The Davide Zordan Lecture is annually held in late Autumn. It was established to honor the memory of Davide Zordan, a researcher of the Center for Religious Studies of FBK, who died in 2015, when he was only 47 years old. In tune with the Center’s mission to study the interaction between religion and innovation, the Davide Zordan Lecture focuses on the role of theology in a secular society.

In this year’s presentation, Clive Marsh will talk about the way salvation is understood by ordinary people today, when the theme of redemption looms large outside of Christianity in the arts and popular culture. Has “happiness” anything to do with salvation? How are the traditional concerns of a doctrine of salvation addressed directly and indirectly in Western culture (i.e., in art, music, TV, film, positive psychology, and economic life) nowadays? After distilling the results of some case-studies in formulating a contemporary exposition of salvation, Marsh will concentrate his effort on showing what a cultural theology of salvation might mean in practice.

Clive Marsh
Head of the Vaughan Centre for Lifelong Learning at the University of Leicester and Research Fellow at the Queen’s Foundation for Ecumenical Theological Education in Birmingham, Clive Marsh studied in Bangor, Chicago, Tübingen, Oxford, and the Open University. His main area of expertise is the field of theology and culture, especially with respect to popular culture and the arts. His last book is A Cultural Theology of Salvation (Oxford University Press, 2018).