

Asian Studies Program

School of International and Public Affairs



Zen Koans



STEVEN HEINE

Zen Koans

Book Presentation and Signing by Dr. Steven Heine

Wednesday, January 21, 2015 | 6:30 PM | 265 Aragon Ave., Coral Gables, FL 33134



In this compact volume, **Steven Heine**, who has written extensively on Zen Buddhism and koans, introduces and analyzes the classic background of texts and rites and explores the contemporary significance of koans to illuminate the full implications of this ongoing tradition. He delves deeply into the inner structure of koan literature to uncover and interpret profound levels of metaphorical significance. At the same time, he takes the reader beyond the veil of vagueness and inscrutability to an understanding of how koan writings have been used in

East Asia and are coming to be evoked and implemented in modern American practice of Zen.

By focusing on two main facets of the religious themes expressed in koan records—individual religious attainment and the role dialogues play in maintaining order in the monastic system—*Zen Koans* reveals the distinct yet interlocking levels of meaning reflected in different koan case records and helps make sense of the seemingly nonsensical. It is a book for anyone interested in untangling the web of words used in Zen exchanges and exploring their important place in the vast creative wellspring of East Asian religion and culture.

Dr. Steven Heine is a Professor of Religious Studies and History and Director of Asian Studies at Florida International University.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, please contact 305-348-1914.

Asian Studies Program

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