



The Ethics of Beauty - Show Notes

A Scholé Communities & ClassicalU Webinar

January 2023

With Dr. Timothy Patitsas

Event Sequence

- A. Synopsis:** Join guest-host Christine Perrin, MFA, and your Scholé hosts for a much-anticipated interview with author and Orthodox Christian theologian Dr. Timothy Patitsas to discuss his book *The Ethics of Beauty* for an evening to rediscover the older Beauty-first response to moral questions, the integrity of the soul, and the best possible human life.
- B. Personal Announcements:**
- Hellenic College: <https://www.hchc.edu/hellenic-college/>
 - Beauty First Calendar: <https://www.beautyfirstfilms.com/calendar>
 - St. Nicholas Press (for his book *Ethics of Beauty*): <https://www.stnicholaspress.net/ethics-of-beauty>
- C. Interview**
- D. Q & A to follow**



THE DIALOGUE

- I. Could we begin with you describing some definitions: ethics, aesthetics, fractal and why you think they're so close to each other?
- II. Tell us about Beauty as central and as opposed to trauma and ugliness.
- III. Could you clarify how the three transcendentals are in relationship with one another, and why you think it's important to often privilege beauty as a way of entering in and seeking these transcendentals and why that's important in education?
- IV. What is it about beauty that arouses hope and movement?
- V. How does the mystical architect, pattern, archetype and (platonic) form matter to our daily lives and to ritual in time and space?
- VI. Can you describe the eight-nested ways of fulfilling those six questions of Matthew 25?
- VII. Would you like to make any comments about our society's current capacity for fractal thinking or acting?
- VIII. Why should we build cities and homes in which human beings feel deeply at home? And why are patterns like rituals, whether in time or space?
- IX. What do patterns have to do with a homeschooling day or a lesson about math, or about literature? Or another way to ask this is why does the space that we dwell in matter?

Audience Q & A

Some questions asked by our audience

- Shame is frowned upon in our culture. How can healthy shame be used to teach our children beauty?
- How important it is to understand the importance of healthy shame and what synonym for it can be used to teach our children beauty?
- What are some examples that you would suggest in healing trauma in our children?



Encore Resources

I. You can find Dr. Timothy Patitsas at:

- A. Interim Dean & Assistant Professor at [Hellenic College](#)
- B. Associate Professor of Ethics, [Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology](#)
- C. Co-founder of [Beauty First Films](#)
- D. Board members with [Pappas Patristic Institute](#), [the Russian Orphan Opportunity Fund](#), and the [Center for Byzantine Material Arts](#)

II. Dr. Patitsas' Resources

- A. Books
 1. [The Ethics of Beauty](#)
- B. Articles & Essays
 1. [Ph.D. dissertation](#)
 2. [The Opposite of War is Not Peace: Healing Trauma in the Iliad and in Orthodox Tradition](#)
 3. [A Feeling For Beauty: The Aesthetic Ground Of Orthodox Ethics](#)
 4. [The City as Liturgy: An Orthodox Theologian Corresponds with Jane Jacobs About a Gentle Reconciliation of Science and Religion](#)
- C. Talks & Lectures
 1. [YouTube](#) search for Dr. Timothy Patitsas
- D. Podcast & Radio Interviews
 1. Close Reads Podcast: Episode: [Our Favorite Reads of 2022](#)
 2. Counterflow with Buck Johnson: [Episode 227](#)
 3. Holistic Christian Life with Cynthia Damaskos: [Episode 151](#)
 4. Hope in Source: [Episode 11](#)

III. Recommended Reading:

- A. [Beauty First blog](#)
- B. [Road to Emmaus](#) journal
- C. [The Master and His Emissary](#) by Iain McGilchrist
- D. [The Death and Life of Great American Cities](#) by Jane Jacobs
- E. [The Old Way of Seeing](#) by Jonathan Hale
- F. [Achilles in Vietnam](#) by Jonathan Shay
- G. [The Body Keeps the Score](#) by Bessel van der Kolk, M.D.