

April 6, 2010 - Charlotte Observer

## Scholar to talk about 'sacred activism'

Andrew Harvey, an Oxford-trained religious scholar, author and mystic, will give a lecture in Charlotte on Friday and lead a workshop Saturday about "Sacred Activism" and how it can help today's society. "There is a great death happening," Harvey said in a recent interview, "through the destruction of the environment, the proliferation of nuclear weapons, a rabidly consumerist lifestyle." He says this is happening "at a moment when we most need inspiration, clear information and clear examples of how to go forward with courage."



Partly as a result of this "death," Harvey said he sees "a great birth taking place" that will save the planet.

"Millions of people are waking up all over the world and organizing themselves to protect the environment, to ensure animal rights, women's rights, gay rights, and to secure the survival of indigenous people."

In his Charlotte talks at Myers Park Baptist Church, Harvey will explain the poetry of Rumi, whose works he has translated to English, and how it applies to the crisis in today's world. "The vision I'm giving welcomes all human beings whether they are Muslims or Christians or Hindu or Buddhist?... even those who haven't yet made up their minds whether the divine exists." Karen Garloch

Want to go?

Andrew Harvey

Friday: lecture and book signing, 7 p.m.

Saturday: workshop, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Myers Park Baptist Church, 1900 Queens Road, Charlotte

Sponsor: Olive Branch Center, 704-332-8933, [www.theolivebranchcenter.net](http://www.theolivebranchcenter.net).

For more information: [www.andrewharvey.net](http://www.andrewharvey.net).