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# RELIGION AND CULTURE



*presents*

## **“Religion” as Colonial Fantasy or How the West Views the Rest**



### **Richard King, Vanderbilt University**

*CSRC Senior Research Fellow, Associate Professor of Religious Studies, Associate Professor of Religion and Culture*

Thursday, March 16, 2006 at 4:00 pm  
123 Buttrick Hall with reception to follow

**Richard King** was formerly Professor of Asian Philosophy and Comparative Religion and Chair of the Religion Department at Derby University (UK). He joined the Vanderbilt faculty in the fall of 2006. Professor King's research interests include, Indian philosophical schools (especially Advaita Vedanta), Mahayana Buddhist thought in India, the impact of coloniality on Indian wisdom traditions, poststructuralist and postcolonial approaches to the study of religion, and the comparative study of mysticism and spirituality. Recent publications include, *Early Advaita Vedanta and Buddhism: The Mahayana Context of the Gaudapadiya-Karika*, *Orientalism and Religion*, *Postcolonial Theory, India and "the Mystic East"*, *Indian Philosophy. An Introduction to Hindu and Buddhist Thought*, *Selling Spirituality*, *The Silent Takeover of Religion* (co-authored with Jeremy Carrette).

Professor King's lecture is presented by the CSRC University Seminar in Religion and Culture, the next CSRC University Seminar will be a presentation by the Osama bin Laden reading group, led by professors Richard McGregor and Volney Gay, to be held on Thursday April 6, 2006.

**Questions?** Please visit the CSRC Web Site at [www.vanderbilt.edu/csrc](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/csrc) or phone Barbara Kaeser in the CSRC office at 322-8910.