



## Press Release

### **New Role for Professor Robert Beckford at the Queen's Foundation, Birmingham**

Robert Beckford returns to the Queen's Foundation as *Professor of Black Theology*.

In 1993, Professor Beckford became Britain's first tutor in Black Theology at Queen's Foundation, in Birmingham. It was the start of what continues to be a very successful and energetic career as one of Britain's most distinguished black theologians.

Professor Beckford is known for his imaginative and sometimes provocative approach to theology showcasing black religious thought in media and producing critical writings in theology and culture. His publications include *Jesus is Dread* (1998); *Dread and Pentecostal* (2000); *God of the Rahtid* (2003); *God and the Gangs* (2004); *Jesus Dub* (2006); and *Documentary as Exorcism* (2014).

Professor Beckford now joins the Centre for Black Theology (CBT) at the Queen's Foundation, working with its Director, Dr Dulcie Dixon McKenzie, to teach Black Theology on a pathway through the *MA in Transformative Theology and Practice*, and to supervise research students. CBT was launched in December 2018 and has attracted a critical mass of black students primarily, but not exclusively, from black Pentecostal churches. CBT is working towards developing the next generation of black theologians and scholars in Britain.

Dr McKenzie says "we welcome Professor Beckford coming back to Queen's as we know that he is passionate about the ongoing work in black theological studies. Professor Beckford has a lot of experience in working for social change, which is vital for our diverse and everchanging communities."

Commenting about the work of the Centre for Black Theology at Queen's, Professor Beckford says, "it's great to see the progress made in Black Theology and the fact that it has flourished, and I'm really excited about contributing to ministerial training."

For more information about the CBT and postgraduate studies in Black Theology at Queen's, contact: Dr Dulcie Dixon McKenzie [cbt@queens.ac.uk](mailto:cbt@queens.ac.uk)

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