Dame UP and edits a series on phenomenology and theology for Northwestern UP. He sits on the comité scientifique of the works of Emmanuel Lévinas (Grasset). His poetry includes *Flame Tree: Selected Poems* (Bloodaxe) and the recently published *Morning Knowledge* (Notre Dame UP). Several new scholarly and poetic works are forthcoming.

Free admission, but limited seating. RSVP to [simone.weil@acu.edu.au](mailto:simone.weil@acu.edu.au)