PRECARITY OF DEATH

Exploring the Porous Boundary between Death and Life in Tibetan Traditions

Mini-conference bringing together scholars from multiple fields to consider the porous nature of death in Tibetan traditions.

Keynote speaker: Dr. Thupten Jinpa

Friday, December 3
9am to 5pm over Zoom

More information and links at ism.yale.edu/Tibetan

What is death? How do reincarnation and the transmigration of consciousness complicate our understanding of death? What role does the body play in the process of death? How have various traditions understood the post-death experience? How are death and life inextricably linked?

Using textual analysis, historical excavation and ethnographic inquiry, scholars will present research considering the ways in which death and rebirth are parts of a complex continuity. Rather than thinking of death as a permanent state, a one-way border, this conference seeks to examine the ways in which death is a tactical concept, with ever-changing boundaries and definitions.

Hosted by Yale Institute of Sacred Music and the Council on East Asian Studies, MacMillan Center