



## **THE 2017 CATHERINE MOWRY LACUGNA AWARD FOR NEW SCHOLARS**

The Catholic Theological Society of America presents the 2017 Catherine Mowry LaCugna Award for New Scholars to Judith Gruber for her essay "Revealing Subversions: Theology as Critical Theory." In this theoretically complex and theologically rich essay, Gruber revises theology under the influence of critical theory and the non-absolutization of narratives. She helps us to embrace the historicity of the incarnation event as necessarily multi-perspectival and invites us to consider how the tension of conflicting interpretive frames can be theologically productive.

Gruber engages deeply with a number of significant scholars in the history of western philosophy, while placing that engagement in dialogue with scholarship in biblical studies and systematic theology. Her essay provides a well-argued and philosophically insightful contribution to the rise of contextual theologies. It links those theologies with wider academic discourses that focus on the connection between the search for truth and the reality of human blindness occasioned by the consolidation of power in discourse and through institutions.

Although affinity with Catherine LaCugna's work is not a condition for the award, Gruber's essay shows a sensitivity to abiding concerns of LaCugna's own work by uncovering "resources for counter-hegemonic strategies" within the Christian tradition through an engagement with critical theorists.

The Catholic Theological Society of America is very pleased to present its Catherine Mowry LaCugna Award for New Scholars to Judith Gruber

**Albuquerque, New Mexico, June 10, 2017**