

center for the study of

# RELIGION AND CULTURE



VANDERBILT

Please join us for the second  
CSRC University Seminar  
of the 2006-2007 academic year:

## The Merchants of Babylon Entrepreneurs in the Sixth Century BCE

Cornelia Wunsch  
Research Associate  
School for Oriental & African Studies, London

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 4:10-6:00 PM**  
**Buttrick Hall Room 123**  
**Reception to follow**

This presentation focuses on an exceptional family of entrepreneurs for over five generations, in comparison to its contemporaries. In a culture dominated by palace and temple economies, this family's business patterns and strategies, networks of influence, access to institutional resources, political circumstances and kinship alliances, investment patterns and business risks, and relation to the temples—all played a productive role that shaped Neo-Babylonian economic life well after Persia integrated Babylon within its empire.

*ABOUT THE PRESENTER: Dr. Wunsch is one of the foremost young scholars in the culture of Mesopotamia in the first millennium BCE. Her control of primary materials gives her a fine base from which to construct new paradigms for these changes. To learn more about her, please visit <http://www.islet-verlag.de/autor2.html>.*

**Sponsored also by: the Divinity School, the Classics Department,  
the Graduate Department of Religion, and the University Lecture Committee.**

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