

Letter from the Editor, Volume 3 (2015)

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Another year of the *Global Forum on Arts and Christian Faith* concludes, and again we are proud to look at a Table of Contents full of great content. At the top of the list are two excellent articles. It was a pleasure to work with Lester Ruth on the publication of his article about contemporary worship songs and popular music. Ruth raises a number of intriguing points, about music styles and spoken language, while tracing the development of contemporary worship songs. I hope that his article will lead to further research, contemplation, and writing.

Our Reviews Editor, Glenn Stallsmith, wrote a response to Scott Aniol's report on the ethnodoxology movement (published earlier this year in *The Artistic Theologian*). Taken together, these two articles give a thorough overview of the history of ethnodoxology. Stallsmith's article also suggests directions for the future. I recommend these articles to all *Global Forum* readers, whether they are themselves a part of the ethnodoxology movement, or less familiar with the term.

In the Working Papers (that is, the non-peer-reviewed) section this year, we are happy to present reflections from Bert VanderMark on his work with teaching visual arts to residents of Mercy Ministries. His paper demonstrates the value of the arts in bringing healing to young women who have known brokenness in their lives.

Finally, in this year's Reviews section you will find a few recent books to add to your To-Read list. Rob Baker looks at the edited volume, *Christian Congregational Music*; Matt Menger reviews *Imagining the Kingdom*, the second volume of James K. A. Smith's planned trilogy (the first volume was reviewed in the 2014 volume of the *Global Forum*); and Katie Hoogerheide reviews Michelle Sanders's *Art and Soul*. The reviews, then, cover a range of topics, from (mostly Western) congregational music, to theology, to advocacy and community development.

We look forward to beginning the 2016 volume of the *Global Forum on Arts and Christian Faith*. To do that, we need your written contributions. As always, we will receive new submissions at any time, publishing as soon as the review and editing process is completed. And as always, we remain committed to open-access, free downloads, available to everyone in the world. Thank you for your support of this journal. Please share the website with friends and colleagues, and let us know how we can serve you best!

