New Paths
for Interreligious Theology

Perry Schmidt-Leukel’s
Fractal Interpretation of Religious Diversity

Alan Race and Paul Knitter, editors
Founded in 1970, Orbis Books endeavors to publish works that enlighten the mind, nourish the spirit, and challenge the conscience. The publishing arm of the Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers, Orbis seeks to explore the global dimensions of the Christian faith and mission, to invite dialogue with diverse cultures and religious traditions, and to serve the cause of reconciliation and peace. The books published reflect the views of their authors and do not represent the official position of the Maryknoll Society. To learn more about Maryknoll and Orbis Books, please visit our website at www.maryknollsociety.org.

Copyright © 2019 by Alan Race and Paul Knitter

Published by Orbis Books, Box 302, Maryknoll, NY 10545-0302.

All rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or any information storage or retrieval system, without prior permission in writing from the publisher.

Queries regarding rights and permissions should be addressed to: Orbis Books, P.O. Box 302, Maryknoll, NY 10545-0302.

Manufactured in the United States of America

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Race, Alan, editor.
Title: New paths for interreligious theology : Perry Schmidt-Leukel’s fractal interpretation of religious diversity / Alan Race and Paul Knitter, editors.
Identifiers: LCCN 2019010659 (print) | ISBN 9781626983380 (print)
Classification: LCC BL410 .N434 2019 (print) | LCC BL410 (ebook) |
DDC 201/.5—dc23
LC record available at https://lcn.loc.gov/2019010659
LC ebook record available at https://lcn.loc.gov/2019980811
Contents


*Paul Knitter*

*Part One*

*Setting the Stage*

A Fractal Interpretation of Religious Diversity: An Overview

*Perry Schmidt-Leukel*

*Part Two*

*Methodological/Contextual Perspectives*

Perry Schmidt-Leukel’s Incarnated Prophets and Awakeners: Beyond Stalemates in the Theology of Religions and Comparative Theology

*Kenneth Rose*

Fractal Theory, Fractal Practice: Theology of Religions, Comparative Theology

*Francis X. Clooney, SJ*

Feminist Fractals? Perry Schmidt-Leukel’s Fractal Interpretation of Religious Diversity and Comparative Feminist Theology

*Jerusha Tanner Rhodes*

The Silent Witness of Intuition: Pansacramentality, Interreligious Encounter, and a Fractal Interpretation of Religious Diversity

*Hans Gustafson*
Part Three
Multireligious Perspectives

Rethinking Religious Pluralism and Interreligious Theology in China 85
   Rong Wang

“Infinite Paths, Infinite Doctrines”: Perry Schmidt-Leukel’s Fractal Approach to Religious Diversity from the Standpoint of the Ramakrishna-Vivekananda Tradition 100
   Ayon Maharaj

Contrasting Tsongkhapa and Longchenpa: Buddhist Diversity, Fractal Theory, and Comparative Theology 115
   John Makransky

A Jewish Interpretation of Plurality: Some Comments on Perry Schmidt-Leukel’s Fractal Interpretation of Religious Diversity 130
   Ephraim Meir

The Fractal Proposal and Its Place in the Christian Theology of Religions 145
   Alan Race

Exploring the Possibilities and the Limitations of Interreligious Theology: A Muslim Response to Perry Schmidt-Leukel’s Proposal 162
   Maria Massi Dakake

Part Four
Continuing the Conversation

Fractal Patterns in Religious Diversity: What to Make of Their Discovery? A Response 177
   Perry Schmidt-Leukel

Contributors 195

Index 199