

# Regina Schwartz

JE and Lillian Byrne Tipton Distinguished Visiting Professor in Catholic Studies



## Love Your Enemies: Retribution and Forgiveness

Monday, March 9 / 4:00 p.m. / Free

McCune Conference Room

6020 Humanities and Social Sciences Building, UCSB

The law presumes not only the right but the duty to punish: it does not ask whether it should punish, but how much, who, when, and how. In contrast, Christianity offers a different response to wrongdoing: Jesus engaged in a polemical attack on “the reciprocity code,” the assumption that good should be reciprocated with good and evil with evil. “Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you” (Luke 6:27-28). How are we to begin to understand this radical difference?

Regina Schwartz, the J.E. and Lillian Byrne Tipton Distinguished Visiting Professor in Religious Studies at UC Santa Barbara for Winter Quarter 2015, is Professor of English at Northwestern University. She is the author of *Remembering and Repeating: On Milton's Theology and Poetics*, which won the James Holly Hanford Book Award, *The Curse of Cain: The Violent Legacy of Monotheism*, which was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize and, most recently, *Sacramental Poetics at the Dawn of Secularism: When God Left the World*, which explores the sacramental vision of justice that infuses the poetry, drama, and the wider culture of the English Reformation. The book she just finished explores questions of justice from the Bible to Shakespeare and is entitled, “Justice: What's Love (and Shakespeare) Got to Do With It?”

Presented by the Department of Religious Studies, UCSB.

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