

ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES
AJS 57TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
MARRIOTT MARQUIS • WASHINGTON, DC
DECEMBER 14–16, 2025

Please note that this schedule was prepared on December 1, 2025 and may not be up to date. For the most current information, including room and schedule changes, please scan the QR code



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2025

SUNDAY MORNING EVENTS

7:30 am - 7:30 pm Foyer (Registration)
BADGE PICKUP AND ONSITE REGISTRATION

7:30 am - 7:30 pm Maple
QUIET ROOM

7:30 am - 7:30 pm Honeysuckle
LACTATION ROOM

7:30 am - 8:00am Tulip
EGALITARIAN PRAYERS

7:30 am - 8:00am Dogwood
TRADITIONAL PRAYERS -- SUNDAY MORNING

7:30 am - 8:30am Magnolia Room
AJS KOSHER BREAKFAST -- SUNDAY
(ADVANCED PURCHASE REQUIRED.)

1.2 Howard U (AV)

JEWISH STUDIES/GAME STUDIES

Moderator: Josh Lambert (Wellesley College)
Discussants: Nathan Abrams (Bangor University)
Andrea Cooper (Carolina Center for Jewish
Studies (UNC-Chapel Hill))
Anne Mcdivitt (Taube Center For Jewish
Studies)

1.3 Gallaudet U (AV)

THE PRIVATE WORLD OF REBECCA GRATZ: KINSHIP, CORRESPONDENCE, AND AMERICAN JEWISH LIFE

Chair: Zev Eleff (Gratz College)

The Social and Epistolary Network of Rebecca Gratz

Nina Warnke (Gratz College)

Rebecca Gratz's Kentucky Connection

Jeremy Popkin (University of Kentucky)

A Maternal Legacy: Reimagining Rebecca Gratz and Miriam Moses Cohen

Rachael Davis

Respondent: Melissa R. Klapper (Rowan University)

1.4 U of DC (AV)

WHAT DOES BEING JEWISH MEAN IN AMERICA TOMORROW—OR IN TEN OR TWENTY YEARS FROM NOW?

Moderator: Harriet Hartman (Rowan University)
Discussants: Dana Adler (Florida Atlantic
University)
Alan Cooperman (Pew Research Center)
Richard Heiberger (Temple University
Feinstein Center for American Jewish
History)
Tyson Herberger (University of Southeastern
Norway)
Ariela Keysar (Trinity College)

1.5 Georgetown U (AV)

FORCED OUTSIDE OF NATURE? JEWISH AND VICTIM NOTIONS OF ECOLOGY IN THE HOLOCAUST

Session 1 – Sunday – 8:30-10am

1.1 Catholic U (AV)

THE VICISSITUDES OF HOLOCAUST MEMORY

Chair: Daniela Weiner (Stevens Institute of
Technology)

To Have and Have Not: One Woman's Search for Restitution in Postwar Austria

Rachel Blumenthal (The Avraham Harman Institute
of Contemporary Jewry)

Gurs between History and Memory: A Critique of French Holocaust Memory Politics

Lisa Hirschmann (University of Oregon)

From Judgment to Memory: The Einsatzgruppen Trial, Benjamin Ferencz, and the Shaping of Holocaust Awareness

Isaac Amon (Washington University School of Law)

Chair: Kathryn Brackney (Leiden University)

**Between Horse Cadavers and Garden Plots:
Notions of Non-Human Nature in the Łódź Ghetto**

Hannah Pollin-Galay

Place and Placelessness in Shoah

Dominic Williams (Northumbria University)

**Holocaust Memory: The Source of Romain
Gary's Ecological Awareness**

Ariane Santerre (Universite de Montreal)

Respondent: Kathryn Brackney (Leiden University)

1.6 *George Washington U (AV)*

A USABLE PAST

Chair: Emily Branton (Jewish Theological Seminary)

A MAGA reading of Esther

Dror Birger (Cornell University)

**Faddei Bulgarin's "Esterka": from the medieval
legend into the 19th century Belle Juive
stereotype**

Elena Petrova-Libgober (\)

**PULSA DENURA (Lashes of Fire) in the
Babylonian Talmud and Related Literature**

Noah Bickart (John Carroll University)

Tourist Guidebooks to Spain's Sephardic Past

Mechele Leon (The University Of Kansas)

1.7 *Marquis 1*

**JEWISH LEGAL CULTURES IN SEVENTEENTH-
CENTURY ITALY: NORMS, AUTHORITY, AND
COURT PRACTICES**

Chair: Elisheva Carlebach

**Defining Rabbinic Authority: Samuel Aboab
and his SEFER HA-ZIKHRONOT**

Chaya Maron (WITS)

**Reinventing the Local: Legal Regulations,
Rabbinic Professionalization and Judicial
Reform in 17th-Century Italy**

Elad Schlesinger (Skirball Department of Hebrew and
Judaic Studies (NYU))

**Negotiated Practices of Justice: Rabbinic Authorities,
Lay Jewish Judges, and State Commercial Courts in
Seventeenth-Century Pisa and Livorno**

Bernard Cooperman

1.8 *Marquis 2 (AV)*

**CROSSING BORDERS: JEWISH MOBILITY AND
BELONGING IN MODERN EUROPE**

Chair: Eliyana Adler (Binghamton University)

**Moving Millions. Jewish Mobility Entrepreneurs
during the Second Half of the 19th Century**

Tobias Brinkmann (Penn State University)

**Fraud by Any Other Name. Jewish Tricksters in
the Late 19th Century Habsburg Empire**

Margarita Lerman (Mandel Institute of Jewish Studies
(Hebrew University))

**On Holiday: Jewish Tourism in Interwar East
Central Europe**

Oskar Czendze (Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish
Studies at University of Toronto)

1.9 *Marquis 3 (AV)*

**CAREERS IN LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES: JEWISH
STUDIES IN THE AGE OF (MIS)INFORMATION
Sponsored by Association of Jewish Libraries
(AJL)**

Moderator: Beatrice Gurwitz (Capital Jewish
Museum)

Discussants: Alison Joseph (Gratz College)
Yelena Luckert (Meyerhoff Center for
Jewish Studies (University of Maryland))
Michelle Margolis (Columbia University)
Mackenzie Zalin (Leonard & Helen R.
Stulman Jewish Studies Program (Johns
Hopkins))

1.10 *Marquis 4 (AV)*

**HOLOCAUST EDUCATION TODAY: CHALLENGES,
STRATEGIES, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Moderator: Sarah Cushman (Holocaust
Educational Foundation of Northwestern
University)

Discussants: Laura Auketayeva (Sandra
Bornstein Holocaust Education Center)
Madelon Rosen-Solomon (Kean University,
MA)
Anne Rothfeld (Independent Scholar)

1.11 *Marquis 12 (AV)*

ENTANGLED HISTORIES OF EDUCATION AND ARCHITECTURE IN MANDATE PALESTINE

Chair: Amit Levy (Mandel Institute of Jewish Studies (Hebrew University))

Building a Language, Building a Nation: Adult Hebrew Instruction in Israel

Rakefet Cohn-Anzi (Mandel Institute of Jewish Studies (Hebrew University))

Introducing Hebrew Technical Education in Mandatory Palestine: The Hebrew Technion of Haifa

Sigal Davidi (Tel Aviv University)

Building modern education: using digital humanities for a renewed spatial analysis of Jerusalem

Noah Hysler Rubin (UC Berkeley)

1.12 *Marquis 13 (AV)*

EMBODIED PASTS

Chair: Sari Fein (Smith College)

"A demon sitting on a wine press" – making sense of mental disorders between rabbinic Palestine and Babylonia

Lennart Lehmhaus (The Katz Center (UPenn, Philadelphia) & University of Tuebingen, Institute for Jewish Studies)

Reconstructing the Chronological Order of Jacob's Children: A New Approach to Biblical Narrative and Chronology (Hebrew)

Yohanan Kapah (Orot Israel College)

1.13 *Marquis 14 (AV)*

A HOW-TO GUIDE FOR HASIDIC MATERIALS IN THE YIDDISH LANGUAGE CLASSROOM

Discussants: Sara Feldman (Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization (Harvard))
Joshua Price (Yale University)
Beatrice Lang (Leonard & Helen R. Stulman Jewish Studies Program (Johns Hopkins))

1.14 *Marquis 15 (AV)*

CENTERING SEPHARDIC EXPERIENCE: THEORIZING JEWISH DIVERSITY THROUGH CONTEMPORARY COMMUNITY PORTRAITS

Moderator: Laurence Kotler-Berkowitz (Rosov Consulting)

Discussants: Angy Cohen (Spanish National Research Council)
Max Daniel (College of Charleston)
Ilana Horwitz (Tulane University)
Laura Limonic (SUNY Old Westbury)
Elana Riback Rand (The George Washington University Graduate School of Education and Human Development)

1.15 *Union Station*

RETHINKING RESISTANCE: HOLOCAUST BIOGRAPHIES BETWEEN HEROISM AND EVERYDAY STRUGGLE

Chair: Joanna Sliwa (Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany Claims Conference)

Ambiguities of Heroism. Life of Mordechai Anielewicz between uniqueness and typicality.

Maria Ferenc (Taube Department of Jewish Studies, University of Wroclaw)

Between a clerk and a hero. Strategies of survival in Holocaust biography of Artur Sandauer

Justyna Koszarska-Szulc (Institute of Literary Research of Polish Academy of Sciences)

Biographies Written Between Shopping Notes: The Story of Bluma and Hersh Wasser in the Warsaw Ghetto

Justyna Majewska (Jewish Historical Institute)

1.16 *Chinatown*

PERSPECTIVES ON MENA JEWRY

Moderator: Lior Sternfeld (The Pennsylvania State University)

Discussants: Menashe Anzi (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)
Michelle Campos (The Pennsylvania State University)
Orit Ouaknine-Yekutieli (Ben Gurion University of the Negev)

1.17 *Dupont Circle*

SPIRIT POSSESSION IN JEWISH HISTORY AND LITERATURE

Chair: Samuel Glauber (Washington University in Saint Louis)

From Idioms of Despair to Idioms of Repair: Spirit Possession as a Rabbinic Idiom of Therapy

Raphael Ezratty

'Ov, Daimon and Dibbuq: Metempsychosis and Spirit Possession from Antiquity to the Baroque Era

David Haziza (Columbia University)

Demons, Dybbuks, and Trauma in Jewish Cultures

Agi Legutko (Columbia University)

1.18 *Capitol Hill*

CONTINENTAL PHILOSOPHY AND JEWISH THOUGHT

Chair: Olga Lyanda-Geller (Purdue University)

Jerusalem Within Athens: Derrida's "Pharmakon" as Jewish Polemic

Azzan Yadin-Israel (Azzan Yadin-Israel)

The Painful Opposition Between Power and Love: Gillian Rose and Levinas

Rachel Pafe (Goethe University Frankfurt)

"Transcendence has no meaning except by way of an I saying You": Levinas on ethical language

Dorit Lemberger (The Program for Hermeneutics and Culture)

Jacob's Ladder of History: Martin Buber on Nationalism, Israel, and the League of Nations

Samuel Pomeroy (University of Tennessee Knoxville)

1.19 *Mt. Vernon Square*

AFFECT, ZIONISM, PALESTINE

Chair: Benjamin Schreier (Pennsylvania State University)

Zionism, Antisemitism, and the Post-2023 Affective Turn in Jewish American Aesthetics and Representation

Jennifer Glaser (University of Cincinnati - Department of Judaic St)

Pedagogy, Affect, and Israel/Palestine: Lessons from a Campus-Wide Teaching-Learning Event and Joshua Cohen's THE NETANYAHUS

Laurence Roth (Susquehanna University)

Jewish Studies / Race Studies: A Case Study in Statements and the Role of Affect in Institutional Relationships

Annie Atura (Taube Center For Jewish Studies)

1.20 *Shaw*

JEWS AND RACE IN URBAN SPACE: TRANSNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES

Chair: Joshua Shanes (University of California, Davis)

Forging a Double Diaspora: Cuban Jewish Migration and Urban Space in 1960s Greater Miami

Mark Goldberg (University of Houston)

The Jewish "Gangs From Bab El Oued": Colonial Space, Racialized Geography, and Resistance in World War II Algiers

Ethan Katz (Near Eastern Studies (Berkeley))

From Rescue to Resettlement: Jewish Refugees and Antifascism in Bolivian Urban Space, 1930s-1940s

Laura Gotkowitz (University of Pittsburgh)

1.21 *Judiciary Square*

GENDER & SEXUALITY: TEXTS AND CONTEXTS

Chair: Felicia Kornbluh (University of Vermont)

Coming Out Jewish: Politics of Visibility in 1980s Jewish Lesbian Feminist Theory

Samantha Maza

Sharing Torah, Sharing Bed: Rabbinic Male-Male Intimacies Across Norm and Transgression

Shlomo Sergei Gleibman (York University)

Words to Cry Over: Reading Tkhines Through Affect and Hybridity

Hannah Wickham (Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies at University of Toronto)

Undoing Masculinity: The "Woman as Humiliator" in the Book of Judges

Julia Olson

1.22 LeDroit Park

ADAPTING AN “ABANDONED” CULTURE: TRANSLATION INTO YIDDISH

Chair: Sandra Chiritescu (Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies (NYU))

Translating Beethoven: Yiddish Children’s Literature and the European Canon in Interwar Poland

Jules Riegel (Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization (Harvard))

“Read[ing] the Bible with Gentile Spectacles”: Current Trends in Yiddish New Testament Translations

Pamela Brenner (Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization (Harvard))

May this Find (Jew) in Good Health: Seventh-day Adventist Yiddish Evangelism through ‘DER FAMILYEN DOKTOR’

Cameron Bernstein (University of Queensland)

“DORT IZ ITST NOKH AN OYSMOL; NOR MIT BLOYZ EYN TEKST”: Yiddish Translation Today

Sean Sidky (Virginia Tech)

SUNDAY MID-MORNING EVENTS

10:00 am Marquis 6-10 (Exhibit Hall)
EXHIBIT HALL OPEN SUNDAY AM

10:00 am - 10:30am (Exhibit Hall)
COFFEE BREAK SPONSORED BY
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY PROGRAM IN
JUDAIC STUDIES

10:00 am - 11:00 am Archives (Reception)
FIRST TIME ATTENDEE RECEPTION

10:00 am - 5:00 pm Capital Jewish Museum
(Offsite events)
CAPITAL JEWISH MUSEUM OPEN SUNDAY

Session 2 – Sunday 10:30am-12:00pm

2.1 Catholic U (AV)

CONSTRUCTIONS OF POWER AND SOCIAL IDENTITIES IN RABBINIC HALAKHIC DISCOURSES

Chair: Sarit Kattan Gribetz (Yale University)

Discursive, Ethical, and Material Factors in Mishnaic Representations of Wealth and Poverty in Seder Zera'im

John Mandsager (University of South Carolina)

“These People Are Obligated:” Tax Collection and Public Affairs in Mishnah Sheqalim

Tianruo Jiang (Yale University)

Rethinking “Benevolent” Exemption: Disability Exclusion and the Dynamics of Pilgrimage

Julia Watts Belser (Georgetown University)

Respondent: Mira Wasserman (Reconstructionist Rabbinical College)

2.2 Howard U (AV)

MOMENTS OF MEMORY: CHANGES IN HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE OVER TIME

Chair: Robert Ehrenreich (U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum)

Listening to Survivor Voices: Contextualizing Early Holocaust Survivor Narratives

Rachel Deblinger (UCLA)

Judith Kestenberg: The Struggle to Repress and to Remember the Shoah

Klara Naszkowska (Montclair State University)

Intergenerational Communication of Holocaust: Perspectives of the Third Generation

Tamar Aizenberg (Brandeis University)

2.3 Gallaudet U (AV)

TIME, TERROR, AND TERROIR

The Shape of Days: Form, Theme, and Meaning in Andalusi Hebrew Poems about Time from the 11th and 12th centuries

Benjamin Notis (Hebrew University)

Memory of Deliverance: Sefer Zechira’s account of the 1171 Cologne Events – Memory, Literature, and Reality

Ephraim Shoham-Steiner (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

Sipping Sepharad: TERROIR in Hebrew Golden Age Poetry from Medieval Spain

Sara Gardner (University of Minnesota)

2.4 U of DC (AV)

DIGITAL YIDDISH AND THE UNIVERSAL YIDDISH LIBRARY

Discussants: Amber Clooney (Yiddish Book Center)
Lyudmila Sholokhova (YIVO Institute for Jewish Research)

2.5 Georgetown U (AV)

ANTISEMITISM AND THE ARTS OF RESISTANCE

Chair: Kerry Wallach (Gettysburg College)
Antisemitism and Allyship: The Shunning of the St. Louis and Fernando Ortiz's "Cuban Defense Against Antisemitic Racism"

Marilyn Miller (Tulane University)
Antisemitism Scandal and Contemporary Art: "Judaizing" in the Documenta Controversy

Martin Schwartz (University of Washington)
The Theatre of Jewish Absence in Poland: Post-2000 Projects of Holocaust Reckoning
Rachel Moss (University of Texas at Austin)

2.6 George Washington U (AV)

RACE AND TRANSNATIONAL NETWORKS OF JEWISH ART IN THE AMERICAS DURING THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

Chair: Gabriel Chazan (University of Wisconsin - Madison)

Gershon Knispel's Ethics and Aesthetics of Racial Solidarity

Chelsea Haines (Arizona State University)
Race Did Find Him Over There: Henry Ossawa Tanner and Jewish Representations in Black Art
Lanitra Berger (George Mason University)
The Kaufmann Windows: Telling History with Glaring Omissions

Rhoda Seidenberg (Touro University)
Mapping Jewish-Latin American Consciousness: Race and Space in the Art of Anna Bella Geiger

Abigail Lapin Dardashti (University of California, Irvine)

2.7 Marquis 1

HYBRID IDENTITIES AND GENRES: JEWISH LITERATURE IN A TRANSNATIONAL WORLD

Moderator: Phyllis Lassner (Department of Religious Studies (Northwestern))

Discussants: Adam Goldwyn (North Dakota State University)
Elyce Helford (Middle Tennessee State University)

Darrell Lockhart (University of Nevada Reno)
Christin Zuehlke (Washington University in St. Louis)

2.8 Marquis 2 (AV)

REREADING HEBREW LITERATURE

Chair: Denisa Glacova (University of Michigan)
Degrading Translation: Berdichevsky, Fogel, Hendel

Ido Telem (Rice University)
Language Monstrosity: Poetic Incest and Maternal Specters in Agnon's IN THE PRIME OF HER LIFE

Roni Henig (Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies (NYU))

2.9 Marquis 3 (AV)

EASTERN EUROPE IN MODERN HISTORY

Chair: Daniel Soyer (Fordham University)
Yidishe poyerim? Jewish Farmers in the Heart of Lithuania

Christa Patricia Whitney (Yiddish Book Center)
Yisker Bikher: Springboards for Uncovering Authentic Voices and Marginalized Stories

Rivka Schiller (US Holocaust Memorial Museum)
"The Ground Moved:" Reconstructing the Holocaust in Zhytomyr, Ukraine

Robert Coleman (Carnegie Mellon University)

2.10 Marquis 4 (AV)

AND YOU SHALL TELL": ANTHOLOGICAL PRACTICES IN LATE-ANTIQUITY, MEDIEVAL, AND EARLY MODERN JEWISH WRITINGS

Why Collect? Anthologizing the Medieval Jewish Mediterranean
Isabelle Levy (Columbia University)
A Book of Spells, a Hymn, and a Love Song: Two Yiddish Songs in a Magic Anthology
Roni Cohen (Goethe University, Frankfurt am Main)
Respondent: Laura Lieber (University of Regensburg)

2.11 Marquis 12 (AV)

ISRAEL, INSTITUTIONS, AND IDENTITY

Chair: Shay Rabineau (SUNY Binghamton)
A Biography of Memory- Ze'ev Jabotinsky as Israeli founding father
Ofira Gruweis-Kovalsky (Zefat Academic College)

Is there an atheist Jewish identity? The struggle over the establishment of a synagogue in a privatized Israeli kibbutz

Omri Senderowicz (University of Kansas)

The Hebrew Bible as a National Vision in the Zionist Movement

Yitzhak Conforti (Bar-Ilan University)

Cross-Border Violence: Israel and the Palestinians in the 1970s

Ori Yehudai (The Ohio State University)

2.12 Marquis 13 (AV)

OVERLOOKED HISTORIES

Chair: Rebecca Wartell (Earlham College)

Astral Magic and Conversionist Ideology in Juan de Valladolid's 'Book on the Harmony of the Divine Law' (c. 1375)

Yosi Yisraeli (Bar-Ilan University)

Sephardic Traces in Carved Stone: Cemetery and Archives of the Jewish Community of Pisa

Silvia Di Giovanna (DREST)

Narratives of Jews and Guns: Early Modern Europe, Modern Historiography, and the Contemporary Imaginary

Adam Shear (University of Pittsburgh)

2.13 Marquis 14 (AV)

ANALYTIC PHILOSOPHY AND JEWISH STUDIES: NEW FRONTIERS

Chair: Jennifer Greenberg (Brown University)

Analytic Philosophy and Jewish Thought - Between Vienna and Jerusalem: Jewish Thought Confronts Logical Positivism

Noam Oren (New York University)

Analytic Philosophy and Jewish Mysticism: Uncovering Shared Dimensions and Parallel Structures

Olla Solomyak (Shalem College)

Analytic Philosophy and Halakha: Three Kinds of Halakhic Naturalism

Israel Cohen (The University of Haifa)

2.14 Marquis 15 (AV)

PHOTOGRAPHY IN JEWISH STUDIES: NEW APPROACHES, NEW FINDINGS

Moderator: Thomas Pegelow Kaplan (University of Colorado Boulder)

Discussants: Ofer Ashkenazi (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Deborah Dash Moore (University of Michigan)

Rebekka Grossmann (Leiden University)

Lisa Silverman (University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee)

2.15 Chinatown

AMERICAN JEWISH AFFILIATION AND BELONGING POST-OCT 7TH

Chair: Marsha Dubrow (Jewish Theological Seminary)

"Conversions to Judaism in the United States during a period of growing anti-Semitism: Becoming Jewish for non-marriage purposes."

Lina Liederman

Reconfiguration of American Judaism away from Israel? Intellectual and Communal Reactions to the Attack of October 7 and the War in Gaza

Yaakov Ariel (Carolina Center for Jewish Studies (UNC-Chapel Hill))

2.16 Dupont Circle

JEWISH COLONIAL MODERNITY IN GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

Chair: Ilan Benattar (Franklin & Marshall College)

From Babylon to Kolkata: How 'Baghdadi Jews' of colonial India gave form to a non-European Jewish Internationalism

Lipika Pelham (Ludwig Maximilian University Munich)

Une Colonie Juive: Conflations of the Jewish and colonial questions in eighteenth-century France

Ben Wexler (Washington University in Saint Louis)

2.17 Capitol Hill

NEW METHODS AND THEMES IN THE STUDY OF HAREDI CULTURE AND SOCIETY

Moderator: David Myers (UCLA)

Discussants: Nathaniel Deutsch (University of California, Santa Cruz)

Chaya Nove (Brown University)

Nomi Stolzenberg

Lea Taragin-Zeller (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

2.18 Mt. Vernon Square

"HERITAGE WORDS" IN CONTEMPORARY JEWISH LANGUAGE PRACTICES

Moderator: Evelyn Dean-Olmsted (Rosov Consulting)

Discussants: Sarah Bunin Benor
Cynthia Gabbay (Katz Center (Upenn))
Gabiella Modan (Germanic Languages & Lit (Ohio State))
Ronald Shabtaev (Bar-Ilan University)

2.19 Shaw

THE PLACE OF MODERN ISRAEL IN ACADEMIC JEWISH STUDIES

Moderator: Jonathan Karp (Binghamton University, SUNY)

Discussants: Zachary Braiterman (Syracuse University)
Michael Brenner (American University/ University of Munich)
Rachel Greenblatt (Dartmouth College)
H. Susannah Heschel (Dartmouth College)
Derek Penslar (Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization (Harvard))

2.20 Judiciary Square

CHAIRING JEWISH STUDIES IN THE CURRENT HIGHER EDUCATION LANDSCAPE: CHALLENGES AND STRATEGIES

Moderator: Karen Skinazi (Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion)

Discussants: Rachel Harris (Florida Atlantic University)
Ari Joskowitz (Vanderbilt University)
Helene Sinnreich (University of Tennessee - Knoxville)

2.21 LeDroit Park

THE GENDERED AND SEXUALIZED BODY IN MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN JEWISH THOUGHT

Chair: Sharon Koren (Hebrew Union College)

Wisdom Regarding Her Body: The MENEKET RIVKAH and an Ethics of Female Embodiment

Ranana Dine (Catholic Theological Union)

Shrouds that Bind and Shrouds that Free: Gender Dynamics and the Garments of Death in Medieval Ashkenaz

Emilie Amar-Zifkin (McGill University)

Session 3 – Sunday - 1:30-3:00pm

3.1 Catholic U (AV)

DRAMATIZING JEWISH EXPERIENCES: A CREATIVE/CRITICAL READING

Chair: Laura Levitt (Temple University Feinstein Center for American Jewish History)

A Ruptured Identity: Soviet Jewish Teen Facing the New World

Olga Zilberbourg

Crafting and Creating Jewish Content in Digital Media Storytelling

Jonathan Goldberg

An Immaterial Material: poetics, historical analogy, and inheritance

Rachel Kaufman (UCLA)

Where Jewish Studies Meets Researched Fiction

Brett Ashley Kaplan (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

3.2 Howard U (AV)

SPANISH-JEWISH ENCOUNTERS, FROM 19TH CENTURY MOROCCO TO CONTEMPORARY CATALONIA

Chair: Adam Cohn (Carolina Center for Jewish Studies (UNC-Chapel Hill))

Tetuán's Jewish Women in the Writings of Spanish Colonial Physicians

Omar Badessi (Vassar College)

**Spanish 'Jewish Questions': Julián Marías'
Encounters with Sepharad & Zionism**

Michal Friedman (Department of History, Carnegie Mellon University)

Being Jewish and Muslim in Spanish Schools

Daniela Flesler (Stony Brook University)

3.3 Gallaudet U (AV)

CLASS MATTERS: RETHINKING SOCIAL CLASS IN AMERICAN JEWISH LIFE

Chair: Elana Riback Rand (The George Washington University Graduate School of Education and Human Development)

Cultivating Upwardly Mobile Citizens: Jewish Day Schools and the Formation of Middle-Class American Jewish Identity

Jonathan Krasner (Brandeis University)

Questioning the Middle-Class Script: How Jewish Post-Gap-Year College Students Navigate Achievement and Aspiration as They Resume the Educational Continuum

Jon Levisohn (Brandeis University)

Falling Out of the Fold: Downward Mobility and the Hidden Costs of Jewish Affluence

Ilana Horwitz (Tulane University)

3.4 U of DC (AV)

WHAT CAN JEWISH MUSIC DO FOR YOU?: PEDAGOGICAL STRATEGIES FOR INTEGRATING MUSIC INTO JEWISH STUDIES COURSES

Moderator: Mark Kligman (UCLA)

Discussants: Rosa Abrahams (Ursinus College)
Samantha Cooper (The University of Kansas)
Josh Dolgin (McGill University)
Amanda Stein (Carroll University)
Karen Uslin (Defiant Requiem Foundation)

3.5 Georgetown U (AV)

**FROM MANUSCRIPT IMAGE TO SEARCHABLE TEXT
The Open-Source Platform eScriptorium Applied to Automatic Text Recognition in Hebrew Character Prints and Manuscripts**

Luigi Bambaci

How Much of the Humanities Can You Automate? Collecting and Correcting HTR Ground Truth Data for Thousands of Geniza Fragments

Ksenia Ryzhova (Princeton University)

Detecting Textual Regions and Determining Reading Order

Nachum Dershowitz (Tel Aviv University)

Computational Methods for Post-OCR correction

Avi Shmidman (Bar-Ilan University and DICTA)

3.6 George Washington U (AV)

NEW MIGRATION (RELOCATION) FROM ISRAEL TO THE DIASPORA: SOCIO-CULTURAL INTEGRATION IN A TRANSNATIONAL CONTEXT

Chair: Tyson Herberger (University of Southeastern Norway)

Spheres, fields, networks, and practices – The formation of an 'Israeli Transnational Social Space'

Perla Aizencang Kane (Hebraica University PCPyS-UNAM)

Choosing to Leave: Emigration, Identity, and the Transformation of Israeli Discourse

Efrat Tzadik (Efrat.tzadik@tropisma.com)

Israeli Population in the United States

Joshua Comenetz (Consultant)

Israeli "Bubbles" in the United States: Social Integration Across Time

Lilach Lev Ari (Oranim Academic College of Education)

3.7 Marquis 1

MODERN FICTIONS OF THE SEPHARDI PAST: INTERSECTIONS OF HISTORY AND FICTION

Moderator: Dina Danon (Binghamton University)

Discussants: Aviva Ben-Ur (Institute for Holocaust, Genocide, & Memory Studies (Umass-Amherst))
Michael Hoberman (Fitchburg State University)
Marina Mayorsky (Department of History (Upenn))
Shai Zamir (Mandel Institute of Jewish Studies (Hebrew University))

3.8 Marquis 2 (AV)

MEDIEVAL JUDEO-ARABIC THOUGHT IN ITS INTERRELIGIOUS MILIEUX

Chair: Daniel Lasker (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

Islamic Motifs in Judeo-Arabic Depictions of Biblical Violence

Jonathan Decter (Brandeis University)

The Human Lifespan in Judeo-Arabic Thought

Jessica Andruss (University of Virginia)

Defining Jews in their Interreligious and Intrareligious Milieux: "Rabbanites" and "Karaites" in Medieval Jewish Sources (9th–11th Century)

Marzena Zawadowska (University of Warsaw)

Respondent: Miriam Goldstein (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

3.9 Marquis 3 (AV)

HOLOCAUST NARRATIVES FROM THE MARGINS

Chair: Robin Judd (Germanic Languages & Lit (Ohio State))

Abortions in Auschwitz: Examining Three Jewish Female Physicians who provided Reproductive Care to their fellow Inmates

Micaela Procopio (Gratz College)

Women at Liberation: The Dangerous Way Home

Alice Freifeld (University of Florida)

Between Proximity and Distance: Neighbor Testimonies on the Holocaust by Bullets in the Krępiecki Forest

Katarzyna Grzybowska (Jagiellonian University)

3.10 Marquis 4 (AV)

POSTWAR MINORITY ALLIANCES: JEWS AND THE GLOBAL POLITICS OF SOLIDARITY, 1945-1967

Chair: James Loeffler (Leonard & Helen R. Stulman Jewish Studies Program (Johns Hopkins))

From Auschwitz to Algeria: Jews, Anti-Racism, and Decolonization in the French Imperial Nation-State

Ludwig Decke (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

Images of Global Connectivity: Legacies of Jewish Refuge in Cold War Visual Culture

Rebekka Grossmann (Leiden University)

"The Cancer Called Sh-h": American Jewish Antiracism in the Postwar Era

Andrew Sperling (American Jewish Historical Society)

Respondent: Ari Joskowicz (Vanderbilt University)

3.11 Marquis 12 (AV)

GENDER, CARE, AND THE CULTIVATION OF JEWISH IDENTITY WITHIN THE HOME AND IN INSTITUTIONS OUTSIDE OF IT

Chair: Ruth Olmsted (Independent Scholar)

Becoming Chassidic: The Story of Achos Tmimim of Latvia

Leah-Perl Shollar ((Azrieli Graduate School))

"Even Though She's a Negress": Black Housekeepers in Jewish Homes

Morgan Carlton (Princeton University)

LGBTQIA+ Jews in the United States: Building an Oral History Archive

Felicia Kornbluh (University of Vermont)

Single By Choice: Practices undertaken by Eastern-European Jewish women to remain alone in the second half of the nineteenth century and early twentieth

Avital Ginat (Jacob Robinson Institute, The Hebrew University)

3.12 Marquis 13 (AV)

CONTENDING WITH THE LIMITS OF KNOWLEDGE FROM TEXTUAL AND HUMAN WITNESSES

Chair: Roni Shweka (Bar Ilan University)

The Tannaitic OATH OF TESTIMONY and the Greek EXOMOSIA: A Reexamination

Shlomi Zemach (Hebrew University in Jerusalem)

Between Laughter and Tears: Rabbinic Responses to Incongruity

Miriam Zami (Bernard Revel School of Jewish Studies (Yeshiva))

The Talmud Yerushalmi Glosses in Parma 3173 (De Rossi 138)

Moshe Pinchuk (Netanya Academic College)

3.13 Marquis 14 (AV)

JEWISH LANGUAGES: CONTACTS AND PHILOLOGIES

Chair: Michelle Burden (TKU, Southlake TX)

New Details about Hebrew-Aramaic Language Contact in the Late Biblical- and Post-Biblical Periods

Ivri Bunis (The University of Haifa)

"The Holy Meat Never חֵירָסָה" -- The Verb חֵירָסָה in Classical Rabbinic Sources: Meaning from Context

Natalie Polzer (University of Louisville)

Juhuri (Judeo-Tat) Proficiency among Mountain Jewish Immigrants of Generation 1.5: Sociocultural Predictors of Language Maintenance in Israel and the United States

Ronald Shabtaev (Bar-Ilan University)

3.14 Marquis 15 (AV)

RETHINKING "JEWISH SELF-GOVERNMENT" UNDER MEDIEVAL ISLAM

Chair: Phillip Lieberman (Vanderbilt University and United States Naval Academy)

Reevaluating the Authority of the Babylonian Exilarch in Umayyad Iraq

Jennifer Grayson (University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill)

The Ma'asim as Jewish "Civil Law" in Early Islamic Palestine

Eliav Grossman (Vanderbilt University)

The Jizyah, the Prison State and the Limits of Jewish Communal Solidarity in Fatimid Egypt

Brendan Goldman (Gratz College)

3.15 Union Station

THE PERCEPTION, REPRESENTATION, AND SIGNIFICANCE OF NON-HUMAN ANIMALS IN JEWISH MYSTICAL TRADITION & LITERATURE PT 1

Chair: Joel Hecker (Reconstructionist Rabbinical College)

Discussants: Eitan Fishbane (Jewish Theological Seminary)
Beth Berkowitz (Barnard College)
Lawrence Fine (Mount Holyoke College)
Andrea Gondos (University of Michigan)
Jonnie Schnytzer (Bar Ilan University and Ramat Gan Academic College)
David Shyovitz (Department of Religious Studies (Northwestern))
Leore Sachs-Shmueli (Bar Ilan University)
Nathaniel Berman (Columbia University)

3.16 Chinatown

JEWS AND SLAVERY IN THE ATLANTIC WORLD: NEW DIRECTIONS IN AN EMERGING FIELD

Chair: Laura Leibman (Princeton University)
Gender, Race, and the Creation of Difference: Reframing Jews' Relationship to Slavery in the Eighteenth-Century British Caribbean

Laurencia Morice (CUNY Graduate Center)
Who Grew the Food? Revisiting the Lopez-Rivera Farm in Portsmouth, RI

Joseph Weisberg (Brandeis University)
Early American Jews and the Law: Relative Privilege in the Shadow of Slavery

Andrew Gerstenberger (Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies (NYU))
Zora Neale Hurston Does Midrash: A Jewish Perspective of Moses Man of the Mountain and The Life of Herod the Great

Laura Fisher (University of Denver)

Respondent: Samira Mehta (Department of Women and Gender Studies, University of Colorado Boulder)

3.17 Dupont Circle

AT THE CROSSROADS OF LITERATURE AND HISTORY: NEW AVENUES FOR READING RABBINIC AND MEDIEVAL TEXTS

Chair: Alan Verskin (University of Toronto)

Rabbinic Literature, Reliability of Attribution, and the Author Function

Shlomo Zuckier (University of Toronto)

The Problematics of Quotation in Medieval Judeo-Arabic Texts: Intertextuality, Attribution, and the Question of Plagiarism.

Bassem Hosny (University of Oregon)

Death, Purity & Social Ethics: Corpses as Sites of Religious Transformation in Sasanian Iran

Shira Eliassian (Yale University)

Silence in the Archive? Critically Fabulating Anglo-Jewish Affective Expression between 1066 and 1290

Nina Gary (The University of Texas at Austin)

3.18 Capitol Hill

DISJUNCTIVE ENCOUNTERS ("VERGEGNUNGEN") IN POST-DIALOGICAL TIMES: EXPLORING THE WORK OF MARTIN BUBER AND PAUL MENDES-FLOHR IN DIALOGUE WITH PAST AND PRESENT JEWISH EXPERIENCE

Moderator: Matthew Creighton (Boston University)

Discussants: Asher Biemann (University of Virginia)
Abigail Gillman (Boston University)
Jeffrey Grossman (University of Virginia)
Yemima Hadad (University of Leipzig)

3.19 Mt. Vernon Square

LEBEDIKE TEKSTN: YIDDISH TEXTS IN ACTION

Moderator: Barbara Mann (Contact)

Discussants: Maya Gonz lez (UMass Amherst)
Caleb Sher (University of Toronto)
Sophia Elizabeth Shoulson (Library of Congress)
Hannah Wickham (Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies at University of Toronto)

3.20 *Shaw*

THE JEWISH DIASPORA IN THE 20TH CENTURY: FROM THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE TO THE POST-SOVIET SPACE

Chair: Amy Simon (Michigan State University)
The Pogrom in Pre-Revolutionary Russian Literature

Michael Lerner (UC Berkeley)

The Blood Libel in the System of Stereotypes about Jews in the Late Soviet Period: The Case of Latgale

Ileze Olehnovika (Stacijas 121 B - 8)

Jewish Funerals: The Transformation of Tradition (the Case of Soviet-Era Latgale)

Elina Vasiljeva (Daugavpils University)

3.21 *Judiciary Square*

RESTORING AN OVERLOOKED PERSPECTIVE: DISABILITY AS AN ESSENTIAL LENS FOR UNDERSTANDING JEWISH HISTORY, LITERATURE, AND LIFE

Sponsored by Society for Jewish & Disability Studies

Moderator: Marco Di Giulio (Franklin & Marshall College)

Discussants: Jennifer Glaser (University of Cincinnati - Department of Judaic St)
 Sarah Imhoff (Jewish Studies Program (Indiana))
 Helene Sinnreich (University of Tennessee - Knoxville)
 Hannah Zaves-Greene (Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives)

3.22 *LeDroit Park*

ANTISEMITISM, SOCIAL KNOWLEDGE, AND THE COURTS IN HABSURG CENTRAL EUROPE

Chair: Rebekah Klein-Pejsova (Purdue University)
The Mechanical Jew and His Central Europe

Jindrich Toman (University of Michigan)

The Ritter Trials, 1882-1886: Courtroom Drama, Local Knowledge, and Jewish-Christian Relations in Habsburg Galicia

Daniel Unowsky (University of Memphis)

What the Doctor Thought he Knew: Forensic Medicine and Talmudic Teaching in the Ritter Affair

Hillel Kieval (Washington University)

Respondent: Rebekah Klein-Pejsova (Purdue University)

Session 4 – Sunday - 3:15p-4:45pm

4.1 *Catholic U (AV)*

EUROPEAN JEWISH LITERATURE

Chair: Harriet A. Feinberg (Independent Scholar)

From Marina Jarre to Elena Loewenthal: Towards A New Canon Of Jewish Italian Literature

K.E. von Wittelsbach (Cornell University)

Gazing Eastward: The Reimagination and Reception of Eastern European Jewishness in Czech(oslovak) Literature

Denisa Glacova (University of Michigan)

Jewishness in Life and Work of Boris Pasternak

Konstantin Kustanovich (Vanderbilt University)

4.2 *Howard U (AV)*

ISRAELI CULTURAL IMPRINTS ON AMERICAN JEWISH LIFE

Moderator: Olga Gershenson (University of Massachusetts-Amherst)

Discussants: Ari Ariel (University of Iowa)
 Galeet Dardashti (Danoor)
 Hannah Kosstrin (Germanic Languages & Lit (Ohio State))

4.3 *Gallaudet U (AV)*

COVENANT, GOVERNMENT, AND COMMUNITY

Chair: Loren Spielman (Portland State University)

Houses of Worship and Local Polytheistic Cults in Late Antique Babylonia

David Danzig (Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies (NYU))

Jerusalem, Priests, and the Temple in John Malalas' Chronicle

Ari Finkelstein (University of Cincinnati - Department of Judaic St)

"Community has no Death": Rabbinic Responses to Failures of Leadership

Jessica Spencer (Columbia University)

4.4 *U of DC (AV)*

MEDIA TRAINING/PUBLIC WRITING

Discussants: Ilana Horwitz (Tulane University)

4.5 *Georgetown U (AV)*

ETHICS OF REPRESENTATION IN ISRAEL-PALESTINE

Chair: Melissa Weininger (California State University)

Northridge)

Utopia Undone: The Collapse of Zionist Dreams in Hebrew Dystopia

Itay Eisinger (UC Davis)

The Reader's Role in "Shooting and Crying": Beyond Authorial Intent

Ido Moses (The University of Toronto)

The Feminist Gaze: Intersections in Israeli and Palestinian Literature and Film at the turn of the 21st century

Meital Orr (Georgetown University)

Zikhron Devarim - Yaakov Shabtai as a Jewish writer

Rami Kimchi (Ariel University)

4.6 George Washington U (AV)

JEWISH VOICES IN HARMONY: EXAMINING JEWISH A CAPPELLA MUSIC

Chair: Jodi Eichler-Levine (Philip and Muriel Berman Center for Jewish Studies (Lehigh University))

Collegiate Jewish A Cappella: A View from the Early Years

Judah Cohen (Jewish Studies Program (Indiana))

The Maccabeats' Rhyming Jewish Histories

Caryn Tamber-Rosenau (University of Houston)

Historiography and Temporality in Jewish A Cappella Performance

Gordon Dale (Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion)

4.7 Marquis 2 (AV)

AI AND THE JEWISH SCHOLARLY RECORD: NEW TOOLS FOR TEXTS, ARCHIVES, AND NETWORKS

Chair: Lisa Leff (American University)

Parsing Peshat and Midrash: AI-Enhanced Digital Humanities Approach to Variant Editions of Rashi's Commentary

Avichai Levy (Bar Ilan University)

New Approaches for Digital Discovery and Scholarship: AI and the Arnold and Deanne Kaplan Collection of Early American Judaica

Laura Eckstein (Department of History (Upenn))

The Historiography of Early Judaism: An Exercise in AI and Quantitative Social Network Analysis

Michael Satlow (Brown University)

4.8 Marquis 3 (AV)

RECKONING WITH THE HOLOCAUST: GENDERED MEMORIES, PERFORMANCE, AND MATERIAL CULTURE

Chair: Judith Gerson (Rutgers University)

Emigrants, Their Possessions, and the Borderland of Material and Memory

Jeffrey Abt (Wayne State University)

"Her Own Little World:" Gendered Memories of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Latrines

Alexandra Natoli (University of Southern Indiana)

The Reflective Stage: Reflective Aesthetics in Holocaust Representation

Achinoam Aldouby (UC Berkeley)

4.9 Marquis 4 (AV)

"CHROMATIC IDENTITIES: EXPLORING BLACKNESS, COLOR, AND RACE IN JEWISH EXPERIENCE"

Chair: Katya Gibel Mevorach (Grinnell College)

Not Here, Not There: Black and Jewish and the Passing Narrative

Roy Holler (University of Florida)

"Black bread is for blacks": Negotiating Race and Belonging in Bene Israel Migration to Israel through Narratives of Blackness

Rishona Fine (Mandel Institute of Jewish Studies (Hebrew University))

Respondent: Katya Gibel Mevorach (Grinnell College)

4.10 Marquis 12 (AV)

CORPOREAL POLITICS: VIOLENCE, DEBILITY, AND REPRESENTATION IN ISRAEL AND OCCUPIED PALESTINE

Moderator: Tamar Hess (Mandel Institute of Jewish Studies (Hebrew University))

Discussants: Reut Ben-Yaakov (Duke University)
Ilana Szobel (Brandeis University)
Oran Zakai (George Washington University)

4.11 Marquis 13 (AV)

HALAKHAH, COMMUNAL FRAGMENTATION, AND CORRUPTION

Chair: Shai Zamir (Mandel Institute of Jewish Studies (Hebrew University))

A Transnational European Jewish Rabbinic-Familial Network(s) in the Third Quarter of the 18th Century

Asaf Yedidya (Ariel University)

Law's Umpire: Reading Chief Justice Roberts in Moses Mendelssohn's JERUSALEM

Tania Tulcin (Bernard Revel Graduate School/Yeshiva University)

Power and Piety: Conceptualizing Corruption in Medieval and Early Modern Jewish Texts and Praxis

Jonathan Mosesson

The Eighth Work? Tracing an Unknown Prophetic Commentary Attributed to Jonah Ibn Janāḥ

Enatan Chen (University of Notre Dame)

4.12 *Marquis 14 (AV)*

WHAT'S PAST IS PROLOGUE?: METHODOLOGICAL CONSIDERATIONS IN JEWISH POPULATION RESEARCH

Chair: Peter Gluck (Independent Scholar)

Mapping in New Terrain: Using Cognitive Testing to Recalibrate Jewish Identity Surveys in Australia

Adina Bankier-Karp (Monash University)

Be Prepared: Practical, Ethical, and Political Challenges in Jewish Community Research

Matthew Boxer (Brandeis University)

We're All In It Together: How Surveys of Jews Have Changed the Understanding of Other Religious Groups in America

Alan Cooperman (Pew Research Center)

Becka Alper (Pew Research Center)

The Long and Short of Longitudinal Studies

Ariela Keysar (Trinity College)

4.13 *Marquis 15 (AV)*

FIGHTING LEGAL RESTRICTIONS ACROSS THE DIASPORA

Chair: Ronit Stahl

"The First Jewish Wedding: Religious Freedom and Its Contradictions in Early Jewish Life in Argentina"

Lelia Stadler (Columbia University)

"Guardians of Citizenship: American Jewish Advocacy during the Rise of the Gatekeeping Nation, 1891-1924"

Jacob Morrow-Spitzer (Yale University)

"The Right to Live": Jewish Lawyers and the Residence Rights in the Russian Empire"

Emily Mazza

Bris Milah and American Medical Licensing, a late 19th/early 20th Century Debate

Nicole Siegel (Fordham University)

4.14 *Union Station*

CONTEMPORARY INSIGHTS INTO BIBLICAL BOUNDARIES

Chair: Sara Ronis (St. Mary's University, Texas)

Tamar's Monster Mash: Chosen Family, Trans Monstrosity, and Genesis 38

Esther Brownsmith (University of Dayton)

Creating Community through Wine

Consumption: The MARZEAH and the Rosh Chodesh Club

Noam Cohen (Muhlenberg College)

Anatomy of a Punishment: The Biblical SOTAH in Medical and Psychosocial Perspective

Yael Landman (Jewish Theological Seminary)

4.15 *Chinatown*

ANTISEMITISM, SCHOLARSHIP, AND THE CURRENT MOMENT: HOW TO MOVE FROM DEBATE TO DIALOGUE ON OUR CAMPUSES

Moderator: Steven Weitzman (Department of History (Upenn))

Discussants: Ethan Katz (Near Eastern Studies (Berkeley))

Linda Maizels (Yale University Program for the Study of Antisemitism)

Miriam Mora (Center for Jewish History)

Avinoam Patt (Center for the Study of Antisemitism (NYU))

4.16 *Dupont Circle*

HOW DO/HOW SHOULD STUDENTS ENCOUNTER JEWISH LAW IN THE AMERICAN ACADEMY?

Moderator: Beth Berkowitz (Barnard College)

Discussants: Emmanuel Bloch (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Miryam Segal (Queens College, CUNY)

Rachel Slutsky (Seton Hall University)

4.17 *Capitol Hill*

ETHICAL REASONING AND JEWISH IDENTITY FORMATION

Chair: Heidi Ravven (Hamilton College)

Jew vs Persian: German Jewish Political Theology, Persianate Talmud, and the Boundaries of Ethical Monotheism

Ezra Tzfadya (Indiana University Bloomington)

Aesthetic Judgment and Moses Mendelssohn's Defense of Judaism

Sarah Denne (University of Virginia)

**Constructing a “Valuational Esperanto:”
Universal Ethics in American Jewish Psychology
and Theology after the Holocaust**

Katherine Booska (Taube Center For Jewish Studies)

**Debating Prophecy in the Age of Jewish
Enlightenment**

Samuel Glauber (Washington University in Saint Louis)

4.18 *Mt. Vernon Square*

**ETHICS IN PRACTICE: CONTESTED GROUNDS,
MEMORY, AND THE POLITICS OF HOLOCAUST
SITES**

Discussants: Caroline Sturdy Colls (University of
Huddersfield)
Joanna Spyra (University of Huddersfield)
Katarzyna Grzybowska (Jagiellonian
University)

4.19 *Shaw*

**NEW PERSPECTIVES ON THE HASKALAH AND
ITS LEGACY, ACROSS THE SEPHARDI AND
ASHKENAZI WORLDS**

Chair: Thomas Pegelow Kaplan (University of Colora-
do Boulder)

C.D. Ginsburg as a Christian MASKIL

J.j. Kimche (University of Austin, Texas)

**Constructing the “Russian Mendelssohn”: Isaac
Baer Levinsohn’s Posthumous Image**

Esther Zyskina

**“Anti-mekatrejista”: A Judeo-Spanish
Neologism and the Anti-Musar Idiom of late
Ottoman Jewish Liberalism**

Ilan Benattar (Franklin & Marshall College)

4.20 *Judiciary Square*

JEWS AND COLONIALISM: THE MILITARY SIDE

Chair: Derek Penslar (Department of Near Eastern
Languages and Civilization (Harvard))

**Marginal Soldiers: Jewish Deportees in Mauritius
and the Colonial Politics of Military Enlistment
during WWII**

Roni Mikel-Arieli (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

**More Than Soldiers: Jewish Women in Allied Armies and
Post-War Activism, a colonial and gender perspective**

Riccardo Abram Correggia (Scuola Normale Superi-
ore)

**Liberators or Patrons? South African–Ethiopian
Jewish Relations After the Fall of Italian Fascism**

Matteo D’avanzo (Scuola Normale Superiore & INALCO)

4.21 *LeDroit Park*

**HISTORIES FROM WITHIN: INTIMACY AND
EMBODIED EXPERIENCES IN MODERN JEWISH
CULTURES**

Chair: Atina Grossmann (Cooper Union)

**Intimate Histories of Empire: Jewish Women and
Pregnancy Termination in the Late Ottoman
Period**

Anabella Esperanza (Tel Aviv University)

**Painful Intimacy: Jewish Pregnancies and
Childbirth in Interwar Poland**

Natalia Aleksion (Bud Shorstein Center for Jewish
Studies)

**The Ethics of the Mothers: Obligation to the
Other in Sephardi/Mizrahi Women’s Blessings
and Healing Practices**

Angy Cohen (Spanish National Research Council)

Respondent: Atina Grossmann (Cooper Union)

SUNDAY EVENING EVENTS

4:30 pm - 5:00 pm Dogwood
TRADITIONAL PRAYERS

4:30pm - 5:00 pm Tulip
EGALITARIAN PRAYERS

5:00 pm - 5:45 pm Cherry Blossom
HANUKKAH CANDLE LIGHTING -

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Exhibit Hall
WELCOME RECEPTION

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm Marquis 1
JORDAN SCHNITZER BOOK AWARDS
RECEPTION AND DINNER

7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Magnolia Room
AJ'S KOSHER DINNER (ADVANCED PURCHASE
REQUIRED)

7:00 pm - 9:30 pm Theater J (Offsite event)
FILM SCREENING

MONDAY, DEC 15, 2025

MONDAY MORNING EVENTS

7:00 am - 5:30 pm Foyer (Registration)
BADGE PICKUP AND ONSITE REGISTRATION

7:00 am - 5:30 pm Maple
QUIET ROOM

7:00 am - 5:30 pm Honeysuckle
LACTATION ROOM

7:15 am - 8:15 am Capitol (Reception)
WOMEN'S CAUCUS BREAKFAST

7:15 am - 8:15 am Eastern Market
ASSJ BOARD MEETING

7:30 am - 8:00am Tulip
EGALITARIAN PRAYERS

7:30 am - 8:00am Dogwood
TRADITIONAL PRAYERS -

7:30 am - 8:30am Magnolia Room (Kosher pre-ordered meals)
AJS KOSHER BREAKFAST -- SUNDAY (ADVANCED PURCHASE REQUIRED.)

10:30 am - 1:30 pm Marquis 6-10
EXHIBIT HALL OPEN

POLITICS THROUGH EMBODIED PERFORMANCE

Chair: Hannah Kosstrin (Germanic Languages & Lit (Ohio State))

Moving Memories, Voicing Silences: Black Choreographic Responses to the Holocaust and the Music of Erwin Schulhoff

Rebecca Rossen (University of Texas at Austin)

"We are therefore beginners": Choreography, Hannah Arendt, and Jewish Action

Melissa Melpignano (The University of Texas at El Paso)

"You will be equal with all people": Dancing Yiddish Women's Songs in Hamburg's Jewish Quarter

Hannah Schwadron (Florida State University)

5.3 *U of DC (AV)*

NA-NACH: THEOLOGICAL, MUSICAL, AND ANTHROPOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES ON BRESLOV HASIDISM

Chair: Lea Taragin-Zeller (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

"Decolonizing with Rabbenu:" New Francophone Breslov Geographies

Rachel Feldman (Dartmouth College)

Breslov's Version: The convergence of *Masortiyut* and Breslov Hasidism in Mediterranean Israeli Pop

Rachel Pinhasi (Mandel Institute of Jewish Studies (Hebrew University))

Theological Margins and National Visions: Na-Nach Messianism in the Context of the State of Israel

Alexandra Mandelbaum (Ben Gurion University)

5.4 *Georgetown U (AV)*

TESTIMONIES OF THE SHOAH: LITERARY PRACTICES FROM POSITIONS OF SPATIAL AND MORAL PERIPHERIES

Chair: David Roskies

Primo Levi and Ka-Tzetnik 135633: Same Auschwitz, Opposing Representations

Or Rogovin (Bucknell University)

Yizker-Bikher Na Venad: Flight Survivors' Testimonial Strategies

Eva Hueckmann (University of Potsdam)

Holocaust Survivor Self-Fashioning through Testimony: The Case of Renee Duering and her Evolving Narration of Childbirth

Session 5 – Monday - 8:30am-10:00am

5.1 *Catholic U (AV)*

CONTEMPORARY JEWISH ETHNOGRAPHY: CHALLENGES, OPPORTUNITIES, AND CRITIQUE

Chair: Jonathan Boyarin (Cornell University)

The Challenges of Writing Hasidic Hagiography (Hagiographic Ethnography)

Sam Shuman (University of Virginia)

Reading Torah with an Accent: an Ethnographic Experience in an American Jewish Community

Dara Warchaizer Efron (Cambridge University)

Echoes of Life and Death in Lod: Reflections on Unresolved Ethnographic Fieldwork Traces

Talia Katz (Binghamton University)

5.2 *Howard U (AV)*

GALVANIZING JEWISH PASTS AND CURRENT

Tiarra Maznic (Northwestern)

5.5 *George Washington U (AV)*

JEWISH MIGRATION FROM THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA TO THE AMERICAS

Chair: Adriana Brodsky (St. Mary's College of Maryland)

Canada's North African Immigration Program for Jews, 1956-1960

Lianne Koren (Near Eastern Studies (Berkeley))

American Jewish Aid Organizations and Egyptian Jewish Migration to Brazil

Michael Rom (Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religio)

Iranian Jews and the Making of Tehrangeles

Lior Sternfeld (The Pennsylvania State University)

5.6 *Marquis 1*

ARCHIVAL LAYERS: NEITHER POETRY NOR HISTORY ARE STABLE

Moderator: Maera Shreiber (University of Utah)

Discussants: Joshua Gottlieb-Miller
Rachel Kaufman (UCLA)
Miriam Schwartz (Dartmouth College)

5.7 *Marquis 2 (AV)*

"TO CONTEMPORIZE OUR PAST": BETWEEN ARCHAEOLOGY AND ZIONISM (HEBREW)

Chair: Roi Naon (Ariel University)

Museums and Saintly Graves during the First Decades of Israel

Hayah Katz (Kinneret College on the Sea of Galilee)
Zionism and Archaeology in the 21st Century: Between Continuity and Transformation (Hebrew)

Mordechay Lash (Ariel University)
Itzhaq Shai (Ariel University)

"We Return to You, Homeland" – Archaeological Sites in the Early Cinema of the Land of Israel

Ariel Feldestein (Ariel University)

5.8 *Marquis 3 (AV)*

JEWISH WOMEN AND WARTIME RESCUE IN FRANCE

Chair: Katrin Schultheiss (GWU)

Women's Work: Mila Racine, the Smuggling of Jewish Children from France into Switzerland, and Humanitarian Resistance in Occupied France

Nancy Lefenfeld

"Chic Comrades:" Denise Baumann and the Rescue of Jewish Children at the Chateau du Masgelier, 1943

Ashley Valanzola (Middle Tennessee State University)

5.9 *Marquis 4 (AV)*

APPROACHES TO YIDDISH LANGUAGE CURRICULUM IN 21ST CENTURY

Sponsored by In Geveb

Moderator: Beatrice Lang (Leonard & Helen R. Stulman Jewish Studies Program (Johns Hopkins))

Discussants: Agi Legutko (Columbia University)
Elena Luchina (Jean & Samuel Frankel Center for Judaic Studies (Michigan))
Asya Schulman (Yiddish Book Center)
Adrien Smith (The University of Texas at Austin)

5.10 *Marquis 12 (AV)*

MODERN JEWISH HISTORY IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Chair: Evelyn Dean-Olmsted (Rosov Consulting)

"Île du Diable: Alfred Dreyfus and the Caribbean Geography of Erasure"

Paul Miller (Vanderbilt University)

En tus tierras bailaré: Christian Zionism and non-Jewish appropriations of Judaism in Peru and Guatemala

Romina Yalonetzky (UTEC Perú)

The Mizrahi La Malinche: The Gendered Racialization of Irán Eory in Mexican Cinema

Madeline Hudalla (UCLA)

5.11 *Marquis 13 (AV)*

NARRATIVE BOUNDARIES AROUND JEWISH ISRAELI IDENTITIES

Chair: Sammy Smoocha (The University of Haifa)

"A Rising Tide Raises All Boats": Torah Seed Groups and Post-'67 National-Religious Socioeconomic Mobility

Andrew Atwell (Bard College)

Israel's Two-State Quandary: The State of the Right and the State of the Left – 2025

Ephraim Tabory (Bar Ilan University)

The Essence of the New Nationalist Populism (NNP): Insights from the Rhetoric of Israel's Leading National Camp (NC) During the Swords of Iron/Gaza War (2023-2024)

Sigal Ben Rafael Galanti (Bet Berl College)

2 Become 1: On the Creation of Doubles, Brotherly Hate, and Dangerous Mimicry among Settler-Colonizers in the West Bank

Amir Reicher (CUNY Graduate Center)

5.12 *Marquis 14 (AV)*

MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN ARCHIVES AND FRAGMENTS

Chair: Haim Kreisel (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

The exilarch's letter of 835/6 CE: a re-interpretation

Sacha Stern (University College London)

The Trouble in the Archive: The Unnoticed Histories of Jewish Physicians in Early Modern Europe

Magdalena Janosikova (University of Amsterdam)

The Genizah Fragments of the She'iltot of R. Ahai

Roni Shweka (Bar Ilan University)

Reconstructing a Lost Genizah Copy of Maimonides's BOOK OF THE COMMANDMENTS

Marc Herman (York University)

5.13 *Marquis 15 (AV)*

DIGITALLY RECONSTRUCTING THE JEWISH PAST: FROM RABBINIC TEXTS TO VIRTUAL MEMORIALS

Chair: Laura Eckstein (Department of History (Upenn))

Automated Textual Comparison and Apparatus for Rabbinic Manuscripts

Benjamin Schnabel (University of Mannheim)

Grayzel Digital Platform: A Case Study of Building the Plane while Flying It

Alison Joseph (Gratz College)

Voices of the Forgotten? Museums and Digital Memorialization of the Shoah in Fortnite and The Future of Digital Platforms

Serena Bazemore (Duke University)

5.14 *Union Station*

BLACK-JEWISH RELATIONS: AGAINST FACILE GENERALIZATIONS

Discussants: David Junger (University of Rostock)

Gil Ribak (University of Arizona)

H. Susannah Heschel (Dartmouth College)

Laura Auketayeva (Sandra Bornstein Holocaust Education Center)

5.15 *Chinatown*

EDUCATION BETWEEN EMPIRES AND COMMUNITIES: ARAB-JEWISH ENCOUNTERS AND IMPERIAL ENTANGLEMENTS IN MANDATE PALESTINE AND BEYOND

Chair: Elizabeth Imber (Clark University)

American Dreams: the influence of the United States on education in Mandate Palestine

Hilary Kalisman (University of Colorado Boulder)

Exploring Indigeneity: Arab Intellectuals and Jewish History in Colonial Egypt

Mostafa Hussein (The University of Michigan)

Colonial Reforms and Palestinian Realities: Higher Education at the End of the British Mandate

Adi Livny (Middlebury College)

Age of Collegiality? The British Mandate Department of Education as a Site of Encounter

Amit Levy (Mandel Institute of Jewish Studies (Hebrew University))

The Case of Khalil al-Sakakini and His Relationship with Jewish and British Colleagues at the DOE

Itamar Radai (Open University of Israel)

Jewish Education under the British Umbrella: S.D. Goitein and the Zionist's Love-Hate Relationship with the Mandate Regime

Hanan Harif (Tel Hai Academic college)

The Dispossession of Palestinian Textbooks: The Apogee and Erasure of a Pre-1948 Educational Industry

Yoni Furas (The University of Haifa)

5.16 *Dupont Circle*

THE SIGNIFICANCE AND REDISCOVERY OF STEVEN S. SCHWARZSCHILD'S UNPUBLISHED WRITINGS FOR PHILOSOPHY AND JEWISH STUDIES

Chair: Robert Gibbs (University of Toronto)

Jewish Identity without Volk and Biology: Schwarzschild and his Jewish Non-Jews

George Kohler (Bar Ilan University)

Could Hegel Be Jewish Too? Schwarzschild on the Jewish-Christian Difference in the Context of German Idealism

Agata Bielik-Robson (University of Nottingham)

"Whatever we are... as Jews we are by virtue of... Cohen" : Steven Schwarzschild and the Reception of Hermann Cohen in North America

Shira Billet (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Steven Schwarzschild's new political-philosophical readings of Heidegger, Spinoza, and Marx via the lens of Jewish tradition

Daniel Weiss (University of Cambridge)

5.17 *Capitol Hill*

FORMS OF REASONING IN THEOLOGY AND LAW

Chair: Yonatan Brafman (Tufts University)

Developing a Contemporary Metadiscourse on PESHAT

Jennifer Greenberg (Brown University)

Analogical Principles in Early Kabbalistic Thought

Tzvi Schoenberg (University of Chicago)

Fallacies in Rabbinical Thought, in Medieval Jewish Philosophy, and in the Treatise on Talmudic Methodology by Abraham Elijah Cohen

Aviram Ravitsky (Ariel University)

Justice and the Jewish Sacrificial Cult: The Mu'tazilite Approach of the Karaite Japheth ben Eli

Noah Tetenbaum (Kenyon College)

5.18 Mt. Vernon Square

A CRITIQUE OF DIASPORIC REASON: NEW APPROACHES TO A KEY CONCEPT

Moderator: Ophir Munz-Manor (The Open University of Israel)

Discussants: Arie Dubnov (The George Washington University)
Alexander Kaye (Brandeis University)
Melissa Weininger (California State University Northridge)
Shayna Weiss (Schusterman Center for Israel Studies, Brandeis University)

5.19 Shaw

JEWS AND JEWISH STUDIES ON CAMPUS IN A PRECARIOUS TIME

Sponsored by American Academy for Jewish Research (AAJR) sponsored session

Moderator: Deborah Dash Moore (University of Michigan)

Discussants: Rebecca Kobrin (Columbia University)
Derek Penslar (Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization (Harvard))
Jeffrey Veidlinger (University of Michigan)
Beth Wenger (Department of History (Upenn))

5.20 Judiciary Square

WORKS-IN-PROGRESS GROUP IN JEWISH STUDIES

Moderator: Ayelet Brinn (University of Hartford)

Discussants: Erez Degolan (Wellesley College)
Jordan Katz (Department of Judaic and Near Eastern Studies (Umass-Amherst))
Marina Mayorsky (Department of History (Upenn))

5.21 LeDroit Park

BEYOND 'FIDDLER': DEVELOPING CONTEMPORARY JEWISH MUSICAL THEATRE

Chair: Rachel Moss (University of Texas at Austin)
Swear To Todd: Crushes and Other Zealotry by Grace Overbeke

Grace Kessler Overbeke (Columbia College Chicago)

Paper Brigade: A New English-Yiddish Musical

Debra Caplan (Baruch College, CUNY)

Session 6 – Monday- 10:30am-12pm

6.1 Catholic U (AV)

ART AND ARTIFICE IN THE SEPHARDIC DIASPORA

Chair: Drora Arussy (Jewish Unity Through Diversity Institute)

Shabtai Tzvi as performance artist

Ilan Riss (Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics)

The Forgotten Lives of Radical Sephardic Women in Post-1912 Salonika, 1912-1943

Alexandra Ritsatos

"The Mazal of Gerineldo" – Cryptic Sources for a Crypto-Jewish Ballad

Judith Cohen (York University)

Philosophy and Exegesis in the Sephardic Diaspora: The Commentary on Ecclesiastes of Moses Israel de Mercado

Yitzhak Berger (Hunter College)

6.2 Howard U (AV)

WHAT IS THE BAVLI AND HOW ARE WE TO STUDY IT? CURRENT AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS IN THE STUDY OF THE BAVLI

Sponsored by The Julis-Rabinowitz Program on Jewish and Israeli Law at Harvard Law School

Moderators: Christine Hayes (Yale University)
Jay Harris (Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization (Harvard))

Discussants: Alyssa Gray (Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion)
Simcha Gross (Department of History (Upenn))
Isaac Landes (The Jewish Theological Seminary of America)
Julia Watts Belser (Georgetown University)

6.3 Gallaudet U (AV)

CROSS-DISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES ON ANALOG AND DIGITAL SACREDNESS

Chair: Chaya Halberstam (King's University College, University of Western Ontario)

Ordering the Sacred: Digital Infrastructures and the Persistence of Analog Amulets

Raya Shira Cohen (The Hebrew University)

The Holy Byte: Sacred Sounds and the Objects

Netta Schramm (Ben Gurion University and Bev Zvi)

Respondent: Joshua Krug

6.4 U of DC (AV)

ART, OBJECT, AND MUSIC AS FORMS OF COMMUNICATION

KOL ISHA revisited: the musical lives of religious Jewish women in Israel

Abigail Wood (University of Haifa)

"The science that awakens the soul to [acknowledge] [God's] greater glory": Jewish sacred art music in the Italian Renaissance

Jennifer Seligman (Dwight-Englewood School)

Ursula Mamlok's Diary, 1937-1944: The Odyssey of a Young Jewish Composer

Barry Wiener (New York, NY)

6.5 Georgetown U (AV)

HANDS-ON: TEACHING WITH MANUSCRIPTS, RARE BOOKS, ARCHIVAL MATERIALS, AND CIRCULATING COLLECTIONS

Moderator: Rachel Greenblatt (Dartmouth College)

Discussants: Sarit Kattan Gribetz (Yale University)
Konstanze Kunst (Yale University Library)
Michelle Margolis (Columbia University)
Magda Teter (Fordham University)

6.6 George Washington U (AV)

REACTING TO THE JEWISH PAST: TRANSFORMING JEWISH IDENTITIES AND POWER IN THE OTTOMAN MEDITERRANEAN THROUGH IMMERSIVE ROLE PLAY

Sponsored by The Koret Center for Jewish Civilization

Discussants: Ahuva Liberles (Tel Aviv University)
Noam Baram (Tel Aviv University)

6.7 Marquis 1

SOVIET JEWISH IDENTITY IN MODERN HISTORY

Chair: Oskar Czendze (Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies at University of Toronto)

Solidarity in Times of Crisis - The Effort for the Soviet Jewry and Its Influence on Collective Memory of Religious Kibbutz Members

Liza Vasserman Slutsky (Bar Ilan University)

The Criminalization of Jewish Observance in Stalinist Hungary: The 1953 "Anti-Zionist" Purges

Alexandra Bandl (Leibniz Institute for Jewish History and Culture)

Waiting to Belong: Soviet Jewish Identity Formation in the Vienna-Rome Pipeline, 1973-1980

Adam Farkas (Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies at University of Toronto)

6.8 Marquis 2 (AV)

"CINEMATIC POSTMEMORY AND THE POLITICS OF RETURN: GENRE, SOUND, AND THE REPRESENTATION OF HOLOCAUST LEGACY"

Chair: Kobi Kabalek (Penn State University)

"The Return Film: Generational Memory and Holocaust Representation in Contemporary Cinema"

Rachel Schaff (Mercer University)

"The Past isn't even Past: Twenty-First Century German Film and the Unsteady Ethics of Holocaust Witnessing"

Brad Prager (University of Missouri)

"Listening to Absence and Struggle: Soundscapes, Antisemitism, and Jewish Memory in A Real Pain and The Brutalist"

Kathryn Huether (UCLA)

6.9 Marquis 3 (AV)

GHOSTS OF THE PAST IN POETRY AND PROSE

Chair: Jane Gabin (National Coalition of Independent Scholars)

Specters and Afterimages in the Poetry of Avrom Sutzkever

Karolina Koprowska (Jagiellonian University)

Witnesses after the Witnesses in Contemporary Germany

Irit Dekel (Indiana University Bloomington)

Adrienne Rich: Intersectional, Multidirectional Poet of Remembrance

Elliott Niblock (University of Virginia)

6.10 Marquis 4 (AV)

SOCIAL AND CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES ON CONTEMPORARY JEWISH LIFE

Chair: Naomi Lindstrom (University of Texas)

Emergent Constructions of Selfhood and Spiritual Purity Among American Jews Today: an exercise in Jewish Thought from Below

Isobel-Marie Johnston (University of Northern Iowa)

Holy War in the Heartland

Alan T Levenson (University of Oklahoma)

Slap/Stick: Jewish Foils and Judeophobia in National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation

Luke Langille

Sino-Judaic Studies: directions, challenges, futures

Aryeh Amihay (Shanghai Normal University)

6.11 Marquis 12 (AV)

HISTORIES IN TRANSIT: RECONSTRUCTING JEWISH MIGRATION, MEMORY, AND BELONGING IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

Chair: Allan Amanik (Brooklyn College, CUNY)

Ruptures and Continuities: The Jewish Community from Kaluszyn in Paris

Sara Kimble (DePaul University)

Burdens of Integration: New Canadians from the Soviet Union and Soviet Jewish Resettlement in Toronto

Joshua Tapper (Taube Center For Jewish Studies)

Community, Fraternity, and Welfare in the Holy City: the Kalushiner Society of Charleston, South Carolina

Ashley Walters (College of Charleston)

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6.12 Marquis 13 (AV)

THE ZOHAR IN ITS MEDIEVAL CASTILIAN CULTURAL CONTEXT

Chair: Hartley Lachter (Philip and Muriel Berman Center for Jewish Studies (Lehigh University))

Gathering Lilies, Uniting Bodies: Comparative Analysis of a Mystical Union in the Zohar and Bede's Commentary on Song of Songs

Jonatan Benarroch (Ariel University)

Fetus, Cosmos, Cosmopolis: Synthetic Embryologies in the Zohar

Marla Segol

Rashbi and Santiago on the Way: The Zohar in its Reconquista Context

Sharon Koren (Hebrew Union College)

6.13 Marquis 14 (AV)

FOUR TOPICS IN JEWISH THOUGHT IN LIGHT OF NEW SOURCE MATERIAL

On the Linguistic Dimension of Theosophy in Early Kabbalah: The Genre of Commentaries on the Divine Name

Idan Pinto (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Below as Above: The Ascension of the Feminine Divine in Early Habad

Kobby Ashbell (Bar-Ilan University)

Rabbi Kalonymus Kalman Shapira's Deleted Sermons: Final Revisions in the Warsaw Ghetto

James Diamond (University of Waterloo)

Algorithms, Zombies, and Maimonides' God: Consciousness in Jewish Theology

Marina Zilbergerts (University of Ottawa)

6.14 Marquis 15 (AV)

NEGOTIATING RESPONSES TO THE WAR IN ISRAELI PUBLIC SPACES

Chair: Bryan Oren (University of Haifa)

Hostage, Symbol, Survivor: The Emotional Politics of Trauma in Post-October 7th Israel

Michal Kofman (University of Louisville)

In the Eyes of the Fans: Ultras, Hooligans, and Commemorative Tributes after October 7th

Sophia Solomon (University of Virginia)

6.15 Union Station

MEET THE PUBLISHERS

Moderator: Amy Weiss (AJS)

Discussants: Jennifer Banks (Yale University Press)
 Sylvia Fuks Fried
 Jennifer Hammer (New York University Press (NYU))

6.16 Chinatown

80 YEARS AFTER: RE-VIEWING THE HOLOCAUST LITERARY CANON THROUGH THE LENS OF GENDER

Chair: Susan Suleiman (Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization (Harvard))

Gender, Genre and Holocaust Canons: Rereading Ilona Karmel

Sara Horowitz (York University)

Formations of Masculinity in Primo Levi's *If This Is a Man*

Gary Weissman (University of Cincinnati - Department of Judaic St)

6.17 Dupont Circle

JEWS AND MOBILITY IN MEDIEVAL NOTARIAL CULTURE

Chair: Jonathan Ray (Georgetown University)

Sparring Spouses: Jewish Mobility, Gender, and Legal Strategy in Medieval Recanati

Dana Fishkin (Touro University Graduate School of Jewish Studies)

Far From Home: Jewish Mobility and Notarial Family Law Contracts in the Late Medieval Crown of Aragon

Sarah Ifft Decker

Paper, Portability, and Perseverance: Jewish Creditors and the Circulation of Debt in Medieval Provence

Ryan Low (University of North Dakota)

6.18 Capitol Hill

FORMS AND BODIES

Chair: Omri Senderowicz (University of Kansas)

The Gender of Joy in *Fradi Shtok*

Sunny Yudkoff (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

Sterile Prose, Revolutionary Bodies: Modern Sports and the Emotions of the Hebrew Revival

Ofer Idels (University of Calgary)

6.19 Mt. Vernon Square

WHAT DO THEY MEAN WHEN THEY SAY...? QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE RESEARCHERS IN CONVERSATION ABOUT STUDYING AMERICAN JEWRY.

Moderator: Richard Heiberger (Temple University Feinstein Center for American Jewish History)

Discussants: Adina Bankier-Karp (Monash University)
 Rachel Gross (San Francisco State University)
 Bruce Phillips (Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion)

6.20 Shaw

JEWS AT A CROSSROADS: ANTISEMITISM, ISRAEL, AND THE CRISIS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Moderators: Ari Kelman (Stanford Graduate School of Education)
 Benjamin Schreier (Pennsylvania State University)

Discussants: Matthew Berkman (Oberlin College)
 Lila Berman (Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies (NYU))
 Liora Halperin (University of Washington, Seattle)
 Jonathan Judaken (Washington University in St. Louis)
 Daniel Schwartz (The George Washington University)

6.21 Judiciary Square

YIDDISH STUDIES IN THE DIGITAL AGE: REFLECTING ON 10 YEARS OF IN GEVEB: A JOURNAL OF YIDDISH STUDIES

Sponsored by In geveb: A Journal of Yiddish Studies

Moderator: Madeleine Cohen (Yiddish Book Center)

Discussants: Zachary Baker (Stanford University)
 Jessica Kirzane (The University of Chicago)

Josh Lambert (Wellesley College)
Dalia Wolfson (Department of Near Eastern
Languages and Civilization (Harvard))
Sarah Zarrow (Western Washington
University)

6.22 *LeDroit Park*

**BAD JEWISH GIRLS: GENDER, SEXUAL DEVIANCE
AND THE POLITICS OF MODERN JEWISH IDENTITY**

Chair: Sarah Imhoff (Jewish Studies Program (Indiana))

**Vanishing Jewishness, Vanishing Deviance:
Sexual Discipline in San Francisco Jewish
Institutions, 1915-1930**

Cassandra Euphrat Weston (University of Michigan)

**"Kindness [is] the Strongest Controlling Force":
Jewish Women Social Workers and Delinquent
Jewish Girls in New York City, 1908-1930**

Ari Forsyth (UW History Department)

MONDAY AFTERNOON EVENTS

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm Congress (Reception)
POSEN LIBRARY OF JEWISH CULTURE AND
CIVILIZATION LUNCH: NEW TEACHING
TOOLS (RSVP REQUIRED)

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm Mint (Reception)
AMERICAN ACADEMY FOR JEWISH
RESEARCH MEETING

12:15 pm - 1:15 pm Eastern Market
AJS PERSPECTIVES BOARD MEETING

Magnolia Room (Kosher pre-ordered meals)
AJS KOSHER LUNCH -- MONDAY
(ADVANCED PURCHASE REQUIRED)

12:20 pm - 1:20 pm Marquis 4 (AV)
SEPHARDI/MIZRAHI CAUCUS ANNUAL
MEETING

1:45 pm - 2:30 pm Faragut North
MONDAY OFFICE HOURS WITH NEW
BOARD PRESIDENT

Session 7 – Monday - 1:30pm-3:pm

7.1 *Catholic U (AV)*

YIDDISH CULTURES OF REPRESENTATION

Chair: Sonia Gollance (University College London)

**Sketching Estrangement in Samuel Rollansky's
Yiddish Miniatures**

Lila Fabro (Leonard & Helen R. Stulman Jewish Studies
Program (Johns Hopkins))

**The eldest Singer's readers: Women and their
books in DER SHEYDIM-TANTS (1936)**

Sophia Elizabeth Shoulson (Library of Congress)

**"The Same Coarse Features on Their Faces": The
Gap between Moral and Esthetical Aspects in
Yiddish Authors' Portrayal of Black Characters**

Gil Ribak (University of Arizona)

7.2 *Howard U (AV)*

TEACHING JEWISH STUDIES THROUGH FILM

Sponsored by AJS Film Committee

Chair: James Bunton (Des Moines Area Community
College)

Hollywood and the Holocaust

Renee Garris Schwabe (Germann Community
College)

SIX CITIES Series

Sarah Zarrow (Western Washington University)

**Pedagogical Contents and Discontents for the
Fiddler: Re/presenting AUTHENTIC Judaism in the
College Jewish Studies Classroom**

Joshua Krug

**Pedagogical Filmic Vision and Discourse
Captures Classroom Knowledge**

Madelon Rosen-Solomon (Kean University, MA)

7.3 *Gallaudet U (AV)*

**FOLKLORIZING MODERNITY IN JEWISH ART,
RITUAL, AND CUSTOM**

Chair: Natalia Aleksion (Bud Shorstein Center for
Jewish Studies)

**Rethinking the Meaning of the Huppah in Liquid
Modernity**

Simon Bronner (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee)

Folk Customs in the Religious Lives of Dutch and French Jews

Natan Meir (Portland State University)

Ben Shahn's 1961 Ketubah Experiment and the Clash Between Folk and Modernist Jewish Aesthetics

Joanna Homrighausen (College of William & Mary)

7.4 U of DC (AV)

CAMPUS IN CRISIS: RESEARCHING STUDENT, FACULTY AND PROFESSIONAL STAFF EXPERIENCES AFTER OCTOBER 7

Moderator: Jonathan Krasner (Brandeis University)

Discussants: Sharon Avni
Vikki Katz (Chapman U)
Rebecca Kobrin (Columbia University)
Nicole Samuel (Center for Modern Jewish Studies, Brandeis University)
Graham Wright (Brandeis)

7.5 Georgetown U (AV)

NEW PERSPECTIVES IN CANADIAN JEWISH MUSIC

Chair: Gordon Dale (Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion)

Putting His Story Back on the Record: Mike Lawrence's Management of the Colonial Tavern as Canadian Jewish Music History

Samantha Cooper (The University of Kansas)

"How Do We Share It With The Generations?": Investigating Ruth Rubin's Lecture-Recitals at Montreal's Jewish Public Library

Miriam Borden (University of Toronto)
Ezekiel Levine

"The Nationalists Wish We Didn't Exist": The Diasporist Songs of Geoff Berner

Nathan Friedman (University of Chicago)

7.6 George Washington U (AV)

CULTURE POST-HOLOCAUST

Chair: Cecile Kuznitz (Bard College)

DP Camps, Kol Nidrei and the Spiritual Rehabilitation of Post-Holocaust Survivors Through Music: The Gift of Emma Lazaroff Schaver

Marsha Dubrow (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Rebuilding in Yiddish: The Role of Language in the Rehabilitation of Jewish Children in Otwock After the War

Anna Rozenfeld (University of Warsaw)

(Re)built on ashes. Yiddish culture in Poland after March 1968 antisemitic campaign in Poland

Aleksandra Gluba

The Righteous Impostors: Fraudulent Claims of Holocaust Rescue in Postwar Poland

Alicja Podbielska (American University)

7.7 Marquis 1

HOLOCAUST OBJECTS IN A JEWISH CONTEXT

Moderator: Laura Levitt (Temple University
Feinstein Center for American Jewish History)

Discussants: Rebecca Carter-Chand (United States Holocaust Memorial Museum)
Tahel Goldsmith (The University of Chicago)
Barbara Mann (Contact)
Oren Stier (Florida International University)
Caroline Sturdy Colls (University of Huddersfield)

7.8 Marquis 2 (AV)

STUDYING SOCIAL MEDIA AND NEW METHODOLOGIES FOR JEWISH STUDIES IN THE DIGITAL AGE

Discussants: Kathryn Huether (UCLA)
Jennifer Thompson (California State University, Northridge)

7.9 Marquis 3 (AV)

JEWES AND SOCIAL BOUNDARIES IN THE IMPERIAL MAGHRIB

Chair: Noam Sienna

Struggles over Jewish Burial Rites in Early Modern Spanish Oran

Daniel Hershenzon

Boundary-Crossing in Judeo-Arabic Miracle Tales from 19th-Century Algiers

Jonathan Glasser

Unstitching the Threads of Jewish Moroccan Embroidery: Quasi-Colonial Agent and Shifts in the Moroccan Jewish Embroidery Aesthetics

Elya Assayag (Columbia University)

7.10 *Marquis 4 (AV)*

HANNAH ARENDT: MORAL THEORY AND CULTURAL FIGURATION

Chair: Sarah Greenberg (Harvard University)

From Radical Evil to Radical Good: Moral Philosophy in Arendt's Early Writings

Ayala Gidron (College of William & Mary / Bar-Ilan University)

The Self-Conscious Schlemiel as Counter-Genealogy

Emily Bogin (Boston University)

Virtue and the Political: Arendt, Strauss, and the Foundations of Human Excellence

Shir Twerski (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

"A Very Obnoxious Fellow": Arendt on Conscience, Critique, and Friendship in Times of Political Crisis

Jennifer Geddes (Jewish Studies Program (University of Virginia))

7.11 *Marquis 12 (AV)*

JEWISH POLITICAL AGENCY IN REVOLUTIONARY AND CIVIL WAR UKRAINE, 1917–1921

Chair: Anastasiia Strakhova (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

Brains or Brawn? Jewish Strategies Against the 1917-1921 Pogroms

Netta Ehrlich (Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies (NYU))

"A Peaceful Life on Our Own Land": Poalei Zion and the Challenge(s) of Jewish Politics in Revolutionary Ukraine

Olga Petrova (Central European University, Department of History)

Jewish Revolutionaries and the Dialectics of Universalism in the Civil War

Jan Rybak (Central European University)

Respondent: Jeffrey Veidlinger (University of Michigan)

7.12 *Marquis 13 (AV)*

MARGINALIZED VOICES: SCHOLARSHIP, CULTURE, AND AFFECTIVE ENGAGEMENT

Chair: Harriet A. Feinberg (Independent Scholar)

The Colonial Gaze in German-Jewish Exile Cinema: The Case of Friedrich Dalsheim

Valerie Weinstein (University of Cincinnati - Department of Judaic St)

The Dancing Queen-Miss Rose and Baghdadi Jews of Bollywood

Manjari Mukherjee

Vine Deloria Jr. and the Jews

Samuel Brody

A German Zionist in Exile. Rabbi Joachim Prinz (1902–1988), American Zionism, and the Jewish State

David Junger (University of Rostock)

7.13 *Marquis 14 (AV)*

SHIFTING PERCEPTIONS AND JEWISH WELL-BEING

Chair: Isobel-Marie Johnston (University of Northern Iowa)

Embodied Histories: Jewish Women Navigating Body Size, Religion, and Culture

Hilla Nehushtan (University of Pittsburgh)

Perceived Antisemitism and Mental Health Outcomes in Jewish Women and Their Children

Shira Mattuck (University of Houston)

Sociality, Solidarity, and Repeating Narratives of Aging Alone in a Kibbutz

Merav Shohet (Boston University)

7.14 *Marquis 15 (AV)*

GENDER, LAW, AND TEXTUALITY IN THE TOSEFTA: NEW APPROACHES TO AN OLD SOURCE

Chair: Lynn Kaye (Brandeis University)

Tosefta as a Backdrop for Formalization in the Mishnah: The Category of SHEVUT

Shira Shmidman (Open University - Israel)

False Paratext and the Scholarly Environment of Medieval Scribes: Chapter numeration in the Tosefta

Binyamin Katzoff (Bar-Ilan University)

Sefer Hasidim's Equalization of Sexual Prohibitions for Men and Women in Light of Similar Equalization in the Damascus Document

Tzipporah Klapper (Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization (Harvard))

7.15 Union Station

THE PERCEPTION, REPRESENTATION, AND SIGNIFICANCE OF NON-HUMAN ANIMALS IN JEWISH MYSTICAL TRADITION & LITERATURE PT 2

Chair: Joel Hecker (Reconstructionist Rabbinical College)

Discussants: Eitan Fishbane (Jewish Theological Seminary)
Beth Berkowitz (Barnard College)
Lawrence Fine (Mount Holyoke College)
Andrea Gondos (University of Michigan)
Jonnie Schnytzer (Bar Ilan University and Ramat Gan Academic College)
David Shyovitz (Department of Religious Studies (Northwestern))
Leore Sachs-Shmueli (Bar Ilan University)
Nathaniel Berman (Columbia University)

7.16 Chinatown

JEWISH EXPERIENCES IN POST-1945 FRANCE: NEW CHALLENGES, NEW OPPORTUNITIES, NEW DEVELOPMENTS

Moderator: Nadia Malinovich (Universite de Picardie/ EPHE (Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes))

Discussants: Emmanuel Bloch (Jewish Theological Seminary)
Ludwig Decke (University of Wisconsin-Madison)
Walter Francis (University of Minnesota)
Meredith Scott (US Air Force Academy)
Nick Underwood (The College of Idaho)

7.17 Dupont Circle

SOCIAL AND THEOLOGICAL LEGACIES OF CONVERSION

Hidden in Plain Sight: Convert Soldiers in England's Hundred Years' War

Samantha Seal (University of New Hampshire)

Pork, Policing, and Performance: Food as a Historiographical Lens on Converso Identity in Early Modern Spain

Stephanie Zager (University of Maryland)

The Shekhinah and female saint veneration among sixteenth-century conversas

Rebecca Wartell (Earlham College)

7.18 Capitol Hill

YIDDISH AND THE HOLOCAUST

Chair: Christin Zuehlke (Washington University in St. Louis)

Shaye Shpigl's Jesus and the Question of Ethical Behavior in the Ghettos

Sven-Erik Rose (University of California, Davis)

Counter the Counter-Monument: Yiddish Literature and Holocaust Monuments

Samuel Spinner (Leonard & Helen R. Stulman Jewish Studies Program (Johns Hopkins))

Respondent: David Roskies

7.19 Mt. Vernon Square

WHERE GOWN MEETS TOWN: BRINGING ACADEMICS INTO THE PUBLIC SPHERE

Sponsored by Leo Baeck Institute New York | Berlin

Moderator: Magdalena Wrobel (Leo Baeck Institute)

Discussants: Avinoam Patt (Center for the Study of Antisemitism (NYU))
Susan Perlman (United States Holocaust Memorial Museum)
Joanna Sliwa (Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany Claims Conference)

7.20 Shaw

YEMEN'S "ORPHANS DECREE" AND JEWISH RESISTANCE

Chair: Bat Zion Klorman-Eraqi (The Open University of Israel)

The Orphans Decree: Perspectives from Islamic Law

Seth Ward (University of Wyoming)

"The Weak against the Mighty": Insights from Quantitative and Qualitative Sources on Collective Jewish Resistance to the Orphans Decree

Benjamin Berman-Gladstone (Columbia University)

The Orphan Railroad of Sana'a: One Family's Efforts

Drora Arussy (Jewish Unity Through Diversity Institute)

7.21 *Judiciary Square*

**THE AMERICAN JEWISH INTELLECTUAL TRADITION
IN THE 20TH CENTURY**

Moderator: David Weinfeld (Rowan University)

Discussants: Max Daniel (College of Charleston)
Zev Eleff (Gratz College)
Ronnie Grinberg (University of Oklahoma)
Jonathan Karp (Binghamton University, SUNY)
Sharon Musher (Stockton University)

7.22 *LeDroit Park*

**CONTESTED SOVEREIGNTIES: POLITICAL SPACES
AND SPATIAL POLITICS IN ISRAEL, 1960S–1970S**

Chair: Dotan Brom (Tel Aviv University)

**Governing the Gray Zone: The Israeli
Annexation of East Jerusalem, 1967**

Omri Shafer Raviv

**The First Wave of Urban Renewal in Israel (1960–
1978): Poverty, Planning, and the Politics of
Modernization**

Elia Etkin (University of Haifa)

MONDAY LATE AFTERNOON EVENTS

2:00 pm - 5:00 pm Marquis 6-10 (Exhibit Hall)
EXHIBIT HALL OPEN MONDAY PM

3:00 pm - 4:00 pm Marquis 6-10 (Exhibit Hall)
PENN STATE UNIVERSITY JEWISH STUDIES
PROGRAM RECEPTION

3:00 pm - 4:00 pm Congress (Reception)
DIGITAL HUMANITIES INTEREST GROUP
MEETING

Session 8 – Monday - 3:15pm-4:45pm

8.1 *Catholic U (AV)*

LOSS IN CONTEMPORARY JEWISH CULTURE

Moderator: Maeera Shreiber (University of Utah)

Discussants: Gabriel Chazan (University of
Wisconsin - Madison)
Evan Goldstein (University of Tennessee-
Knoxville)
Molly Krueger (Near Eastern Studies
(Berkeley))
Na'amit Sturm Nagel (UCI-Irvine)
Sarah Schwartzman Ramsey (CU Boulder)

8.2 *Howard U (AV)*

**ULTRA ORTHODOX JUDAISM: IDEOLOGIES AND
PRAXIS**

Jewish Ethics Regarding Vaccination

Tsurie Rash (Ariel University)

**Neither Easily Nor Wholeheartedly: Legitimation
Processes of Digital Media Use Among Ultra-
Orthodox Jewish Students in the Post-COVID Era
(Hebrew)**

Tamar Shwartz (Ariel University)

8.3 *Gallaudet U (AV)*

**GETTING TOGETHER, SPLITTING UP:
REPRESENTATIONS AND REALITIES OF MARRIAGE
AND DIVORCE IN PREMODERN JEWISH
COMMUNITIES**

Chair: Sarah Ifft Decker

**"But in our generation...it isn't right to trust
them:" Fraud and Lay Manipulation of
HALAKHAH in Medieval Ashkenazi Divorce
Proceedings**

Nesya Nelkin (Department of History, Columbia
University)

**Bad Romance: Re-Reading the Divorce
Formulae in the Babylonian Incantation Bowls**

Sara Ronis (St. Mary's University, Texas)

**"He disgusts me:" Getting a GET the Hard Way
in Medieval Provence**

Charlie Steinman (Columbia University)

**The Convert's Wife: Jewish Divorce across
Multiple Jurisdictions in late 18th-century**

Habsburg Mantua

Francesca Bregoli (Queens College, CUNY)

8.4 U of DC (AV)

WRITING (JEWISH) BIOGRAPHY

Discussants: Olga Gershenson (University of Massachusetts-Amherst)
Nathan Abrams (Bangor University)

8.5 Georgetown U (AV)

JEWISH STUDIES AND THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE OF STATE, FEDERAL, AND COMMUNAL POLITICS

Moderator: Jenny Caplan (University of Cincinnati - Department of Judaic St)

Discussants: Jeffrey Blutinger (California State University, Long Beach)
Naomi Brenner (Germanic Languages & Lit (Ohio State))
Rachel Harris (Florida Atlantic University)
Claire Katz (Texas A&M University)
Noam Pianko (University of Washington)

8.6 George Washington U (AV)

NARRATIVES OF JEWS, MONEY, AND MODERNITY

Chair: Andrea Lieber (Dickinson College)

Rooting Twentieth Century Yiddish Education: Abraham Golomb's SEYFER TEVYE and the New Jewish Textual Tradition

Caleb Sher (University of Toronto)

Rethinking Jews and Money in the American Imaginary; or, How F. Scott Fitzgerald Rewrote The Merchant of Venice

Julian Levinson (University of Michigan)

From Charity to Philanthrocapitalism: A case study in the Origins of the American-Jewish Philanthropic Establishment

Benjamin Maor (University of Haifa)

8.7 Marquis 1

THE OLD LEFT IN A NEW LIGHT: LESSONS FOR TODAY FROM THE YIDDISH OLD LEFT

Moderator: Tony E. Michels (Mosse/Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies (Wisconsin-Madison))

Discussants: Elissa Sampson (Cornell University)
Lauren Strauss (American University)
Jennifer Young

8.8 Marquis 2 (AV)

HOLOCAUST COMMEMORATION AND POLITIZATION IN INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

Chair: Eliyana Adler (Binghamton University)

Americans at Babyn Yar, Babyn Yar Commemoration in America

Victoria Khiterer (Millersville University)

Memory as History? The Odesa Massacre, Post-Memory, and the Obfuscation of the Holocaust in Post-1989 Romania

Emanuel-Marius Grec (University of Heidelberg)

8.9 Marquis 3 (AV)

ROME IN HEBREW: MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN JEWISH RESPONSES TO THE LEGACY OF IMPERIAL POWER

Chair: Adam Shear (University of Pittsburgh)

How to Love (and Leave) the Romans in SEFER YOSIPPON'S 1-2 Maccabees

Ruth Nisse (Wesleyan University)

"Arch"-aeology: "Root"-ing for Titus in Early Modern Salonica

Daniel Stein Kokin (Rutgers University)

Respondent: Isabelle Levy (Columbia University)

8.10 Marquis 4 (AV)

REFUGEES IN THE HOLOCAUST

Chair: Alicja Podbielska (American University)

Jewish Mass Escape to Bolivia. An untold Story of Holocaust Refuge in Latin America

Sandra Gruner-Domic (Los Angeles)

To Unknown Destinations: American Humanitarians during the Deportations from Unoccupied France in Summer and Autumn 1942

Meghan Riley (Northern Arizona University)

"Without Roots:" Jewish Child Refugees Agency in Latin America During the Holocaust

Alexia Orengo Green (Judaic Studies (USC))

8.11 *Marquis 12 (AV)*

2025 MARSHALL SKLARE AWARD SESSION

Chairs: Ira Sheskin (University of Miami)
Harriet Hartman (Rowan University)

**The Encounter of American Jews, Protestants,
and Catholics with the COVID-19 Pandemic**

Uzi Rebhun (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Respondents: Sergio DellaPergola (Institute of
Contemporary Jewry, The Hebrew University
of Jerusalem)
Sarah S. Willen (University of Connecticut)

8.12 *Marquis 13 (AV)*

**JEWISH ESOTERIC TEXTS AND THEIR NON-JEWISH
MILIEUS: INFLUENCE AND REPRESENTATION**

Chair: Michael Swartz (Ohio State University)

**David ben Joshua Maimuni and Egyptian
Pietism: A Reconsideration**

Arnold Franklin (Queens College, CUNY)

**The Virile Menstruant in the Zohar: A Negative
Modality of the Virgo Bellatrix Figure in
Medieval Literature**

Naomi Mendez (Stanford University, Religious Studies
Department)

**Jewish-Catholic Dialogue and Polemic:
Between the Zohar and Iberian Vernacular
Poetry and Plays**

Jeffrey Amshalem (Independent Scholar)

8.13 *Marquis 14 (AV)*

KINSHIP AND NETWORKS IN ANTIQUITY

Chair: Jeanne-Marie Musto (New York Public Library)

**From Genesis to Jerusalem: The Motherhood of
Rachel Imeinu and Rachel Goldberg-Polin**

Sari Fein (Smith College)

**Shared Jewish Kinship and Pan-Israelite
"Brotherhood"**

Dustin Nash (Muhlenberg College)

**The Disruption of Illness in Rabbinic Literature:
Rabbinic Masculinity, Networks of Care, and
Communal Borderlines**

Shulamit Shinnar (Florida State University)

**Situating Burned Books and Oral Transmission
Between Judea and Rome**

Nathan Levine (Jewish Studies (Berkeley))

8.14 *Marquis 15 (AV)*

**RESTITUTION AND RECONSTITUTION IN POST
WORLD WAR II NORTH AFRICA AND THE
BALKANS**

Chair: Daniela Weiner (Stevens Institute of
Technology)

**Jewish-Muslim Urban Violence in Colonial
Algeria at the End of World War II**

Yuval Tal (The Hebrew University in Jerusalem)

French Education in Post-Holocaust Tunisia

Walter Francis (University of Minnesota)

8.15 *Union Station*

**NEW DIRECTIONS IN JEWISH MIGRATION
HISTORY ACROSS THE ASHKENAZI SEPHARDIC
DIVIDE**

Moderator: Eric Goldstein (Emory University -
Department of Middle Eastern &)

Discussants: Tobias Brinkmann (Penn State
University)
Nadia Malinovich (Universite de Picardie/
EPHE (Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes))
Aviad Moreno (Ben Gurion University of the
Negev)
Michael Rom (Hebrew Union College -
Jewish Institute of Religion)

8.16 *Chinatown*

POWERS OF JEWISH STUDIES

Moderator: Samuel Catlin (Trinity College)

Discussants: Matthew Berkman (Oberlin
College)
Kirsten Collins (University Of Chicago)
Mendel Kranz (The Herbert D. Katz Center
for Advanced Judaic Studies, University of
Pennsylvania)
Tsiona Lida (Department of History (Harvard))
Caroline Luce (UCLA Institute for Research
on Labor and Employment)

8.17 *Capitol Hill*

**GERMAN LITERARY ECHOES: NEGOTIATING THE
RECEPTION OF GERMAN CULTURE IN ISRAELI
SOCIETY**

Chair: Abigail Gillman (Boston University)

**Voicing Displacement: Mascha Kaléko's
Performed Poetry Between German and Israeli
Cultural Spheres**

Michal Peles-Almagor (The Hebrew University of
Jerusalem)

**Literary Negotiations: Yoram Kaniuk's Dialogue
with German Authors**

Adia Mendelson Maoz (The Open University of Israel)
**'Also sprach Zarathustra'.... auf Hebräisch: On
literary encounters and the three translations of
Nietzsche in Hebrew.**

Arie Dubnov (The George Washington University)

8.18 *Mt. Vernon Square*

**REBELS AND RABBIS: PUSHING BOUNDARIES IN
BRITISH SEXUAL PRACTICE**

Chair: Samira Mehta (Department of Women and
Gender Studies, University of Colorado Boul-
der)

**The Royal Mohel: Jacob Snowman and the rise
of medical circumcision in Britain, 1910-1960**

Aleph Ross (University of Birmingham)

**The Politics of Gay Liberation, Rabbi Lionel Blue,
and the British Jewish Community**

Gavin Schaffer (Manchester Metropolitan University)

**Gender, Sexuality, and the Power of Literature:
Naomi Alderman and Monica Ali Creating
Change from Within**

Karen Skinazi (Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute
of Religion)

8.19 *Shaw*

**REVISITING THE CRISIS OF JEWISH LIBERALISM IN
POSTWAR AMERICA**

**Jewish Identity Politics and the Opposition to
the DSOC-NAM Merger**

Abraham Silberstein (Skirball Department of Hebrew
and Judaic Studies (NYU))

**Neoliberalism, Racism and Antisemitism:
Revisiting the 1968 New York City Teachers'
Strike**

William Pimlott (NYU)

**Between Exceptionalism and Universalism:
Jewish Democrats in an Age of Partisan
Fragmentation**

Molly Schiffer (Department of Religious Studies (North-
western))

Respondent: Lila Berman (Skirball Department of He-
brew and Judaic Studies (NYU))

MONDAY EVENING EVENTS

4:30 pm - 5:00 pm Dogwood
TRADITIONAL PRAYERS

4:30 pm - 5:00 pm Tulip
EGALITARIAN PRAYERS

5:00 pm - 5:45 pm Cherry Blossom
HANUKKAH CANDLE LIGHTING

5:30 pm - 6:30 pm Archives (Reception)
LEO BAECK INSTITUTE 70TH ANNIVERSARY
RECEPTION

5:30 pm - 6:30 pm Capitol (Reception)
HERBERT D. KATZ CENTER FOR ADVANCED JUDAIC
STUDIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
RECEPTION

5:30 pm - 6:30 pm Congress (Reception)
PAULA HYMAN 10TH ANNIVERSARY RECEPTION

5:30 pm - 6:30 pm Scarlet Oak (Reception)
WEXNER FOUNDATION ALUMNI RECEPTION

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm Treasury (Reception)
2025 SKLARE AWARD RECEPTION

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Mint (Reception)
JTS RECEPTION

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm NYU Washington, DC (Offsite
Reception)
NYU RECEPTION

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm LIBRARY OF CONGRESS (Offsite
Reception)
LOC TOUR AND RECEPTION

7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Magnolia Room
AJS KOSHER DINNER (ADVANCED PURCHASE
REQUIRED.)

8:00 pm - 9:00 pm Treasury (Reception)
FRANKEL INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED JUDAIC
STUDIES RECEPTION

8:30 pm - 9:30 pm Hotel Bar
AJS CONTINGENT FACULTY RECEPTION

9:00 pm - 10:00 pm Congress (Reception)
GRADUATE STUDENT RECEPTION

9:00 pm - 11:55 pm Archives (Reception)
CASHMERE DANCE PARTY

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2025

TUESDAY MORNING EVENTS

7:15 am - 8:15 am Eastern Market
CONTEMPORARY JEWRY BOARD MEETING

7:30 am - 8:00 am Dogwood
TRADITIONAL PRAYERS

7:30 am - 8:00 am Tulip
EGALITARIAN PRAYERS -

7:30 am - 8:30 am Magnolia Room (Kosher pre-ordered meals)
AJS KOSHER BREAKFAST (ADVANCED PURCHASE REQUIRED)

8:00 am - 10:00 am Mint (Reception)
PROGRAM COMMITTEE/STEERING COMMITTEE/DIVISION CHAIR MEETING

8:15 am - 1:45 pm Foyer (Registration)
BADGE PICKUP AND ONSITE REGISTRATION

8:15 am - 1:45 pm Honeysuckle
LACTATION ROOM

8:15 am - 1:45 pm Maple ()
QUIET ROOM

9:30 am - 12:00 pm Marquis 6-10 (Exhibit Hall)
EXHIBIT HALL OPEN

Social Media Influencers and Singers in Disguise: Ariella Schiller and the Transformation of Tradition in Orthodox Jewish Literature

Chaya Sara Oppenheim (Department of History (Upenn))

9.2 *Howard U (AV)*

PODCAST PEDAGOGY: "HERITAGE WORDS" & "THE NIGHTINGALE OF IRAN" – HOW INTEGRATING AUDIO IN COLLEGE COURSES CAN ENHANCE LEARNING

Discussants: Sarah Bunin Benor
Galeet Dardashti (Danoor)

9.3 *Gallaudet U (AV)*

RABBIS AND RABBINICS

Chair: David Kalir (Tel-Hai College and Gordon College)

Arbitrating Religious Autonomy and Power: A Qualitative Study of Rabbinical Courts in the American Legal System

Chaim Saiman (Villanova Law School)

Thematizing Decline in Nahman Krochmal's MOREH NEVUKHEI HAZMAN (1851)

Daniel Mackler (Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies (NYU))

Writing French Jewish History with the Grand Rabbi, Zadoc Kahn

Gayle Zachmann (University of Florida)

9.4 *U of DC (AV)*

JEWISH ARTISTIC AND LITERARY RESPONSES TO NAZI FASCISM DURING WWII

Chair: Eva Hueckmann (University of Potsdam)

The Case of Jewish Émigré Artists' Contributions to London's Anti-Fascist Movements in the 1930s

Diana Popescu (Birkbeck, University of London)

What do we owe to others? Antifascism in Anna Seghers's "Post to the Promised Land"

Jeffrey Wallen (Hampshire College)

Literature Confronts Fascism: Excess and the Grotesque in Joseph Roth and Franz Werfel

Kata Gellen (Duke University)

Session 9 – Tuesday - 8:30-10:00am

9.1 *Catholic U (AV)*

RELIGIOUS TRADITION IN TRANSFORMATIVE CONTEXTS

Chair: Jonathan Boyarin (Cornell University)

HEFKER KHAZONES: abandonment and the abandoned in cantorial culture

Jeremiah Lockwood (Indiana University Bloomington)

Orthodox Community and Modernity: Contact Zones in Allegra Goodman's Kaaterskill Falls

Ranen Omer-Sherman (University of Louisville)

9.5 *Georgetown U (AV)*

WRITING AFTER THE HOLOCAUST

Chair: Simon Goldberg (United States Holocaust Memorial Museum)

Artifacts Lost, Artifacts Found: Study of a Multilingual WWII Displaced Persons Childhood Song-Journal

Käthe Zarah Erichsen (Leonard & Helen R. Stulman Jewish Studies Program (Johns Hopkins))

Filial Piety and the Reconfiguration of Epic in Elie Wiesel's Night

Adi Nachum (Johns Hopkins University)

Writing After Buchenwald: Literary Form and Collective Voice in Survivors Kibbutz Diary

Lilach Naishtat (Kibbutzim College of Education)

9.6 *George Washington U (AV)*

RESPONSE, REACTION, AND RECOGNITION IN BRITISH AND AMERICAN PUBLIC SPACES POST OCT 7TH

Chair: Hadar Aviram

DEI and Antisemitism in Higher Education: How the DEI Infrastructure and Philosophy Could Link to Antisemitic Activity Across American College Campus

Benjamin Dorfman (National Association of Scholars)

The theory of Anti-Semitism in the current attack on Universities

Eric Oberle (Arizona State University)

Community belonging and speech about Israel

Aziza Khazzoom (Indiana University Bloomington, Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, Hamilton Lugar School)

9.7 *Marquis 1*

ENCODING MEMORY: HOLOCAUST STUDIES THROUGH DIGITAL HUMANITIES

Chair: Andrea Lieber (Dickinson College)

AI and Holocaust Memory: Possibilities and Perils

Todd Presner (University of California, Los Angeles)

Capturing Humanity: Engaging with Immersive Survivor Testimony

Ilana Weltman (UW-Madison)

9.8 *Marquis 2 (AV)*

LINGUISTICS: HEBREW, PERSIAN, AND JUDEO-ARABIC

Chair: James Bunton (Des Moines Area Community College)

Hebrew and Persian Language Revival Movements in the 19th Century

Sara Molaie (Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies at University of Toronto)

Rendering Terms of Realia in Judeo-Arabic Bible Translation Traditions

Ofra Tirosh-Becker (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Gender in Contact: Speech Differences in the Jewish Arabic Dialect of Ghardaïa (Saharan Algeria)

Wiktor Gebiski (University of Cambridge)

9.9 *Marquis 3 (AV)*

NAVIGATING JEWISH-ARAB DIVIDES IN 20TH CENTURY LITERATURE, MUSIC, AND COMMERCE

Chair: Jonathan Gribetz (Princeton University)

Ashkenazi-Arab soundscapes in Pre-state Palestine

Naomi Cohn Zentner (Music Department, Bar Ilan University)

Jewish-Muslim Commercial Networks in the Red Sea: The □ibsh□sh Family Legacy

Menashe Anzi (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

Home, Love, Exile: Mizrahi-Arab-Palestinian Encounters in a 1980s Bilingual Literary Journal

Xinyi Chen (The University of Cambridge)

9.10 *Marquis 4 (AV)*

HISTORICIZING JEWISH DIVORCE: NEW PERSPECTIVES

Moderator: Nancy Sinkoff (Rutgers University)

Discussants: Lois Dubin (Smith College)
Jessica Marglin (Judaic Studies (USC))
Simon Rabinovitch (Northeastern University)
Lelia Stadler (Columbia University)

9.11 *Marquis 12 (AV)*

THINKING ABOUT ANTISEMITISM AND AUTHORITARIANISM

Chair: Ben Wexler (Washington University in Saint Louis)

Anti-Semitism on American Colleges and University Campuses (1920-2025)

John Williams (John Patrick Williams)

Ontologies and “Judeopessimism”: Reading Magid with Arendt

Dana Hollander (McMaster University)

The New Antisemitism: Western Self-Hatred and The Crucifixion of Israel

Tomer Persico (Shalom Hartman Institute)

9.12 Marquis 13 (AV)

WHEN FAITH HURTS: SPIRITUAL HARM AND THE STRUGGLE TO REBUILD AFTER LEAVING THE HAREDI WORLD

Chair: Shira Schwartz (Department of Religious Studies (Northwestern))

Between Kedusha and the Sitra Achra: Factors that Contribute to Individuals Leaving ultra-Orthodoxy

Batya Weinstein (Pratt Institute)

Spiritual Harm Amid the Costliness of Pulling Away from Haredi Life

Yehudis Keller (Contact)

Gendered Religious Experiences and Disaffiliation Among Formerly Orthodox Jewish Women

Rikki Herbst

Between Two Worlds: Acculturation, Enculturation, and the Self in the Disaffiliation from Ultra-Orthodox Judaism

Gitty Gordon (Long Island University)

9.13 Marquis 14 (AV)

JEWS AND CHRISTIANS

Chair: Tziporah Klapper (Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization (Harvard))

Tensions in brotherhood politics: the International Council of B'nai B'rith, European and Israeli Lodges facing the challenges (and costs) of interfaith diplomacy at Vatican II

Claire Maligot (Fscire, Bologna)

The Rhetoric of ‘Bad Faith’ in the New Testament

Jesse Mirotznik (Mandel Institute of Jewish Studies (Hebrew University))

The Virgin Mary: Mary and Sexual Invektive in the Jewish-Christian Encounter

Carolyn Beard (University of Toronto)

Cultural Contrapposto: The Influence of Christian Imagery in Jewish Ritual Objects

Abigail Meyer (Independent Scholar)

9.14 Marquis 15 (AV)

HUMAN, NON-HUMAN, INHUMAN: ANIMALS AND DEMONS IN JEWISH LITERATURE

Chair: Dustin Nash (Muhlenberg College)

Exorcising Empire: Demonology, Animality, and the Human in Early Judaism

Alexandria Frisch (George Mason University)

OG Animal Farm: Other Embodiments in 1 Enoch 85-90

Rebecca Raphael

An Unending Diaspora: The non-Jewish Other and the Dog in modern Hebrew Literature

Jagoda Budzik (Taube Department of Jewish Studies, University of Wroclaw)

9.15 Union Station

CROSSING BOUNDARIES: EVERYDAY LIFE AND INTERCOMMUNAL RELATIONSHIPS IN THE LATE OTTOMAN EMPIRE”

Chair: Jacob Daniels

The Sound of “Spanish Jews”: Scottish Missionaries and Sephardic Jews in the Eastern Mediterranean

Canan Bolel (University of Washington)

Intermarriage in the Late Ottoman Sephardi World

Dina Danon (Binghamton University)

Partners, Friends, “Brothers,” Neighbors: Jewish-Muslim Social Networks in the Late Ottoman Urban Landscape

Michelle Campos (The Pennsylvania State University)

Respondent: Jacob Daniels

9.16 Chinatown

THE POLITICS OF JEWISH MEMORY AND ANTISEMITISM IN COLD WAR EASTERN EUROPE: POLITICAL SPACES, IDEOLOGICAL CONFLICTS, AND THE SHAPING OF JEWISH IDENTITY

Chair: Yuval Tal (The Hebrew University in Jerusalem)

Anti-Semitism as a Political tool: Economic Crimes and Soviet Jews under Khrushchev’s Revolutionary Zeal

Dina Moyal (Tel Aviv University)

Against Socialist Realism: The Holocaust in Postwar Polish and Czechoslovak Cinema

Emily-Rose Baker (University of Southampton)

Diplomacy and Distrust: The GDR's Cold War Pursuit of Jewish Recognition

Jonathan Kaplan (University of Verona)

9.17 Dupont Circle

MEDIEVAL JEWISH PHILOSOPHERS IN THEIR INTELLECTUAL ENVIRONMENT

Chair: Jonathan Green (New York University and Center for Jewish History)

How Maimonides Invented (what we call today) Civil Religion

Heidi Ravven (Hamilton College)

The Aristotelian Conception of Love in Ibn Kaspi's Commentaries

Mor Segev (University of South Florida)

The Context of Judah Halevi's BOOK OF KUZARI

Daniel Lasker (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

What is "Natural" in Natural Law: Some Observations on Natural Law in Medieval Jewish Philosophy

Haim Kreisel (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

9.18 Capitol Hill

TEACHING HOLOCAUST LITERATURE, POETRY, AND SONGS IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Sponsored by Holocaust Educational Foundation of Northwestern University

Moderator: Sarah Cushman (Holocaust Educational Foundation of Northwestern University)

Discussants: Victoria Aarons (Trinity University)
Sara Horowitz (York University)
Barbara Milewski (Swarthmore College)

9.19 Mt. Vernon Square

WHISPERS AND WALLS: GOSSIP, REPUTATION, AND JEWISH COMMUNAL LIFE IN THE MODERN MIDDLE EAST

Chair: Yaron Ayalon (Fairfield University)

A Public(ation) Shame: Ottoman Baghdadi Agunot and Ha-Dover

Annie Greene (The University of Utah)

Spinning by the Moonlight: R. Rafael Berdugo of Meknes (d. 1821) and the Power of Gossip

Alan Verskin (University of Toronto)

Office politics, Native merchants, and the rise of the Messa family in 19th century Aden (Yemen)

Mark Wagner (Louisiana State University)

9.20 Shaw

AMERICAN JEWISH LITERACY IN MULTI-CULTURAL CONTEXTS

Chair: Yaakov Ariel (Carolina Center for Jewish Studies (UNC-Chapel Hill))

Exploring the Relationship between Ethnocentrism, Religious Commitment, and Holocaust Education

Azadeh Aalai (Queensborough Community College, CUNY)

"We took what we were given and now it's like our fault for making it." Understanding American Reform Jewish Teens' Emerging Racial Literacy and Historical Consciousness

Bryan Oren (University of Haifa)

Don't Teach How to Hate Us: Jewish Community Responses to California's Ethnic Studies Curriculum

Emily Reich (UC Berkeley)

Long Island in Asia: New York Capital and the Americanization of the Yishuv

Jacob Beckert (University of Washington)

9.21 Judiciary Square

RE-INHERIT THE WIND

Moderator: Jessica Roda (Georgetown University)

Discussants: Rachel Feldman (Dartmouth College)
Cara Rock-Singer (University of Michigan)
Laura Yares (Michigan State University)

9.22 LeDroit Park

WHAT WILL BE LEFT? CHILDHOOD, YOUTH CULTURE, AND MODERN JEWISH VISIONS OF PROGRESS

Moderator: Miriam Udel (Emory University - Department of Middle Eastern &)

Discussants: Miriam Borden (University of Toronto)
Sandra Fox (Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies (NYU))
Tamara Gleason Freidberg (UCL)
Julia Mickenberg (University of Texas at Austin)
Golan Moskowitz (Tulane University)

Session 10 – Tuesday - 10:30am-12pm

10.1 *Catholic U* (AV)

BY US, FOR THEM: MAINSTREAMING JEWISHNESS FOR NON-JEWISH AUDIENCES

Moderator: Jenny Caplan (University of Cincinnati - Department of Judaic St)

Discussants: Naftali Cohn (Institute for Canadian Jewish Studies (Concordia))
Grace Kessler Overbeke (Columbia College Chicago)
Samantha Pickette (Brandeis University)
Matt Sienkiewicz (Boston College)

10.2 *Howard U* (AV)

HISTORY OF EMOTIONS IN ZIONISM AND ISRAEL

Chair: Tamir Karkason (Martin Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg)

On Happiness and Suffering in Zionist Discourse

Yair Berlin (The University of Cambridge)

Civil Insult in the 1936 Habima production of *The Merchant of Venice*

Shelly Zer-Zion (The University of Haifa)

10.3 *Gallaudet U* (AV)

HOLOCAUST AND POLITICS

Chair: Liza Vasserman Slutsky (Bar Ilan University)

Boundaries of Identity: Displacement and Reparation in the Works of the Refugee Who Became an Ambassador (Hebrew)

Gitit Hoze (Bar- Ilan University)

Commemorating Holocaust victims in Eretz-Israel Synagogues: Initial Steps and the Public-Political Discussion, 1945-1958 (Hebrew)

Reuven Gafni (The Department for Eretz-Israel Studies, Kinneret Academic College)

The Elusive and Ambiguous Connection between the Holocaust and the Establishment of Israel

Aviva Halamish (Open University of Israel)

10.4 *U of DC* (AV)

LITERATURE OUT OF PLACE

Chair: Elissa Sampson (Cornell University)

Are There Great Houses in Jewish Literature?

Caroline Rody (University of Virginia)

"This man was a pariah": S. L. Blank, a Hebrew Writer in America

Miriam Schwartz (Dartmouth College)

YIDDISHLAND: Imagining Indigeneity in Palestine in Yiddish

Betzalel Strauss (Leonard & Helen R. Stulman Jewish Studies Program (Johns Hopkins))

10.5 *George Washington U* (AV)

"DRILLING DOWN AND BRANCHING OUT: NEW PERSPECTIVES ON JEWISH GEOGRAPHY, INTERFAITH MARRIAGE, AND 'BAD JEWS.'" ORGANIZED AND SPONSORED BY THE AMERICAN JEWISH YEAR BOOK.

Sponsored by American Jewish Year Book

Chair: Arnold Dashefsky (University of Connecticut)

"Expanding Theoretical Horizons on Interfaith Marriage: Putting Jews in Comparative Perspective"

Bruce Phillips (Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion)

"The 'DJN-Guided' Jewish Population Estimate Methodology"

Ira Sheskin (University of Miami)

"'Bacon always tastes better on Yom Kippur': Asserting Identity and Belonging among #BadJews on Twitter"

Jennifer Thompson (California State University, Northridge)

10.6 *Marquis 1*

SEPHARDI-ASHKENAZI POWER DYNAMICS: LOCAL STRUGGLES IN A GLOBAL CONTEXT, 1970S

Chair: Yehoshua Ecker (University of Florida)

Israel and the Shaping of Sephardi Identity in 1970s Multicultural Australia

Aviad Moreno (Ben Gurion University of the Negev)

A Community Coup d'état: Jewish-Moroccans Take Over the Ashkenazi-dominated Leadership of the Madrid Community in the 1970s

Raanan Rein (Tel Aviv University)

'The Sin of the Jewish Agency against Sephardim in Latin America': Nissim Elnecave and Argentine Sephardim fighting for autonomy

in the early 1970s

Adriana Brodsky (St. Mary's College of Maryland)

10.7 *Marquis 2 (AV)*

SECRECY AND REVELATION IN THE HISTORY OF KABBALAH

Chair: Andrea Gondos (University of Michigan)

"Dispersion of Knowledge" in SEFER HA-BAHIR

Jonathan Dauber (Yeshiva University)

Esotericism and Exotericism in SEFER HA-MESHIV

Hartley Lachter (Philip and Muriel Berman Center for Jewish Studies (Lehigh University))

The Simple Key to the Secret (PESHAT SHE-BA-SOD)?: Hasidic Strategies of Revealing (and Concealing) the Secrets of the ZOHAR

Leore Sachs-Shmueli (Bar Ilan University)

10.8 *Marquis 3 (AV)*

JEWISH LANGUAGES: SOUND AND SILENCE

Chair: Natalie Polzer (University of Louisville)

Gender and Language Change in Contemporary Hasidic Yiddish in Israel

Dalit Assouline (University of Haifa)

Sonic Heritage Diversity: Songs of Middle Eastern and North African Jews in Montreal

Miranda Crowds (Institute for Canadian Jewish Studies (Concordia))

Blair Jackson (Institute for Canadian Jewish Studies (Concordia))

The Place of Judeo-Georgian in the Georgian Linguistic Space

Tamari Lomtadze (Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University)

Cross-Modal Auditory Hermeneutics: A Study of the Reconstruction of Theological Texts

Po-Yu Wang (Zurich University of the Arts Zurich University of the Arts)

10.9 *Marquis 4 (AV)*

POPULAR FORMS OF JEWISH EXPERIENCE

Chair: Lina Liederman

The Mechanical Monsters of Isolationism: Jewish Anxieties in the Fleischer Brothers' Superman Cartoon

Raz Greenberg (Tel Aviv University)

Visualizing Jewishness in Yiddish Cartoons: Negotiating Self-Stereotype and Agency

Aleksandra Guja

Mickey Katz, Postwar Yiddishism, and the Vulgar Postvernacular

Uri Schreter (Jean & Samuel Frankel Center for Judaic Studies (Michigan))

10.10 *Marquis 12 (AV)*

THE LEGACY OF SEPHARAD: MATERIAL AND INTELLECTUAL JEWISH PRODUCTION IN AND BEYOND IBERIA

Chair: Sarah Pearce (Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies (NYU))

In the Margins of Medieval Hebrew Literary Codices

Esperanza Alfonso (Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas)

"Please understand this, brothers and friends": A Hebrew Poem about Wine

Arturo Prats (Universidad Complutense de Madrid. F. Filología)

From Hebrew to Judeo-Arabic Musar: Intrareligious Translation in Distant Jewish Communities

David Torollo (Universidad Complutense de Madrid)

10.11 *Marquis 13 (AV)*

MIDRASH, MAGIC, AND MYSTICISM

Chair: Aryeh Amihay (Shanghai Normal University)

Afterlives of Rabbi Joshua b. Levi: Polemic, Midrash, and the Latin Talmud

Dov Honick (Yale University)

Judah ben Nissim Ibn Malka and the Kabbalah: A Reassessment

Yinon Kahan (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Mannheim as a Kabbalistic Centre in South Germany in Early Modern Times

Birgit Klein (University of Heidelberg)

10.12 *Marquis 14 (AV)*

THEORIZING "TORAH" IN ANCIENT JUDAISM AND IN THE STUDY OF ANCIENT JUDAISM

Chair: Martin Kavka (Florida State University)

Tôrâ as Archive and the Problem of Legibility

David Lambert (Carolina Center for Jewish Studies
(UNC-Chapel Hill))

Anthologizing “Torah and Its Transmission” for the Posen Library of Jewish Culture and Civilization

Yedida Eisenstat (Yedida Eisenstat)

The Prophet as the Voice of Authoritative Torah in Isaiah 1 and in Malachi

Ethan Schwartz (Villanova University)

10.13 *Marquis 15 (AV)*

REMEMBERING EUROPEAN JEWRY

Chair: Renee Garriss Schwabe (Germanna Community
College)

A Rebirth of Jewish Life in Kishinev/Chisinau?

Jane Gabin (National Coalition of Independent
Scholars)

Fighting Amnesia in Przysucha. From a Former Shtetl to a Post-Jewish Town in Central Poland

Radoslaw Ptaszynski (Szczecin University/Jewish
Przysucha Association)

Jewish baths or pools of memory? MIKVEH as heritage disruptor

Jaimie Luria (Jewish Museum of Florida-Florida
International University)

The Holocaust on Hallowed Ground: Early Memorials to Genocide in Settler Cemeteries

Samuel Holleran (The University of Melbourne)

10.14 *Union Station*

FACULTY AND ORGANIZATIONAL APPROACHES TO FIGHTING ANTISEMITISM ON CAMPUS: WHAT WORKS AND WHAT DOESN'T, AND HOW DO WE PRESERVE THE INDEPENDENT ACADEMY?

Moderator: Daniel Rosenthal (American Jewish
Committee)

Discussants: Lisa Glass (Rutgers Hillel)
Shaul Kelner (Vanderbilt University)
Pamela Nadell (American University)
Jason Rubenstein (Harvard Hillel)
Laura Shaw Frank (American Jewish
Committee (AJC))

10.15 *Chinatown*

LMINAL POLITICS: MANDATE PALESTINE BETWEEN OLD AND NEW

Chair: Jonathan Gribetz (Princeton University)

HEREM: The Conceptual History of a Religio- Political Concept in Mandate Palestine

Aaron Rock-Singer (University of Michigan)

Lodging in the Seam Zones: Two Jerusalem Jewish Hotels between Eras

Liora Halperin (University of Washington, Seattle)

An Ottoman Soldier in London: Moshe Shertok at the London School of Economics

Elizabeth Imber (Clark University)

Respondent: Jonathan Gribetz (Princeton University)

10.16 *Dupont Circle*

NEW PERSPECTIVES ON SPEECH AND LANGUAGE IN THE PALESTINIAN AND BABYLONIAN TALMUDS

Chair: Marjorie Lehman (The Jewish Theological
Seminary)

“A Yes That is a No and a No That is a Yes”: Verbal Consent to Pain in bKetubbot and bBava Kamma

Aviva Richman (Hadar Institute)

That Sounds Silly: Interlingual Homophony and Creative Definitions of Greek Lexemes in the Yerushalmi

Daniel Golde (The Jewish Theological Seminary)

LASHON HA-RA/Malicious Speech, Gender, and the Construction of Rabbinic Ethics in the Bavli

Jane Kanarek (Hebrew College)

Respondent: Erez Degolan (Wellesley College)

10.17 *Capitol Hill*

TRANSFORMING BODIES

Chair: Lisa Fishbayn Joffe (Hadassah-Brandeis Institute,
Brandeis University)

Getting Sick to Fit In: Inclusion in Sickness in Jewish Argentina, 1920s–1950s

Joanna Spyra (University of Huddersfield)

Literacy, Agency, and the Archive of Blindness: Reading Refael Mizrahi’s Mandate-Era Memoir

Marco Di Giulio (Franklin & Marshall College)

**Women as law takers and law makers:
Orthodox mothers navigating the halacha of
birth control**

Viva Hammer (AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY)

10.18 *Mt. Vernon Square*

**YIDDISH WOMEN WRITERS: IN THE PRESS, ON
STAGE, AND IN TRANSLATION**

Chair: Edward Portnoy (YIVO Institute for Jewish
Research)

**Translation and Hidden Female Labor in the
American Yiddish Press**

Ayelet Brinn (University of Hartford)

**Staging Yiddish Playwright Paulina Segal Kobrin
in New York and London**

Sonia Gollance (University College London)

Puah Rakovsky's Translation Work

Jonah Lubin (Harvard University)

**Yente Serdatsky's Backstage Writings: On
Theater and Translation**

Dalia Wolfson (Department of Near Eastern
Languages and Civilization (Harvard))

10.19 *Shaw*

WHAT IS SEMITISM?

Moderator: Lauren Lockshin (The City College of
New York, CUNY)

Discussants: Gil Anidjar (Columbia University)
Tuska Benes
Jonathan Judaken (Washington University in
St. Louis)
David Myers (UCLA)

10.20 *Judiciary Square*

**REVISITING HENRY FORD AND THE
INTERNATIONAL JEW: PERSPECTIVES ON
AMERICAN ANTISEMITISM AFTER WORLD WAR I**

Moderator: Lauren Strauss (American University)

Discussants: Kirsten Fermaglich (Michigan State
University)
James Loeffler (Leonard & Helen R. Stulman
Jewish Studies Program (Johns Hopkins))
Lauren Sklaroff (University of South Carolina)
Andrew Sperling (American Jewish Historical
Society)
Victoria Woeste (retired)

TUESDAY AFTERNOON SPECIAL EVENTS

10:30 am - 11:30 am Scarlet Oa

UNCONFERENCE SESSION

10:30 am - 12:00 pm Session at Capital Jewish
Museum (Offsite event)

**CLOSETS, CAMPS, AND CITY STREETS: SPATIAL
HISTORIES OF JEWISH SEXUALITY**

Chair: Gregg Drinkwater (University of California
Berkeley)

**"When the Outside Was Vast and the Inside (Too)
Limited": City, Periphery, and Sexuality in Young
Israel**

Roi Irani (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

**Mapping the Sociability of Jewish Sex Workers
in Rosario, Argentina (1900-1935): Dangerous
Places and Subjects in the Public Morality Police
Archives**

Mir Yarfitz (Wake Forest University Department of
History)

Marce Butierrez (University of Michigan)

**Sex, Survival, and Spatial Constraints: Jewish
Prisoners in Nazi Concentration Camps**

Rotem Taitler (Tel Aviv University)

**Subversive Detours: Queer Temporalities and
Urban Historicity in Haifa's Memorial Park**

Dotan Brom (Tel Aviv University)

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm Capital Jewish Museum (Offsite
events)

GUIDED TOUR OF THE CAPITAL JEWISH MUSEUM &
SPECIAL EXHIBIT LGBT JEWS IN THE FEDERAL CITY

12:05 pm - 12:45 pm Scarlet Oak (Reception)

OFFICE HOURS WITH NEW BOARD PRESIDENT

12:15 pm - 1:15 pm Magnolia Room

AJS KOSHER LUNCH (ADVANCED PURCHASE
REQUIRED.)

Session 11 – Tuesday- 1:30-3:00pm

11.1 *Catholic U (AV)*

THE MANY FACES OF HALAKHAH

Chair: Samantha Seal (University of New Hampshire)

Abraham as the Father of All Converts: Genealogy, Ritual, and Rabbinic Boundary- Making in the Yerushalmi

Joe Sakurai (Teikyo University of Science, Tokyo)

Private Acts and Public Optics: Revisiting MARIT HA-'AYIN in Medieval Halakhic Discourse

Noam Kornsgold (Bernard Revel Graduate School of
Jewish Studies at Yeshiva University)

Values, Values Everywhere: Ubiquitous Appeals to Values in Halakhic Discourse

Sarah Zager (St Olaf College)

An Andalusian Agent in Cairo: Judge Rabbi Ḥiyya b. Isaac and the First Commentary on Alfasi's Code

Adiel Breue

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11.2 *Howard U (AV)*

FASHIONING THE AMERICAN JEWISH BODY ACROSS THE LIFECYCLE

Chair: Jeffrey Abt (Wayne State University)

The Sisterhood of the Traveling Nose: Social Contexts for Plastic Surgery in Midcentury Los Angeles

Erin Faigin (Washington University in St. Louis)

Cremation in American Jewish Religious Life

Adam Ferziger (Bar-Ilan University)

11.3 *Gallaudet U (AV)*

JOSEPHUS AND THE DISCOURSE OF LEGITIMIZATION: PROPHECY, HISTORY AND VIOLENCE

Chair: George Carras (Washington and Lee University)

Finding a True Leader: Josephus, Peshet Habakkuk, and the Contested Spheres of Legitimacy

Louis Polcin (Department of History (Upenn))

Prophetic-Historical Truth-Telling in Josephus

Jeremy Steinberg (University of Kentucky)

The Many Fortunes of War: Justification of Violence in Josephus' Paraphrase of the Hebrew Bible

Loren Spielman (Portland State University)

Jeremiah in the Pit of Mire: Carcerality and Realpolitik in Jerusalem under Siege

Hadar Aviram

11.4 *Georgetown U (AV)*

MAPPING THE PHENOMENON OF JEWISH TRANSLATION AND MULTILINGUALISM IN THE LATE MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ERAS

Sponsored by The Network for the Study
of Jewish Translation and Multilingualism in
the Modern and Contemporary Ages (not
institutional but framing the panel)

Chair: Cynthia Gabbay (Katz Center (Upenn))

Translating Ashkenazi Literature in Early Twentieth-Century Spain

Adam Cohn (Carolina Center for Jewish Studies
(UNC-Chapel Hill))

Self and Nation: Translation and Self-Translation in Benarroch and Kahanoff

Monique Rodrigues Balbuena (University of Oregon)

11.5 *George Washington U (AV)*

BEYOND THE BOUNDARIES: JEWISH STUDIES, ETHNIC STUDIES, AND THE POLITICS OF PUBLIC MEMORY

Chair: Achinoam Aldouby (UC Berkeley)

Engaging Shared Pasts: Holocaust Museum Houston as a Borderlands Public History Site

Miranda Ruzinsky (Houston)

Bringing Ourselves to the Table: Positionality in Jewish, Holocaust, and Genocide Studies after October 7th

Pascale Bos (University of Texas at Austin)

Counter-History in the Classroom: Rethinking Jewish Inclusion in California's Ethnic Studies

Curriculum

Morey Lipsett (Graduate Theological Union)

11.6 *Marquis 1*

BETWEEN HOMELAND AND THE HOLY LAND: JEWISH MOBILITY AND TRANSNATIONALISM IN THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE AND THE SOVIET UNION

Chair: Tobias Brinkmann (Penn State University)

An Unpromising Land Revised: Zionist Organizations and Jewish Emigration from the Late Russian Empire

Anastasiia Strakhova (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

Departing From the Borderlands: Georgian Jewish Emigration in the Post-War Era

Alexandra Zborovsky (University of Pennsylvania)

Neo-Romantic Zionism? Soviet Jewish Nationalism's Nineteenth-Century Legacies

Samuel Finkelman (Vanderbilt University)

Respondent: Jeffrey Veidlinger (University of Michigan)

11.7 *Marquis 2 (AV)*

MEDIATION OF JEWISH IDENTITY IN THEATRE AND SONG

Chair: Madelon Rosen-Solomon (Kean University, MA)

"Remembering Imperfectly": Yiddish- American Folk Song, Technology, and the "Sonic Yiddish Imaginary"

Ezekiel Levine

Israel on the Broadway Stage: The Case of "Milk and Honey" (1961)

Edna Nahshon (The Jewish Theological Seminary)

Staging Crisis: Israeli Theatre Responds to the Hamas War and the Judicial Crisis

Jerome Chanes (Baruch College, CUNY)

11.8 *Marquis 3 (AV)*

SILENCE, ERASURE, AND CENSORSHIP IN EASTERN EUROPEAN POST-HOLOCAUST REPRESENTATION

Chair: Sean Sidky (Virginia Tech)

Behind Publishing THE BLACK BOOK OF SOVIET JEWRY: a History of Silencing

Olga Lyanda-Geller (Purdue University)

"My House Has Fallen": Silence, Space, and Memory in Shifra Holodenko's Holocaust Poems

LeiAnna Hamel (The Ohio State University)

"The Silenced Speech of Stone": The Poetics and Politics of Silence in the Poems of Anna Kamieńska and Jerzy Ficowski

Diana Sacilowski (Germanic Languages & Lit (Ohio State))

Respondent: Merav Shohet (Boston University)

11.9 *Marquis 4 (AV)*

VISUAL CULTURE AND TRANSFORMATION

Frames of Transition: Early Cinema Culture Between Tel Aviv and Jaffa

Sigal Yona (University of Michigan)

Thirty Years Since the Assassination: Evolving Attitudes within the Israeli Right Toward the Murder of Yitzhak Rabin

Avi Shilon (Tel Hai Academic College)

11.10 *Marquis 12 (AV)*

YIZKER BIKHER IN A DIGITAL AGE: THE QUESTION OF MATERIALITY

Chair: Tahel Goldsmith (The University of Chicago)

The Materiality and Intention of Original YIZKER BIKHER

Jennifer Rich (Rowan University)

The Remediation of YIZKER BIKHER in Reprints and Digital Editions

Emily Klein (United States Holocaust Memorial Museum)

Form, Function, and Intention of Easy-Access YIZKER BIKHER

Robert Ehrenreich (U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum)

11.11 *Marquis 13 (AV)*

**ZIONISM, FASCISM, ANTISEMITISM AND
COMMEMORATION OF THE SHOAH IN ITALY**

Chair: Judith Roumani (Sephardic Horizons)

**Responsibility for justice in action:
Commemoration, affect and politics at Il
Memoriale della Shoah in Milan**

Tommaso Milani (The Pennsylvania State University)

**Between Salvation and Oblivion: Jewish
Employees of the National Interest Banks and
State Antisemitism**

Saverio Colacicco (University of Milan)

**Italian Zionism as a Political Culture:
Intellectual Traditions and Voices under
Fascism**

Felice Ferraro (Hebrew University in Jerusalem)

11.12 *Marquis 14 (AV)*

**CONTEMPORARY JEWISH LIFE: IDENTITY,
COMMUNITY, AND ADAPTATION IN AN
EVOLVING WORLD**

**Emergent Discursive and Programmatic
Responses to the Continued Growth of the
Interfaith Subgroup in American Judaism**

Peter Gluck (Independent Scholar)

**HaKibbutz HaMeuhad and the Absorption
of the Mass Aliyah: The Effect of the Mission
Concept on the Absorption Manner (Hebrew)**

Roi Naon (Ariel University)

**How distinctive are U.S. Jews? Comparing the
social and political attitudes of Jews and other
religious groups in the U.S.**

Laurence Kotler-Berkowitz (Rosov Consulting)

**Jewish People, Plant Kin, and Diasporic
Medicine(s): Locating Sites of Contemporary
Practice Through Virtual Ethnographic Methods**

Kira Rib (University of South Florida)

11.13 *Marquis 15 (AV)*

**NORMALITY AND CRISIS – SOCIAL ASPECTS IN
MEDIEVAL ASHKENAZ**

Chair: Paola Tartakoff (Rutgers University)

Gift-giving between Jews and Christians in

Medieval Ashkenaz

Judah Galinsky (Bar-Ilan University)

**Like the Eyeballs of Man: Negotiating Blindness
and Visual Impairment in Medieval Ashkenaz**

Yakov Ellenbogen (Florida Atlantic University)

**Familial Crises: Jewish Marriage in 14th
Century Ashkenaz**

Elisheva Baumgarten (Hebrew University)

11.14 *Union Station*

**THE GLOBAL SOUTH/NORTH AND THE JEWISH
REALITY: EPISTEMIC, THEORETICAL, AND META-
THEORETICAL CHALLENGES**

Moderator: Judit Bokser Liwerant (UNAM)

Discussants: Harriet Hartman (Rowan University)
Dani Kranz (Two Foxes Consulting)
Laura Leibman (Princeton University)
Laura Limonic (SUNY Old Westbury)

11.15 *Chinatown*

**STRATEGIES AND CHALLENGES FOR HIGHER
EDUCATION LABOR UNIONS AT INSTITUTIONS
OFFERING INSTRUCTION IN JEWISH STUDIES**

Sponsored by We hope that the AJS will
sponsor this session and offer it at a widely
accessible time to accommodate potential
attendees' need for networking time and
discussion of this urgent and essential topic.

Moderator: Sam Shuman (University of Virginia)

Discussants: Samuel Brody
Sara Feldman (Department of Near Eastern
Languages and Civilization (Harvard))
Rebecca Gross (University of California,
Santa Cruz)
Charlie Steinman (Columbia University)
Julia Wedgle (The University of North Caroli-
na at Chapel Hill)

11.16 *Dupont Circle*

**MODERN JEWISH THOUGHT IN QUESTION:
TYPOLOGIES, LEGACIES, AND POLITICAL STAKES**

Chair: Martin Kavka (Florida State University)

**Echad and Havdalah: Rethinking the Fault
Lines of Modern Jewish Thought**

Daniel Schwartz (The George Washington University)

Salomon Maimon and the Modern Return to the GUIDE OF THE PERPLEXED

Yoav Schaefer (Princeton University)

Who Is the Individual? Hannah Arendt Between Judgment and Belonging

Courtney Hodrick (Goethe-Universität Frankfurt)

Never Again for Whom? Rethinking Holocaust Memory After October 7

Jonathon Catlin (Department of Religion and Classics (Rochester))

11.17 *Capitol Hill*

VIRTUE ETHICS, FAITH, AND POLITICS

Uncovering Mendelssohn's Ethical and Political Thought in MEGILLAT QOHELET

Jonathan Green (New York University and Center for Jewish History)

Hermann Cohen's Concept of Action in the ETHICS OF PURE WILL

Anael Malet

Abraham Joshua Heschel's Covenantal Political Thought

Sarah Greenberg (Harvard University)

Socialism in the Thought of Rabbi Menachem Froman

Vincent Calabrese (Abraham Joshua Heschel School)

11.18 *Mt. Vernon Square*

JEWISH LIFE IN THE HOLOCAUST

Chair: Meghan Riley (Northern Arizona University)

"The work isn't pleasant, but nothing can be done about it": Perceptions of Labor and Experiences of Agency in the Łódź Ghetto

Noam Leibman (University of Haifa)

Jewish Life and Death in the Ukrainian Ghetto

Alexander Maro (Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies (NYU))

The Independent Jewish Press Service (JPS) Reports on the Holocaust

Ellie Smith (Middle Tennessee State University)

11.19 *Shaw*

MAGHREBI JEWS AMIDST GLOBAL MODERNITY

Chair: Jessica Marglin (Judaic Studies (USC))

A Moroccan Intellectual Faces the Global Haskala: Avner-Yisrael Serfaty and Yahas Fes

Noam Sienna

The Hebrew Presses in Livorno: A Hub of Interaction between Rabbi Nathan Amram and Other Nineteenth-Century Rabbis

Lilac Torgeman (Bar-Ilan University)

Ink and Transition: Tunisian Maskilim and the Dilemmas of Reform, 1857–1881

Tamir Karkason (Martin Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg)

11.20 *Judiciary Square*

RELIGION, PUBLIC EDUCATION, AND AMERICAN JEWS IN THE AGE OF SECULARIZATION

Chair: Cara Rock-Singer (University of Michigan)

The December Dilemma

Miriam Mora (Center for Jewish History)

The emergence of American Orthodox Political Identity: The case of the Association of Orthodox Teachers

Hadas Binyamini (Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies (NYU))

Reading the Bible in School: Leo Pfeffer and the creation of American Secularism

Ari Kelman (Stanford Graduate School of Education)

Respondent: Laura Yares (Michigan State University)

11.21 *LeDroit Park*

"THE NUTS AND BOLTS OF YIDDISH STUDIES PROGRAMS AND CURRICULA IN THE UNITED STATES CONTEXT"

Sponsored by In geveb: A Journal of Yiddish Studies

Moderator: Jessica Kirzane (The University of Chicago)

Discussants: Elena Luchina (Jean & Samuel Frankel Center for Judaic Studies (Michigan))
Samuel Spinner (Leonard & Helen R. Stulman Jewish Studies Program (Johns Hopkins))
Sunny Yudkoff (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

SPECIAL EVENTS TUESDAY LATE AFTERNOON

3:15 pm - 4:45 pm Silver Linden (Meeting)

PAULA HYMAN MENTORSHIP KICKOFF MEETING
(BY INVITATION ONLY)

5:00 pm - 5:45 pm Cherry Blossom (Candle Lighting)

HANUKKAH CANDLE LIGHTING (TENTATIVE)

Notes