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Neither Metamorphosis, nor Evolution, nor Emergence

On the Temporal, Moral, and Political Significance of Conversion

Friday, February 26, 2016, 4:30 pm
Carpenter Room, Rubenstein Library 249, west campus

Ethics entails a claim that we can move from the world as it is to the world as it should be. It thus entails some notion of change. This lecture will offer exploratory reflections on conversion as a way of thinking about moral and political change. It will consider what conceptual work conversion might do to develop a more holistic vision of transformation that is alert to the intersection of the cure of the soil, the cure of the soul, and the cure of the city, as well as to how meaningful change involves attending to the interdependencies between the structure of memory, feeling, and relationships.

Image: Caravaggio, Conversion of Saint Paul