Association for Jewish Studies
Honors Its
2019 Authors
in cooperation with the
Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish Literature
SAMIR ROHR PRIZE FOR JEWISH LITERATURE

Inaugurated in 2007 by the Rohr family, the Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish Literature honors the legacy of its patriarch, Sami Rohr z”l, who enjoyed a lifelong love of Jewish learning and great books. As the largest award of its kind in North America, the $100,000 prize is presented to an emerging writer who demonstrates the potential for continued contribution to the world of Jewish literature. Additional finalists and winners of cash prizes become Fellows in the Sami Rohr Jewish literary community. Fiction and non-fiction books are considered in alternate years. Past winners have reported consistently that the prize has enabled them to pursue and complete additional writing projects.

SAMIR ROHR JEWISH LITERARY INSTITUTE

In conjunction with the Sami Rohr Prize, the Sami Rohr Jewish Literary Institute – a forum devoted to creating a Jewish literary community – is a biennial gathering of the Sami Rohr winners, fellows, judges and advisors. Writing can often be a lonely profession, and the Institute creates a platform for both established and emerging writers to meet, share and network. Writers gather in large and small groups to discuss issues related to writing, publishing and promotion; to advise one another and share information and ideas. The only gathering of its kind, the mentoring environment helps to inspire and shape Jewish literary creativity.

51st Annual Conference
Association for Jewish Studies
Honors Jewish Literature

Celebration of 2019 AJS Authors & Their Books

The books included here are listed alphabetically by the author’s last name and were written, edited or translated by AJS members and published in 2019.

You can see these books on display in the Exhibit Hall at the Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish Literature Booth #103
The Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish Literature invites you to a

Coffee Break
Exhibit Hall
Monday, December 16
10 – 10:30 AM

&

Sami Rohr Prize Trivia Night
Odysea Lounge on the 2nd Floor
Hilton San Diego Bayfront Hotel
Monday, December 16
9 PM

Come with Friends! Win Prizes!

Sponsored by the
Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish Literature
Identity and Territory
Jewish Perceptions of Space in Antiquity
Eyal Ben-Eliyahu
University of California Press

Plague in the Early Modern World
A Documentary History
Dean Phillip Bell, Editor
Routledge

Connecting Histories
Jews and Their Others in Early Modern Europe
Francesca Bregoli and David B. Ruderman, Editors
University of Pennsylvania Press

Polish Literature and the Holocaust
Eyewitness Testimonies, 1942-1947
Rachel F. Brenner
Northwestern University Press
Gastronomic Judaism as Culinary Midrash
Jonathan Brumberg-Kraus
Lexington Books

The Posen Library of Jewish Culture and Civilization, Volume 6
Elisheva Carlebach
Deborah Dash Moore, Editor
Yale University Press

Caribbean Jewish Crossings
Literary History and Creative Practice
Sarah Phillips Casteel and Heidi Kaufman, Editors
University of Virginia Press

An Archive of the Catastrophe
The Unused Footage of Claude Lanzmann’s Shoah
Jennifer Cazenave
SUNY Press

Lethal Provocation
The Constantine Murders and the Politics of French Algeria
Joshua Cole
Cornell University Press

American Jewish Year Book 2018
The Annual Record of the North American Jewish Communities Since 1899
Arnold Dashefsky and Ira M. Sheskin, Editors
Springer

Tehran Children
A Holocaust Refugee Odyssey
Mikhal Dekel
WW Norton

Birthright
Poems
Erika Dreifus
Kelsay Books
Jews and Muslims in South Asia
Reflections on Difference, Religion and Race
Yulia Egorova
Oxford University Press

Yitz Greenberg and Modern Orthodoxy
The Road Not Taken
Adam Ferziger, Miri Freud-Kandel and Steven Bayme, Editors
Academic Studies Press

Like a Dark Rabbi
Modern Poetry and the Jewish Literary Imagination
Norman Finkelstein
Hebrew Union College Press

Jews and Judaism in the Rabbinic Era
Image and Reality - History and Historiography
Isaiah M. Gafni
Mohr Siebeck

Imagining Judeo-Christian America
Religion, Secularism, and the Redefinition of Democracy
K. Healan Gaston
University of Chicago Press

The Scholems
A Story of the German-Jewish Bourgeoisie from Emancipation to Destruction
Jay Howard Geller
Cornell University Press

Perfect Goodness and the God of the Jews
A Contemporary Jewish Theology
Jerome Yehuda Gellman
Academic Studies Press
The Jews in Italy
Their Contribution to the Development and Diffusion of Jewish Heritage
Yaron Harel and Mauro Perani, Editors
*Academic Studies Press*

Teaching the Arab-Israeli Conflict
Rachel S. Harris
*Wayne State University Press*

In This Hour
Heschel’s Writings in Nazi Germany and London Exile
Abraham Joshua Heschel
Helen Plotkin, Editor
Susannah Heschel, Co-author
Stephen Lehrmann, trans.
*JPS*

Polacos in Argentina
Polish Jews, Interwar Migration, and the Emergence of Transatlantic Jewish Culture
Mariusz Kalczewiak
*Alabama University Press*

Boicot
El pleito de Echeverría con Israel
Ariela Katz Gugenheim
*Ediciones Cal y Arena & Universidad Iberoamericana*

Horace Kallen Confronts America
Jewish Identity, Science, and Secularism
Matthew J. Kaufman
*Syracuse University Press*

Diary of a Lonely Girl
Or the Battle against Free Love
Jessica Kirzane
Miriam Karpilove, Co-author
*Syracuse University Press*

Heresy, Forgery, Novelty
Condemning, Denying, and Asserting Innovation in Ancient Judaism
Jonathan Klawans
*Oxford University Press*
Borderland Generation
Soviet and Polish Jews Under Hitler
Jeffrey Koerber
Syracuse University Press

The Jews’ Indian
Colonialism, Pluralism, and Belonging in America
David S. Koffman
Rutgers University Press

Kabbalah Research in the Wissenschaft des Judentums (1820–1880)
The Foundation of an Academic Discipline
George Y. Kohler
De Gruyter Oldenbourg

Jewish Veganism and Vegetarianism
Studies and New Directions
Jacob Ari Labendz and Shmuly Yanklowitz, Editors
SUNY Press

Life and Love in Nazi Prague
Letters from an Occupied City
Jan Lanicek, Editor
Kate Ottevanger, trans.
Bloomsbury

Theological Encounters at a Crossroads
An Edition and Translation of Judah Hadassi’s Eshkol ha-kofer, First Commandment, and Studies of the Book’s Judaeo-Arabic and Byzantine Contexts
Daniel J. Lasker
Johannes Niehoff-Panagiotidis, Co-Author
David Sklare, Co-Author
Brill

Colonial Justice and the Jews of Venetian Crete
Rena N. Lauer
University of Pennsylvania Press

Rashi’s Commentary on the Torah
Canonization and Resistance in the Reception of a Jewish Classic
Eric Lawee
Oxford University Press
Zionism and Melancholy
The Short Life of Israel Zarchi
Nitzan Lebovic
Indiana University Press

Feuchtwanger and Judaism
History, Imagination, Exile
Paul F. Lerner and Frank Stern, Editors
Peter Lang

Beyond Jewish Identity
Rethinking Concepts and Imagining Alternatives
Jon A. Levisohn and Ari Y. Kelman, Editors
Academic Studies Press

The Book of Sarah
Sarah Lightman
Penn State University Press

Kugel and Frijoles
Latino Jews in the United States
Laura Limonnic
Wayne State University Press

Piety and Rebellion
Essays in Hasidism
Shaul Magid
Academic Studies Press

Masada
From Jewish Revolt to Modern Myth
Jodi Magness
Princeton University Press

Be-Ron Yahad
Studies in Jewish Thought and Theology in Honor of Nehemia Polen
Ariel Evan Mayse and Avraham Yizhak Green, Editors
Academic Studies Press
From Mesopotamia To The Mishnah
Tannaitic Inheritance Law In Its Legal And Social Contexts
Jonathan S. Milgram
Academic Studies

Jewish Bodylore
Feminist and Queer Ethnographies of Folk Practices
Amy K. Milligan
Lexington Books

Rewriting Masculinity
Gideon, Men, and Might
Kelly J. Murphy
Oxford University Press

America's Jewish Women
A History from Colonial Times to Today
Pamela S. Nadell
WW Norton

A Jewish Refugee in New York
The Journal Of Rivke Zilberg
Anita Norich
Indiana University Press

The JDC at 100
A Century of Humanitarianism
Avinoam Patt, Atina Grossmann and Maud Mandel, Editors
Wayne State University Press

Bitter Reckoning
Israel Tries Holocaust Survivors as Nazi Collaborators
Dan Porat
Harvard University Press -- Belknap Press
The Rise of the Modern Yiddish Theater
Alyssa Quint
*Indiana University Press*

Loaded Blessings
Faith M. Quintero
*Chaiwright*

How the Bible Is Written
Gary A. Rendsburg
*Hendrickson*

Les Juifs hassidiques de Montréal
Ira Robinson
Pierre Anctil, Editor
*Presses de l’Université de Montréal*

Voices from the Warsaw Ghetto
Writing Our History
David G. Roskies, Editor
*Yale University Press*

Social Vision
The Lubavitcher Rebbe's Transformative Paradigm for the World
Eli Rubin
Philip Wexler, Michael Wexler, Co-Authors
*Herder & Herder*

The Story of Dinah
Rape and Rape Myth in Jewish Tradition
Gavi S. Ruit
*Lexington Books/Fortress Academic*

Lebanon’s Jewish Community
Fragments of Lives Arrested
Franck F. Salameh
*Palgrave-MacMillan*
The Spiritual Transformation of Jews who Become Orthodox
Roberta G. Sands
SUNY Press

American Judaism
A History - Second Edition
Jonathan D. Sarna
Yale University Press

Cosella Wayne
Or, Will and Destiny
Jonathan D. Sarna, Editor
University Of Alabama Press

American Judaism
A History - Second Edition
Jonathan D. Sarna
Yale University Press

Jewish Studies and Israel Studies in the 21st Century
Intersections and Prospects
Carsten Schapkow
Klaus Hödl, Editor
Lexington Books

Josephus in Modern Jewish Culture
Andrea Schatz
Brill

Ghetto
The History Of A Word
Daniel B. Schwartz
Harvard University Press

Spinoza's Challenge to Jewish Thought
Writings on His Life, Philosophy, and Legacy
Daniel B. Schwartz
Brandeis University Press

Thinking in Translation
Scripture and Redemption in the Thought of Franz Rosenzweig
Orr Scharf
De Gruyter
Under Quarantine
Immigrants and Disease at Israel’s Gate
Rhona Seidelman
Rutgers University Press

Maimonides’ Guide of the Perplexed in Translation
A History from the Thirteenth Century to the Twentieth
Yonatan Shemesh, Josef Stern and James T. Robinson, Editors
The University of Chicago Press

The Decline of the Left-Wing in Israel
Yossi Beilin and the Politics of the Peace Process
Avi Shilon
I. B. Tauris

Holocaust Memory and Racism in the Postwar World
Gilbert Shirli and Avril Alba, Editors
Wayne State University Press

A Russian Immigrant
Three Novellas
Maxim D. Shrayer
Academic Studies Press

Remembering Rohatyn and its Environs
First Person Accounts. An 800-year-old Town. Centuries of Jewish Life
Donia Gold Shwarzstein
Meyer Shwarzstein

A Rainbow Thread
An Anthology of Queer Jewish Texts from the First Century to 1969
Noam Sienna
Print-O-Craft Press

American JewBu
Jews, Buddhists, and Religious Change
Emily Sigalow
Princeton University Press
Holocaust Representations in History
An Introduction
Lisa Silverman
Daniel H. Magilow, Co-Author
Bloomsbury

Sing This at My Funeral
A Memoir of Fathers and Sons
David Slucki
Wayne State University Press

The Yiddish Historians and the Struggle for a
Jewish History of the Holocaust
Mark L. Smith
Wayne State University Press

Jewish Emancipation
A History Across Five Centuries
David Sorkin
Princeton University Press

Public Influence
A Guide to Op-Ed Writing and Social Media Engagement
Mira Sucharov
University of Toronto Press

The Mechanics of Providence
The Workings of Ancient Jewish Magic and Mysticism
Michael D. Swartz
Mohr Siebeck

Prince of the Press
How One Collector Built History’s Most Enduring and Remarkable Jewish Library
Joshua Teplitzky
Yale University Press

Bialik’s Body and Soul
Desire, Zionism, Poetry
Hamutal Tsamir
HaKibbutz HaMeuchad
Eternity Now
Rabbi Shneur Zalman of Liady and Temporality
Wojciech Tworek
SUNY Press

Simone Luzzatto
Discourse on the State of the Jews
Bilingual Edition
Giuseppe Veltri and Anna Lissa, Editors
De Gruyter

Simone Luzzatto
Socrates, or on Human Knowledge
Bilingual Edition
Giuseppe Veltri and Michela Torbidoni, Editors
De Gruyter

Sceptical Paths  Enquiry and Doubt from Antiquity to the Present
Giuseppe Veltri, Racheli Haliva and Stephan Schmid, Editors
De Gruyter

The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict
What Everyone Needs to Know
Dov Waxman
Oxford University Press

The Politics of American Jews
Herbert F. Weisberg
University of Michigan Press

Jews and Muslims in Contemporary Spain
Redefining National Boundaries
Martina L. Weisz
De Gruyter

Beyond The Instant
Jewish Wisdom for Lasting Happiness in a Fast-Paced, Social Media World
Mark N. Wildes
Skyhorse Publishing
Fighting for Dignity
Migrant Lives at Israel’s Margins
Sarah S. Willen
*University of Pennsylvania Press*

The Hasidic Moses
A Chapter in the History of Jewish Interpretation
Aryeh J. Wineman
*Wipf and Stock, Pickwick Publications*

Impure Migration
Jews and Sex Work in Golden Age Argentina
Mir Yarfitz
*Rutgers University Press*

Waste Not
A Jewish Environmental Ethic
Tanhum S. Yoreh
*SUNY Press*

Arab-Palestinian Society
in the Israeli Political System
Integration Versus Segregation in the Twenty-First Century
Rami Zeedan
*Lexington Books*

Desert in the Promised Land
Yael Zerubavel
*Stanford University Press*

New Perspectives on Jewish Cultural History
Boundaries, Experiences, and Sensemaking
Maja Gildin Zuckerman and Jakob Egholm Feldt, Editors
*Routledge*
PLEASE JOIN US in celebrating the recipients of the

2019 JORDAN SCHNITZER BOOK AWARDS
Sunday, December 15, 2019, 2:15 PM, Sapphire Ballroom (4th Floor)

WINNERS

Jewish Literature and Linguistics
A Rich Brew: How Cafes Created Modern Jewish Culture
SHACHAR PINSKER, University of Michigan (New York University Press)

Medieval and Early Modern Jewish History and Culture
Coming of Age in Medieval Egypt: Female Adolescence, Jewish Law, and Ordinary Culture
EVE KRAKOWSKI, Princeton University (Princeton University Press)

Modern Jewish History and Culture: Africa, Americas, Asia, and Oceania
Rooted Cosmopolitans: Jews and Human Rights in the Twentieth Century
JAMES LOEFFLER, University of Virginia (Yale University Press)

Philosophy and Jewish Thought
Martin Buber’s Theopolitics
SAMUEL BRODY, The University of Kansas (Indiana University Press)

FINALISTS

Jewish Literature and Linguistics
Strange Cocktail: Translation and the Making of Modern Hebrew Poetry
ADRIANA X. JACOBS, University of Oxford (University of Michigan Press)

Medieval and Early Modern Jewish History and Culture
Dominion Built of Praise: Panegyric and Legitimacy among Jews in the Medieval Mediterranean
JONATHAN DECTER, Brandeis University (University of Pennsylvania Press)

Modern Jewish History and Culture: Africa, Americas, Asia, and Oceania
American Jewry and the Reinvention of the East European Jewish Past
MARKUS KRAH, University of Potsdam (DeGruyter)

Philosophy and Jewish Thought
Philo of Alexandria: An Intellectual Biography
MAREN NIEHOFF, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem (Yale University Press)

This book award program has been made possible by funding from Jordan Schnitzer and Arlene Schnitzer through the Harold & Arlene Schnitzer Family Fund of the Oregon Jewish Community Foundation.

THE SAMI ROHR PRIZE FOR JEWISH LITERATURE

Sami Rohr Prize Winners

2019
The Last Watchman of Old Cairo
Michael David Lukas
Spiegel & Grau

2018
If All the Seas Were Ink
Ilana Kurshan
St. Martin’s Press

2017
Ways to Disappear
Idra Novey
Little, Brown and Company
THE SAMI ROHR PRIZE
FOR JEWISH LITERATURE

Sami Rohr Prize Winners

2016
The Archive Thief
Lisa Moses Leff
Oxford University Press

2015
The Best Place on Earth
Ayelet Tsabarri
Harper Collins Canada

2014
The Aleppo Codex
Matti Friedman
Algonquin Books

2013
The Innocents
Francesca Segal
Voice

2012
When They Come For Us, We’ll Be Gone
Gal Beckerman
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

2011
The Jump Artist
Austin Ratner
Bellevue Literary Press

2010
Plumes
Sarah Abrevaya Stein
Yale University Press

2010
Jewish Renaissance In the Russian Revolution
Kenneth Moss
Harvard University Press
THE SAMI ROHR PRIZE FOR JEWISH LITERATURE

Sami Rohr Prize Winners

2009
One More Year
Sana Krasikov
Spiegel & Grau

2008
The Man in the White Sharkskin Suit
Lucette Lagnado
Harper Perennial

2007
The Genizah at the House of Shepher
Tamar Yellin
Toby Press

2008
Houses of Study
Ilana M. Blumberg
University of Nebraska Press

2008
The Price of Whiteness
Eric L. Goldstein
Princeton University Press

2007
Not Me
Michael Lavigne
Random House

2007
Our Holocaust
Amir Gutfreund
The Toby Press

2008
The Septembers of Shiraz
Dalia Sofer
Ecco Books

2008
The Price of Whiteness
Eric L. Goldstein
Princeton University Press

2012
A Curable Romantic
Joseph Skibell
Algonquin Books

2013
Leaving the Atocha Station
Ben Lerner
Coffee House Press

2014
Becoming Frum
Sarah Bunin Benor
Rutgers University Press

2015
The Lion Seeker
Kenneth Bonert
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

2016
Rav Kook
Yehudah Mirsky
Yale University Press

2019
The Worlds We Think We Know
Dalia Rosenfeld
Milkweed Editions

2019
The Last Flight of Poxl West
Daniel Torday
St. Martin’s Press

2019
City on a Hilltop
Sara Yael Hirschhorn
Harvard University Press

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The Last Flight of Poxl West
Daniel Torday
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Sara Yael Hirschhorn
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Daniel Torday
St. Martin’s Press

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City on a Hilltop
Sara Yael Hirschhorn
Harvard University Press
Sami Rohr Prize Fellows

2019
- Rachel Kadish, The Weight of Ink
- Mark Sarvas, Memento Park
- Margot Singer, Underground Fugue

2018
- Yair Mintzker, The Many Deaths of Jew Suss
- Shari Rabin, Jews on the Frontier
- Chanan Tigay, The Lost Book of Moses

2017
- Paul Goldberg, The Yid
- Adam Ehrlich Sachs, Inherited Disorders: Stories, Parables & Problems
- Rebecca Schiff, The Bed Moved

2016
- Dan Ephron, Killing a King: The Assassination of Yitzhak Rabin and the Remaking of Israel
- Adam D. Mendelsohn, The Rag Race: How Jews Sewed Their Way to Success in America and the British Empire

2015
- Yelena Akhtiorskaya, Panic in a Suitcase
- Molly Antopol, The UnAmericans
- Boris Fishman, A Replacement Life

2014
- Marni Davis, Jews and Booze: Becoming American in the Age of Prohibition
- Nina S. Spiegel, Embodying Hebrew Culture: Aesthetics, Athletics, and Dance in the Jewish Community of Mandate Palestine

2013
- Shani Boianjiu, The People of Forever Are Not Afraid
- Stuart Nadler, The Book of Life
- Asaf Schurr, Motti

2012
- Ruth A. Franklin, A Thousand Darknesses: Lies and Truth in Holocaust Fiction
- Jonathan Krasner, The Benderly Boys and American Jewish Education
- James Loeffler, The Most Musical Nation: Jews and Culture in the Late Russian Empire

2011
- Allison Amend, Stations West
- Nadia Kalman, The Cosmopolitans
- Julie Orringer, The Invisible Bridge

2010
- Lila Corwin Berman, Speaking of Jews: Rabbis, Intellectuals, and the Creation of an American Public Identity
- Ari Y. Kelman, Station Identification: A Cultural History of Yiddish Radio in the United States
- Danya Ruttenberg, Surprised by God: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Religion

2009
- Elissa Albert, The Book of Dahlia
- Anne Landsman, The Rowing Lesson
- Anya Ulinich, Petropolis

2008
- Michael Makovsky, Churchill’s Promised Land: Zionism and Statecraft
- Haim Watzman, A Crack in the Earth: A Journey Up Israel’s Rift Valley

2007
- Naomi Alderman, Disobedience
- Yael Hedaya, Accidents
Save the Date
Please join us next year for the
52nd AJS Conference

December 13 - 15, 2020
Washington, D.C.

For more information go to
https://associationforjewishstudies.org/annual-conference
in February 2020.

The Sami Rohr Prize
For Jewish Literature

Congratulations to the 2019
Sami Rohr Prize
for Jewish Literature
Winners

Michael David Lukas
Winner
The Last Watchman
of Old Cairo
Spiegler & Grau

Dalia Rosenfeld
Choice Award
The Worlds We Think
We Know
Milkweed Editions

Fellows
Rachel Kadish
The Weight of Ink
Houghton Mifflin

Mark Sarvas
Memento Park
Harcourt, Harcourt, Straus and Giroux

Margot Singer
Underground Fugue
Melville House
Back Cover

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