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The Macalester International Roundtable, an intellectual festival convened each October, is an occasion for serious conversations across the College on topics of transnational significance. The practice is to commission a set of essays—a keynote address, followed by two additional essays delivered by seasoned scholars—which become the center of debate and discussion. Each of the two essays receives public response from a Macalester student and a member of the faculty. The purposes of the Roundtable are to cogitate together upon crucial but difficult global questions and to cultivate further the equipoise that minds of the Macalester academic community have long been expected to hold between local anxieties and transnational pressures.