

Rémi Brague at McGill

Rémi Brague is a renowned French philosopher, possessing deep erudition and insight. Professor emeritus at La Sorbonne University in Paris, he currently holds the Romano Guardini chair at the Ludwig-Maximilians University of Munich. His writing and teaching concern ancient Roman and Greek philosophy, medieval Jewish and Arab philosophy, contemporary questions of meaning, and the history of law and culture in Christianity, Judaism, and Islam. Multilingual, he has taught at French, American, Spanish and Italian universities and translated texts from German, English, Arab, and Hebrew. His own writings have been translated into nearly twenty Asian and European languages.

On 20 October 2012 Professor Brague will be awarded the prestigious Ratzinger Prize for his works on the history of Christianity. He has also received the Grand Prix de l'Académie Française (2009) and several prizes from the Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques.

His most recent book, *Les ancrés dans le ciel: L'infrastructure métaphysique* (2011), analyzes what is at stake in our contemporary notion of freedom and explores the question of the meaning of life in our structures of thought. Currently at press are *La légitimité de l'humain*, and several essays on the relationships between Christianity, Judaism and Islam. Among his many other works are *The Law of God* (2008), *The Legend of the Middle Ages* (2006), *Europe, the Roman road* (2002), several books on ancient philosophy, and an essay on Baudelaire.

Professor Brague is giving two lectures in English at McGill University on the question of the meaning of life, as this year's Birks Lecturer. Both will be held at 5:30 pm in the Birks Heritage Chapel (3520 University Street).

Tuesday, 9 October: *The Question Atheism Can't Answer*

Wednesday, 10 October: *'Be' as Command*

He will also deliver a lecture in French at the Université de Montréal (Pavillon André-Aisentadt, Salle 1177, 2920 chemin de la Tour) at 1 pm on 9 October, entitled "Mes secrets de beauté". The public is welcome at all of these lectures.