



THE OTTAWA INTERNATIONAL WRITERS FESTIVAL

OTTAWA'S FESTIVAL OF IDEAS SINCE 1997

On October 25, 2013, we had the great pleasure of hosting Dr. Manav Ratti during the Fall Edition of the Ottawa International Writers Festival. We knew that his *The Postsecular Imagination* was an important book, but we were not sure how such an academic book would translate to our audiences who are often suspicious of the Ivory Tower approach to contemporary issues.

We need not have worried. His presentation to a full house of inquisitive minds was one of the highlights of the past number of years. He brought to life the very complex and contentious issues of culture, religion, politics, and theory by examining the works of writers that are dear to all readers and book lovers, Michael Ondaatje, Salman Rushdie, Amitav Ghosh and Shauna Singh Baldwin, among others.

The Postsecular Imagination by Manav Ratti is an important book and it has come to us at a time of great need. It is clear, concise, and full of insights that will help us navigate a world all too often polarized by cynicism and half-truth. *The Postsecular Imagination* deserves a huge audience and we cannot say enough about Manav Ratti's charm and poise in front of an audience.

Neil Wilson
Founder and Director
Ottawa International Writers Festival

neil@writersfestival.org
(613) 562-1243

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/OttawaWritersFestival>

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