



Reformation 500 Conference

By Ferdinand Pauwels (1872)

Hamilton, New Zealand, 29 – 31 October 2017

The 1517 Reformation was arguably one of the major game changers in Western and World History and has had huge implications also in the South Pacific. We, a group of New Zealand-based scholars and artists with a keen interest in the intersection between religion and society, are planning to take a closer look at the Reformation and its legacies. We are organizing a series of workshops, presentations, exhibitions and other events with a view to exploring the nature and impact of the Reformation on our communities. Our intention is that this exploration will accommodate a broad and inclusive range of contributions. Being ourselves of diverse religious and cultural backgrounds, we are encouraging a wide spectrum of participations. Our hope is that we will engage in a dialogical process that enriches our understanding of the ongoing significance of re-formative ideas and practices in religion and society.

Submissions are invited under two headings:

Reformation and the Arts: We will create spaces for artistic presentation and discussion including concerts, exhibitions, performances and a poetry competition. We encourage artists to engage with key ideas and social practices of the Reformation (e.g. 'faith', 'grace', 'church') but also with aspects of secularized forms of Reformation discourses such as 'Protestant work ethic', 'welfare state', 'media society', 'freedom and conformity'.

Rethinking the Reformation: Here we call for more "traditional" academic presentations and colloquia which will take the form of round-table discussions, workshops and conference-style scholarly presentations on historical and contemporary aspects of the Reformation. These include theological, cultural and political aspects of the topic. We particularly encourage contributions with a contemporary and South Pacific focus.



Image courtesy of Nigel Brown

Deadline: 18 August, submit online

Website: <https://reformation500nz.wordpress.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ref500conference>