

# Program Schedule continued

**FRIDAY, JUNE 5:** 6 PM Central: IN PERSON: *Yeats & Esotericism* with Dr. Jenny Butler, location TBD

**THURSDAY, JUNE 11:** 6 PM Central: Zoom: *The Book of Job: The Diety's First Discourse (38:1–39:30)* with Dell Rose, Swedenborg Library

**SUNDAY, JUNE 14:** 3:30–5 PM Central: Zoom: *Twelve Gates Program*

**THURSDAY, JUNE 18:** 6 PM Central: Zoom: *The Book of Job: Swedenborg & the Challenge of Job* with Dell Rose, Swedenborg Library

**FRIDAY, JUNE 26–MONDAY, JUNE 29, 2026:** Annual Convention of the Swedenborgian Church of North America in Wellesley, Massachusetts (see [Swedenborg.org/Events](http://Swedenborg.org/Events) for details.)

## **WEDNESDAY, JULY 1 WILLAM BRUCE LECTURES IN NYC:**

Time: (see [SwedLib.org](http://SwedLib.org) for time) Hybrid: *Swedenborg & Abolitionism* with Dr. Vincent Roy di Piazza & Carl Wennerlind (Columbia Univ.) Location: Sulzburger Parlor, Barnard College, Columbia University. Hosted by Dell Rose. Vincent Roy-Di Piazza (PhD Oxford) is a historian of early modern science, religion, and political economy, based in Finland.

Carl Wennerlind is a Professor of History at Barnard College and affiliated faculty in the Department of History at Columbia University. He is a historian of economic thought and the foundations of capitalism. His work focuses on 18C debates over credit, money, and scarcity. Sponsored by the New York New Church Legacy Fund and the Swedenborg Library Chicago.

**THURSDAY, JULY 9:** 6 PM Central: Zoom: *Job: Final thoughts on an Eternal Book*, with Dell Rose, Swedenborg Library

## **Join in our free Zoom programs:**

Zoom Room ID: 558 403 3057

Password: Swedenborg

## **ALL TIMES U.S. CENTRAL TIME**

If you prefer to join via a link, find it on our web site on the day of the event, at <https://www.SwedLib.org>

## **Zoom: *The Book of Job: Between Humor, Heresy, and Revelation* with Dell J. Rose** **Starting Thursday, April 16, 6 PM central** **Continuing April 23, 30; May 14, 21, 28; June 11, 18; and July 9**

*The Book of Job* is a challenge to any conventional understanding of the inerrant goodness of God, and to the Deuteronomistic understanding that the Lord always honors those who do good, and punishes those who do not. The fact that it was included in the Biblical canon at all remains a mystery. Yet, for many, it is one of the most profound texts in the entirety of the Hebrew Bible.

This multi-part course will teach the fundamentals of *The Book of Job*, its narrative structure, origin, and its massive contribution to the literary quality of Persian-era biblical texts. Finally, we will consider Swedenborg's own assessment of the text, and ask why is this text so challenging for a Swedenborgian reading? And does it need to be? Please purchase ahead of time Edward Greenstein's *Job: A New Translation* (Yale University Press, 2019)

As with all of our literary courses, we can take our time. The dates provided are guideposts, but of very little actual import. We will have them on a Thursday at 6 PM central time, as with most of our programs, and hope to finish before Armageddon. April 16, 23, and 30; May 14, 28; June 11, 18; July 9.

*Dell J. Rose develops and hosts programs for the Swedenborg Library in Chicago. Dell holds the position of Swedenborg Doctoral Fellow with the Swedenborg Society in the United Kingdom, and he is a doctoral candidate at the Centre for the History of Hermetic Philosophy and Related Currents at the Universities van Amsterdam. His research focuses on the intersection of Western esotericism and political reform, particularly with Swedenborgianism in 19th century Britain.*



## **Zoom: Thursday, May 21, 6 PM** ***Through Death to Love: Swedenborgian Imagery in the Work of Dante Gabriel Rossetti***

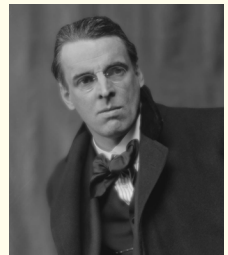
Emanuel Swedenborg's ideas regarding love and the afterlife influenced the Victorian poet-painter Dante Gabriel Rossetti. We'll look at three major works, *The Blessed Damozel*, *Beata Beatrix*, and the *House of Life*, to identify some of the ways in which Swedenborgian imagery has shaped Rossetti's poetry and art, especially in his favored subject of the 'Dead Beloved.' Various sources for Rossetti's exposure to Swedenborgian ideas will be highlighted.

*Dr. Anna Maddison is an Art Historian specializing in the Victorian era. Her doctoral thesis addressed the influence of Emanuel Swedenborg and Victorian Spiritualism upon Pre-Raphaelite poet, painter and designer Dante Gabriel Rossetti. Her essay "Through Death to Love: Swedenborgian Imagery in the Painting and Poetry of Dante Gabriel Rossetti" was published in "Philosophy, Literature, Mysticism: An Anthology of Essays on the Thought and Influence of Emanuel Swedenborg" (Swedenborg Society, 2013.) Anna lectures regularly at Liverpool University, LJMU, and at art galleries including the Walker, Lady Lever, and the Atkinson, where she is currently working on an exhibition on Victorian artist John Maler Collier.*



## **Hybrid: Thursday, June 4, 6 PM central** ***Yeats, Esotericism, and the Emergence of Irish Nationalism with Dr. Jenny Butler***

In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Ireland's cultural revival unfolded not only in politics and literature, but also in the realm of spiritual experimentation. This lecture explores the relationship between W. B. Yeats, esoteric thought, and the emergence of Irish nationalism. Drawing on the research of Dr. Jenny Butler, it examines how occultism, mysticism, and alternative spiritual traditions intersected with the



*William Butler Yeats*

*continues on reverse*

**Zoom: Sunday, March 29, 3:30–5 PM central**  
**Continues April 12, 26; May 10, 24; June 14, 2026**

*The Twelve Gates: A Journey To The Heart of  
The Swedenborgian Tradition*  
with Dell J. Rose

The Twelve Gates is an immersive introduction to Swedenborgian spirituality, inviting students to journey through Emanuel Swedenborg's visionary theology as a pilgrim bound for the New Jerusalem. Weaving together biblical exegesis, theological reflection, and the imaginative world of medieval pilgrimage, the course uses the metaphor of "gates" to structure a sustained exploration of prophecy, the human self, the Word, heaven and hell, judgment, charity, and salvation.

The course is suitable for seekers who desire more than an introduction yet less than formal theological training. Its aim is not merely to present Swedenborg's ideas, but to accompany participants as they discern what it might mean, here and now, to live as citizens of the heavenly city.

In Spring 2026 we will continue Twelve Gates. Videos of the Winter presentations may be found on the Swedenborg Library Chicago's Youtube channel (search Swedenborg Library Chicago within Youtube.com to locate them.) Please join us; your opinions will be essential to helping us establish this curriculum, and to help future souls join in their own procession to the Holy City.

Sunday March 29, April  
12, 26; May 10, 24;  
June 14.  
3:30–4:30 PM  
Central Time

Zoom: Room ID:  
558 403 3057  
Password: Swedenborg



*continued from reverse, Jenny Butler*

search for Irish cultural identity during the Celtic Revival. Yeats's involvement with organizations such as the Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn, along with his fascination with folklore, ritual, and visionary philosophy, shaped a symbolic language through which the Irish nation could be imagined and expressed. Rather than existing on the margins, esoteric ideas helped provide imaginative resources for articulating sovereignty, mythic history, and cultural renewal. By situating Yeats within wider currents of European occultism and Irish religious culture, this lecture reveals how spiritual experimentation contributed to the intellectual and symbolic foundations of modern Irish nationalism.

In-Person Location: Swedenborg Library  
77 W. Washington St. Chicago

*Dr. Jenny Butler is a scholar of religion and folklore based at University College Cork, where she is a lecturer in the Study of Religions. Her research focuses on contemporary Paganism, esotericism, vernacular religion, and the intersections between spirituality, nationalism, and cultural identity. She has published widely on modern Pagan traditions in Ireland and Europe, examining how myth, ritual, and folklore are reinterpreted within modern religious movements. Butler is the author of "Irish Paganism: The World of the Witch" (2019) and numerous articles on esotericism, ritual practice, and religious identity. Her work bridges folklore studies, religious studies, and cultural history.*



*Dr. Jenny Butler, University College Cork*

Founded in Chicago in 1877, the Swedenborg Library offers programs on spiritual topics and has on loan the works of 18<sup>th</sup> Century Swedish scientist and theologian Emanuel Swedenborg. Unlike the Christianity of his day, Swedenborg's theology emphasized an ecumenical, i.e. inclusive view of heaven. The Swedenborg Library is open Wednesdays and Fridays from 1-5 p.m., and by appointment.  
77 W. Washington St., Suite 1700 Chicago, IL 60602  
312-346-7003 SwedLib.org Info@SwedLib.org

## SPRING–SUMMER 2026

Join our free Zoom programs:

- SUNDAY, MARCH 29:** 2:30–3:15 PM Zoom worship with Dell Rose, followed at 3:30 PM with the Twelve Gates program, continued discussion on Swedenborg's ideas re: demons.
- EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 5:** 10:00 AM Central: Dell Rose will lead worship at the LaPorte New Church in LaPorte, Indiana.
- SUNDAY, APRIL 12:** 3:30 –5 PM Central: Zoom: *Twelve Gates Program*
- THURSDAY, APRIL 16:** 6–7:30 PM Central: Zoom: *The Book of Job: Between Humor, Heresy, and Revelation: The Origins of Job, A Textual History, Part 1* with Dell Rose, Swedenborg Library
- THURSDAY, APRIL 23:** 6 PM Central: Zoom: *The Book of Job: The Origins of Job, A Textual History, Part 2* with Dell Rose, Swedenborg Library
- SUNDAY, APRIL 26:** 3:30 –5 PM Central: Zoom: *Twelve Gates Program*
- THURSDAY, APRIL 30:** 6 PM Central: Zoom: *The Book of Job: Recognizing the Oddity of the Job Text* with Dell Rose, Swedenborg Library
- SUNDAY, MAY 10:** 3:30 –5 PM Central: Zoom: *Twelve Gates Program*
- THURSDAY, MAY 14:** 6 PM Central: Zoom: *The Book of Job: Prologue (1:1–2:13) to Job's Response to Zophar (12:1–14:22)* with Dell Rose, Swedenborg Library (read Greenstein p. 3–51.)
- THURSDAY, MAY 21:** 6 PM Central: Zoom: *Through Death to Love: Swedenborgian Imagery in the Work of Dante Gabriel Rossetti*, with Dr. Anna Maddison.
- SUNDAY, MAY 24:** 3:30 –5 PM Central: Zoom: *Twelve Gates Program*
- THURSDAY, MAY 28:** 6 PM Central: Zoom: *A Second Response to Job (24:18–24) to Elihu's Fourth Discourse (36:1–37:24; 28:1–28)*, with Dell Rose, Swedenborg Library
- THURSDAY, JUNE 4:** 6 PM Central: IN PERSON in the Swedenborg Library: *Yeats & Esotericism* with Dr. Jenny Butler