

AJS

30

Association for Jewish Studies

למנו 30

THIRTIETH
ANNUAL CONFERENCE

PROGRAM



THE WESTIN HOTEL
Copley Place Boston

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
December 20–22, 1998

ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES

MB 0001
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The American Council of Learned Societies

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ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES

A Message from the Conference Chair

Sept. 1, 1998

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to present the program for the Thirtieth Annual Conference of the Association for Jewish Studies. The program reflects a great deal of hard work on the part of many people, and I want to thank all participants for what promises to be a series of rich and rewarding sessions.

HOTEL

This year, AJS will again be meeting at the Westin Hotel Copley Place, and, based on last year's success, I encourage you to take full advantage of its extensive facilities. All sessions will be held in the Westin's meeting rooms. Floor plans on page 6 of this program book show their location and arrangement. Session numbers are keyed to both meeting times and rooms, to enable you to arrive at the correct hour and to identify the meeting room more easily. Please remember that sessions begin at 8:30 A.M., which allows us to adjourn the conference at lunch time on Tuesday.

Please take note also of the enclosed Westin Hotel envelope, which you can use to secure the special rate of \$97.00 (single or double, plus tax) for conference attendees. In addition, a limited number of rooms have been made available to us for student members at a rate of \$75.00. To take advantage of these rates you must respond by November 27. You can also call the Westin toll free at (800) 228-3000 or directly at (617) 262-9600.

TRAVEL

We have made arrangements with American Express Travel for special discount fares for travel to the conference. By making reservations through the Brandeis agent, Robin Laverdiere, you can receive special discounts on US Airways, American Airlines, and the US Airways Shuttle. Please call Robin at (800) 553-7701, or FAX her at (617) 868-0111. From outside the USA, call (617) 349-0409. Robin is able to book international discount fares as well.

REGISTRATION

The AJS registration desk will be in the Westin Hotel on the Third Floor opposite the Essex Ballroom. Most of you, however, will not have to look for it. All who preregister and pay all fees by October 31 will be sent their badges and meal tickets by mail. No mail registrations will be accepted after that date, though paid meal reservations will be taken by mail through November 30. Please be careful to fill out your forms completely and enclose the correct payment, so that you will not need to stand on the registration line.

MEALS

We hope that as many of you as possible will join us for the conference meals, and especially for the banquet Sunday evening. All of our meals will be catered by the hotel's kosher kitchen. Unfortunately, it is not possible for us to accept last-minute meal reservations at the conference. Program participants who have already preregistered in the spring may still use the registration form bound into this program book to make meal reservations now.

BADGES

Please remember that conference badges must be worn at all times to afford you admission to the sessions and the Exhibit. Security personnel at the entrance to the Exhibit will be checking badges and will only be able to admit those who have registered for the conference.

COAT CHECK

A checkroom will be available during conference sessions; hours will be posted.

AJS ANNUAL LECTURE

This year AJS continues with its Distinguished Scholar Lectureship, which is held at the banquet each year. With this lecture, we recognize the significant contribution of a senior scholar to the field of Judaic Studies. This includes both those working primarily in areas of Judaica as well as scholars outside our immediate field who have made important contributions to widening our horizons. Speakers are drawn from both North America and abroad.

This year's lecture will be delivered by Professor Natalie Zemon Davis, Henry Charles Lea Professor of History Emerita at Princeton University. Her topic will be "Rethinking Cultural Mixture: Jewish Identity in Europe and the Americas." This lecture will introduce her current research on typologies of cultural mixture in the early modern and modern periods. In her words: "My goal is to modify historical approaches that conceptualize situations only in terms of polarities, such as domination/resistance, assimilation/authenticity, and modern/traditional. The talk will follow the strong Jewish thread in the larger project, using Marc Bloch's own twentieth-century reflection on 'mixture,' and introducing issues of mixture in the life and thought of a nineteenth–twentieth century Jewish-Rumanian-French linguist and of a Portuguese- Jewish physician, man of letters, and slaveowner in eighteenth-century Suriname."

As we gather on Sunday evening to honor her scholarship, we sincerely hope that you will join us for dinner and the lecture. There will, of course, be plenty of seating for those joining us after dinner on this auspicious occasion.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS AND FILM SHOWING

After the lecture on Sunday evening, we will show the award-winning feature-length documentary "Hollywoodism: Jews, Movies, and the American Dream." We thank Sharon Rivo and the National Center for Jewish Film at Brandeis University for making this film available.

The American Academy for Jewish Research will again be holding sessions in conjunction with AJS. AAJR programs are an important part of our conference and are open to all AJS attendees. The AAJR program celebrating its anniversary will be held on Monday at 1:30. AAJR has a long and distinguished history, and it is once again an honor to welcome the Fellows of the Academy to our meeting.

We also welcome the newly constituted Society for Constructive Jewish Theology, which will be sponsoring the Constructive Theology session on Monday afternoon. We look forward to a long and mutually beneficial relationship with the SCT.

Monday evening will be devoted to a Plenary Session on "The State of Israel and Jewish Studies Around the World: On Israel's Fiftieth Birthday." The session will be a panel discussion dealing with many of the central issues of Israel and Diaspora relations as they pertain to Jewish scholarship. We anticipate forthright discussion of the last fifty years, as well as reflection on what the future might hold in store.

RECEPTIONS

Many thanks to the American Academy for Jewish Research, which has undertaken to sponsor our Sunday evening reception in order to highlight its activities and programs. Please show your appreciation to the Academy and its president, Prof. Robert Chazan, for bringing their program to our annual meeting by joining the Fellows of the Academy in the America Foyer before dinner on Sunday evening for food, drink, and conviviality.

All graduate students are warmly welcome to a reception AJS is tendering in their honor on Monday at 5:45 in the Parliament Room on the 7th Floor. This event is for students only, to provide them an opportunity to meet informally.

MONDAY CAUCUSES AND COLLOQUIA

The annual Women's Caucus Breakfast takes place Monday morning; sign up by Nov. 30. (see page 22 for instructions; do not send money for this event to AJS).

At lunchtime on Monday, we have set aside space for a host of informal meetings on topics of interest. Pick a session from the listing in the body of the Program, take your lunch, and go participate.

On Monday evening at 5:45 the Joint Distribution Committee will hold its annual caucus for those interested in working for the growth of Judaic Studies in the countries of the former Soviet Union. This is an important task, and all interested members are welcome. Please come to the St. George Room on the 3rd Floor. Light refreshments will be served.

INTERVIEWS

A word again to those conducting interviews at the conference. The Westin Hotel provides the Association with parlor rooms for candidates to be met in the most comfortable and dignified surroundings. AJS policy forbids the use of private guest rooms for interviews and offers confidential scheduling for the minimal charge of \$5.00 per half-hour block. A reservation form for the use of interviewers may be found with the membership and registration forms at the back of this program book.

HANUKKAH CANDLES

For those wishing to light Hanukkah candles on Sunday evening, Dec. 20, we will arrange for a Boston Fire Marshal to be in attendance at 5:30 at a location to be announced, so that all safety precautions and regulations can be adhered to. *No candles may be lit in guest rooms.*

A PERSONAL NOTE

I would like to offer a few concluding remarks. I am deeply grateful to the members of the Program Committee and the Section Coordinators who have done so much to make this year's program successful. I have followed in the footsteps of my predecessor, Larry Schiffman, in trying to make the planning and decision making process as broad as possible, with participation by many members of our association. Like Larry, I hope to continue to encourage the expansion of new fields while working at the same time to strengthen the representation of classical disciplines. A glance at this year's program shows that our Program Committee and Section Coordinators have once again been eminently successful.

I, and all participants in this year's conference, are deeply indebted to our Executive Secretary, Dr. Aaron Katchen. Aaron has cast his careful eye on every aspect of the conference; his contributions have gone well beyond the administrative role he fills so well. I am profoundly grateful for his wise counsel and generosity of spirit.

Most of all, I want to thank all of you—for presenting papers, chairing sessions, listening and responding to papers, even for milling around in the halls or at the Exhibits. I look forward to hearing, either during or after the conference, that our meeting has been a genuine opportunity for intellectual exchange and growth. Please feel free to share with me any suggestions for future meetings. Members of the Program Committee will also be happy to talk with you.

Best wishes for a successful and enriching conference experience.

1998 Program Committee	
Arnold Dashefsky	University of Connecticut
Yaakov Elman	Yeshiva University
David Fishman	Jewish Theological Seminary
Christine Hayes	Yale University
Paula Hyman	Yale University
Marsha Rozenblit	University of Maryland
Mel Scult	Brooklyn College
Lawrence H. Schiffman	New York University
Elliot Wolfson	New York University
Sharon H. Flatto	Yale University (<i>student member</i>)
	<i>ex officio</i>
David Berger	Brooklyn College, <i>AJS President</i>
Aaron L. Katchen	<i>Executive Secretary, AJS</i>

Sincerely,
Jay M. Harris
Vice-President for Program

ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES

THIRTIETH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

CONFERENCE FACILITIES

All sessions are at **The Westin Hotel Copley Place**, Boston, Massachusetts
(800-228-3000 for toll-free reservations)

The hotel features a health club and an indoor pool,
and a full service business center; valet parking is available.

The hotel is connected by indoor walkway to the Copley Place shopping mall.

For further information, contact the hotel directly at 617-262-9600.

For a **floor plan** of the meeting and banquet facilities of the Westin Hotel, see overleaf.

SPECIAL ROOM RATES

Hotel Reservations
at the special AJS conference rate of
\$97.00 single or double, (\$75.00 for a
limited number of student rooms)
must be received by

The Westin Hotel Copley Place

by November 27, 1998.

Use the enclosed postage-paid envelope or
call Westin reservations at 800-228-3000.

DISCOUNT AIRFARES

Special AJS Conference rates
on US Airways and American Airlines,
including special low fares on the
US Airways Shuttle, have been arranged
through the Brandeis office of
American Express Travel

Call Robin Laverdiere at (800) 553-7701
[from outside the USA: (617) 349-0409]

FAX: (617) 868-0111

TAPES OF CONFERENCE SESSIONS

The Association has made arrangements through **Audio Archives International**
to make available audio cassettes of the Conference sessions shortly after each
session is over. Tapes will be available during the Conference from the Audio
Archives representative. After the conference, they will be available by mail
directly from: Audio Archives International, 3043 Foothill Blvd., Suite 2,
La Crescent, CA 91214. 1-800-747-8069. They will not be available from AJS.

**THE CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM,
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM,
AND INTERVIEW ROOM REQUEST FORM
FOLLOW THE ADVERTISEMENTS
AT THE END OF THE PROGRAM BOOK.**

BREAKFAST **8:30 A.M.–9:30 A.M.**

REGISTRATION **10:00 A.M.** *Conference Office (Essex Foyer)*

AJS Board of Directors Meeting **10:30 A.M.**

EXHIBITS **1:00 P.M.–6:00 P.M.**

Session 1, 11:00 A.M.–12:30 P.M.

(except for 1.1, which begins 10:30 SHARP)

1.1

ACADEMY OF JEWISH PHILOSOPHY:

PRINCIPLES OF FAITH

Chair: Moshe Sokol (Touro College)

Maimonides on God's Unity: A Philosophical Critique

Norbert M. Samuelson (Arizona State University)

Maimonides on Reward and Punishment

Jean Axelrad Cahan (University of Nebraska at Lincoln)

Maimonides' Radical Messianism: Beyond Apocalyptic Midrash

Almut Sh. Bruckstein (Hebrew University)

1.2

THE RABBINIC TRADITION AND GENDER ISSUES

Chair: Rivka B. Kern-Ulmer (Harvard University)

This Patriarchy Which Is Not One:

The Ideology of Marriage in Rashi and Tosafot

Aryeh Cohen (University of Judaism)

Female Jewish Ascetics in Late Antiquity:

Some Preliminary Observations

Eliezer B. Diamond (Jewish Theological Seminary)

**Lascivious Voices: Close Readings of Erotic Tensions
in Gendered Spiritual Practice**

Bonna Devora Haberman (Brandeis University)

1.3

THE AFTERMATH OF THE HOLOCAUST

Chair: Monty Penkower (Touro College)

“Avenging the Blood” After the Holocaust:

Abba Kovner and the Avengers Group, 1944–46

Dina Porat (Tel-Aviv University)

The Passage of Time—A Blessing and a Curse:

**Immediate Postwar Testimonies of Holocaust Survivors
versus Contemporary Oral Histories**

Scott Miller (U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum)

Holocaust Survivors and the Struggle for a Jewish State:

The Myth, the Anti-Myth, and “What Really Happened?”

Aviva Halamish (Tel-Aviv University)

1.4

“A GREAT CITY BEFORE GOD”: JEWS IN EARLY MODERN PRAGUE

Chair: Hillel J. Kieval (Washington University)

Rabbi Yom Tov Lipman Heller in His Own Eyes:

**Perceptions of Events and Patterns of Explanation
in *Megillat Eivah***

Joseph M. Davis (Gratz College)

Exile, Proselytes, and *Devequt* in the Writings of Ezekiel Landau

Sharon H. Flatto (Yale University)

Judaism and the Eirenic Impulse in RudolFINE Prague

Noah J. Efron (MIT)

1.5

REREADING THE JEWISH PRESS

Chair: Vicki Caron (Cornell University)

The Jewish Press and the Myth of Jewish Power, 1837–82

Jonathan Frankel (Hebrew University)

On Monday the Rabbi Sold Stock:

**Ludwig Phillipson, the Jewish Press, and
the Spirit of Capitalism in Nineteenth-Century Germany**

Derek Penslar (University of Toronto)

The Emergence of Jewish Newspaper Cultures

**in the Russian and Ottoman Empires:
Der Fraynd and *El Tiempo***

Sarah Abrevaya Stein (Stanford University)

1.6

SELF, IDENTITY, AND AUTHENTICITY

Chair: Michael Glen Gottsegen (CLAL)

**Who Is a Real Jew?: Models of Authenticity
in Contemporary Jewish Identity**

Stuart Charmé (Rutgers University)

Identity, Religion, and Election

in Abraham Geiger's *Judaism and Its History*

Ken Koltun-Fromm (Haverford College)

Narratives of the Interhuman:

Modern Jewish Philosophy and Psychoanalytic Theory

Michael D. Oppenheim (Concordia University)

1.7

YIDDISH PRANKSTERS, ACTRESSES, AND MOTHERS

Chair: Janet Hadda (UCLA)

Simkhe Plakhte: From Folklore to Literary Confabulation

Seth L. Wolitz (University of Texas)

Reading Yiddish Actresses' Lives Through Their Memoirs

Nina Warnke (Indiana University)

The Transformation of the Mother Figure

in Khayim Grade's *Der mames shabosim*

Jan Schwarz (University of Illinois)

1.8

IMAGES FROM THE BIBLE AND THE ZOHAR IN ART AND ARCHITECTURE

Chair: Joan R. Branham (Providence College)

The Appropriation of Biblical Images for Modern Jewish Art

Gilya Gerda Schmidt (University of Tennessee at Knoxville)

Zoharic Themes in the Wall-Paintings

of the Eighteenth-Century Polish Wooden Synagogues

Thomas C. Hubka (University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee)

Images of Amsterdam's "Court Jews"

in Seventeenth-Century Dutch Painting

Briana Preminger (Hebrew University)

Sunday, December 20, 1998 (cont.)

1.9

CULTURAL AND PERSONAL IDENTITY IN JEWISH LIVES

Chair: Maurie Sacks (Montclair State University)

***Ba'alot Teshuvah* Daughters, Secular Mothers:
A View from South Africa**

Roberta G. Sands (University of Pennsylvania) *and*

Dorit Roer-Strier (Hebrew University)

**A Quartet of Cultural Performances: Establishing An American Identity
in a Conservative New England Synagogue**

Martin Laskin (Southern Connecticut State University)

Rabbinate as Second Career in North America

Adina B. Newberg (Reconstructionist Rabbinical College)

LUNCH 12:30 P.M.–1:30 P.M.

Session 2, 1:30 P.M.–3:30 P.M.

2.1

MARSHALL SKLARE MEMORIAL LECTURE

Co-sponsored by the Association for the Social Scientific Study of Jewry

Chair: Allen Glicksman (Philadelphia Geriatric Center)

Redefining Jewish Identity in North America

Bernard Reisman (Brandeis University)

Responses:

Good or Bad for the Jews? Moving Beyond the Continuity Debate

Shelly Tenenbaum (Clark University)

The Frontiers of Community

Bruce A. Phillips (Hebrew Union College)

2.2

CLASSICAL KABBALAH, ITS RECEPTION AND TRANSFORMATION

Chair: Hava Tirosh-Samuelsan (Indiana University)

General Reflections on Anthropomorphism in Classical Kabbalah

Pinchas Giller (University of Judaism)

The Gaze of the Menstruant in Nahmanides' Torah Commentary

Sharon Faye Koren (University of Pennsylvania)

The Blessing in the Belly: Eating Experiences in Zoharic Kabbalah

Joel Hecker (Reconstructionist Rabbinical College)

**Modes of Rejecting the Zohar in the late Eighteenth
and early Nineteenth Centuries**

Boaz H. Huss (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

2.3

WOMEN, JUDAISM, AND TRADITION AT THE END OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

Chair: Judith Reesa Baskin (University at Albany, SUNY)

Social Attitudes Disguised as Halakhah:

“zila milta,” “kevod ha-tsibbur,” “ein ḥavrutan na’ah”

Rochelle L. Millen (Wittenberg University)

Examining the Concept of Gender Role Ideology:

Women in Traditional Jewish Worship

Jerome S. Legge, Jr. (University of Georgia) *and*

Joya Misra (University of Georgia)

Contemporary Women’s Midrash

Jody Myers (California State University, Northridge)

Disruption in the Food Chain: Iraqi Jewish Mothers and Daughters

Norma Baumel Joseph (Concordia University)

2.4

TRAUMA AS MEMORY, TRAUMA AS METAPHOR

Chair: Ellen S. Fine (City University of New York)

Acculturation and Anguish in Judeo-Maghrebi Poetry:

Ryvel’s *Les Chants du Ghetto*

Yael Even-Levy (Brandeis University)

The Uses of Holocaust Metaphor in *The Pawnbroker* and *Beloved*

Wendy Ilene Zierler (University of Hong Kong)

Nazi Images Supporting Euthanasia Reflected in Current Visions

Advocating Physician-Assisted Suicide

Judith E. Doneson (Washington University)

Home in America: Autobiographies of the Adult Children of

Eastern European Jewish Immigrants

Naomi Praver Kadar (Columbia University)

2.5

TOWARD A POSTLIBERAL JUDAISM:

IMPLICATIONS OF LINDBECK AND THE YALE SCHOOL

Moderator: Michael E. J. Zank (Boston University)

Revisioning Soloveitchik’s Modern Orthodoxy as Jewish Postliberalism

Steven D. Kepnes (Colgate University)

Exploring Lindbeck’s Theory of Religious Truth in a Jewish Context:

Hermann Cohen and Rav Kook on the Meaning of Jewish Particularity

Jacob E. Meskin (Princeton University)

(cont.)

2.5 TOWARD A POSTLIBERAL JUDAISM (cont.)

**Reading Rosenzweig in Light of Lindbeck:
Philosophical, Sociological, and Theological Implications**
Leora F. Batnitzky (Princeton University)

Respondent:
George Lindbeck (Yale University)

2.6

MIDRASH AND AGGADAH STUDIES

Chair: Aryeh Cohen (University of Judaism)

**Portrayals of a King: Manasseh in the Bible
and Post-Biblical Jewish Sources**

Victoria Hoffer (Yale University)

**Verbal and Non-Verbal Rituals of Leave-Taking
in the Time of the Mishnah and Talmud**

Uri Ehrlich (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

Sharpening the Tool of Torah:

Thematic Connections in the Aggadah of the Bavli
Aaron Panken (Hebrew Union College)

The “Astronomical” Book of Enoch and Implicit Midrash
Ben Zion Wacholder (Hebrew Union College)

2.7

ZIONISM: CULTURE AND POLITICS

*Co-sponsored by the Jacob and Libby Goodman Institute
for the Study of Zionism, Brandeis University*

Chair: Derek Penslar (University of Toronto)

The Nationalization of Tradition:

Hayim Nahman Bialik and the Hebrew Culture Movement
Adam Michael Rubin (Hebrew Union College)

As Comrades or as Subordinates:

Female Institution-Building in Pre-State Israel
Bat-Sheva Stern (The Open University of Israel)

Signs, Symbols, and Post Zionism:

The Debate on the Nature of Israeli Society and Culture
Eran Kaplan (Brandeis University)

Joseph Klausner, Israel, and Jesus

David Fox Sandmel (Institute for Christian and Jewish Studies)

2.8

**THE SEARCH FOR TRADITION IN SOVIET YIDDISH CULTURE
OF THE 1920S AND 1930S**

Chair: Rakhmiel Peltz (Columbia University)

Questions of Jewish Identity in Soviet Yiddish Schools: 1928–36

Rebecca E. Margolis (Columbia University)

Soviet Yiddish Criticism and Proletarian Poetry

Marc Miller (Columbia University)

**Gun Powder Inside, Armor Outside: The Content-Form Dichotomy
in Yiddish and Russian Literary Theory of the 1920s and 1930s**

Cornelia Martyn (Bielefeld University)

Discussant:

Musya Glants (Harvard University)

Session 3, 3:45 P.M.–5:15 P.M.

3.1

**WHAT MAKES A JEWISH-SPONSORED NONSECTARIAN UNIVERSITY JEWISH?:
A SESSION MARKING THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY**

Chair: Jonathan D. Sarna (Brandeis University)

Those Who Educate Us:

Reflections on Judaic Studies at Brandeis University

Paul Mendes-Flohr (Hebrew University)

Bohemianism Was a Dominant Milieu:

Literary Studies at Brandeis—Myth and Reality

Susanne C. Klingenstein (MIT)

The Sciences at Brandeis: 1948–60

Silvan Schweber (Brandeis University)

3.2

CITIES AND SANCTUARIES IN THE WORKS OF JOSEPHUS

Chair: John D'Arms (President, American Council of Learned Societies)

The Nature of Jerusalem's Centrality in Josephus' Thought

Louis H. Feldman (Yeshiva University)

Josephus on the Cities of Galilee

Stuart S. Miller (University of Connecticut)

**The Descriptions of the Jerusalem Temple
in Josephus and the Temple Scroll**

Lawrence H. Schiffman (New York University)

3.3

AVERROES AND AVERROISM

Chair: Barry Sherman Kogan (Hebrew Union College)

The Fate of the Soul Among Jewish Averroists

Alfred L. Ivry (New York University)

Crescas' Attitude Toward Averroes

Warren Zev Harvey (Hebrew University)

3.4

GERMANS AND JEWS IN THE EARLY MODERN PERIOD

Chair: Paul Lawrence Rose (Pennsylvania State University)

Between Converts and Hebraists:

Representing Judaism in Early Modern Germanic Lands

Elisheva Carlebach (Queens College—CUNY)

**Political Theology, the Reformation, and the Fate of German Jewry:
Discussions About the Expulsion of the Jews of Hesse in the
Sixteenth Century**

Dean Phillip Bell (Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies)

Martin Luther and the Jews of Genesis

Stephen G. Burnett (University of Nebraska at Lincoln)

3.5

HASKALAH AND ITS OPPONENTS

Chair: David N. Myers (UCLA)

Wesseley's *Divrei Shalom Ve-Emet*—The 1782 Debate Reconsidered

Shmuel Feiner (Bar-Ilan University)

Confrontation and Cooperation:

Traditional Society and the Beginnings of the Haskalah in Vilna

Joshua M. Levisohn (Harvard University)

A Woman's Enlightenment:

Pauline Wengeroff and the Tale of Jewish Modernity

Shulamit Magnus (Oberlin College)

3.6

CONFLICT AND CONTROVERSY

IN THE MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN SEPHARDI WORLD

Chair: Benjamin R. Gampel (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Pursuing the Pursuer: Putting Informers to Death in Medieval Spain

Elka Klein (New York University)

The Murder of Pau de Sant Martí:

Jews and Conversos in Fifteenth-Century Valencia

Mark D. Meyerson (University of Toronto)

Skeptical Views of Converso Martyrdom

in the Early Modern Sephardi Diaspora

Miriam Bodian (Pennsylvania State University)

3.7

REVISITING BIBLICAL PATTERNS

IN MODERN YIDDISH AND HEBREW LITERATURE

Chair: Yael Feldman (New York University)

Liturgical/Biblical Allusions in Selected Writings of

I. B. Singer and Chaim Grade

David H. Hirsch (Brown University)

Biblical Structures in the Works of Amos Oz

Nehama Aschkenasy (University of Connecticut)

Biblical Images in the Poetry of Rivka Miriam

David C. Jacobson (Brown University)

3.8

PARADIGMS OF JEWISH IDENTITY IN ENGLISH AND IRISH LITERATURE

Chair: James Shapiro (Columbia University)

Sinsheimer's *Shylock*

Lisa Renee Lampert (University of Illinois)

**Writing Jewish History After Walter Scott: The Feminization of
the Jewish Historical Subject in the Nineteenth Century**

Jonathan S. Skolnik (Columbia University)

Jewish Identity and the Construction of *Ulysses*

Neil Levi (Columbia University)

3.9

JEWISH ETHNOGRAPHY

Chair: Guy H. Haskell (Emory University)

Hasidic Impresario of Theater: Modernity and Tradition in Brooklyn

Shifra Epstein (University of Minnesota)

Yiddish Folk Parodies of the *badkhn*

Itzik Nakhmen Gottesman (University of Texas)

Are Syrian Jews Arab-Americans?

Questions of Identity and Cultural Expression

Walter Zenner (University at Albany, SUNY) *and*

Mark Kligman (Hebrew Union College)

3.10

BOUNDARIES AND IDENTITIES

Chair: Jerome A. Chanes (National Foundation for Jewish Culture)

Public School Prayer, the Christian Right, and Anti-Semitism

Frank Stuart Ravitch (University of Central Florida)

Safeguarding Religious Boundaries in the Face of Economic Challenge:

The Hasidim of Montreal

Randal F. Schnoor (McGill University)

The “Absorption” of Ethiopian Jewish Immigrants?

Housing and Education Policies

Fred A. Lazin (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

**SUNDAY EVENING
DECEMBER 20, 1998**

PROGRAM

5:15 P.M. ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES
All members invited

Staffordshire

5:45 P.M. RECEPTION

Sponsored by the
AMERICAN ACADEMY FOR JEWISH RESEARCH
and highlighting its activities and programs

Greetings: Robert Chazan (New York University), President, AAJR

6:30 P.M. BANQUET

Greetings: David Berger, President, AJS

7:45 P.M. PLENARY SESSION

THE SECOND ANNUAL AJS DISTINGUISHED LECTURE
Chair: David Berger (Brooklyn College–CUNY)

Rethinking Cultural Mixture:
Jewish Identity in Europe and the Americas

Natalie Zemon Davis

*Henry Charles Lea Professor of History Emerita,
Princeton University*

9:30 P.M.–11:15 P.M. FILM SCREENING

Hollywoodism
Jews, Movies, and the American Dream

Jerusalem Film Festival 1998 Prize Winner as
“Best Jewish Experience Documentary”

Courtesy of Sharon Rivo and the National Center for Jewish Film,
Brandeis University, Waltham, MA 02454. Tel.: (781) 899-7044

Monday, December 21, 1998

and Nausett available for Services

7:00 A.M.

BREAKFAST 7:30 A.M.–8:30 A.M.

Women's Caucus Breakfast 7:00 A.M.–8:30 A.M.

Travel Award to be presented to Haley Hinda Seif (UC Davis)

Cost: \$12.50 Paid reservations must be received by Dec. 1.

Send payment to: Prof. Rochelle L. Millen,

Dept. of Religion, Wittenberg University, P.O. Box 720, Springfield, Ohio 45501-0720

EXHIBITS 8:30 A.M.–5:30 P.M.

Session 4, 8:30 A.M.–10:30 A.M.

4.1

APPROACHES TO ABRAHAM JOSHUA HESCHEL

Chair: Edward K. Kaplan (Brandeis University)

Transmissibility of the Ineffable:

Convergence in Heschel, Rosenzweig, Benjamin

Barbara E. Galli (University of Alabama)

Abraham Joshua Heschel and the Jewish Mystical Tradition

Elliot R. Wolfson (New York University)

Heschel's Monotheistic Perspective *vis-à-vis* Pantheism

John C. Merkle (College of Saint Benedict)

A.J. Heschel and the Holocaust

Morris M. Faierstein (Montgomery, Alabama)

4.2

AN APPRECIATION OF THE SCHOLARLY CONTRIBUTIONS

OF SHAMMA FRIEDMAN

Chair: Judith Hauptman (Jewish Theological Seminary)

“Separate but Equal?” Uncovering Literary Dependencies

as a Key to the Evolution of the Halakhah and the Aggadah

Shamma Friedman (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Respondents: Jay M. Harris (Harvard University)

Haym Soloveitchik (Yeshiva University)

4.3

JEWISHNESS IN THE PERFORMING ARTS: OPERA, SONG, DANCE, AND FILM

Chair: Gilya Gerda Schmidt (University of Tennessee at Knoxville)

Jewishness in Opera: Wagner's Parodies of Meyerbeer

Paul Lawrence Rose (Pennsylvania State University)

A Dancer Called Hadassah:

The Beginnings of Multiculturalism in American Jewish Dance

Edward P. Merwin (CUNY Graduate Center)

Woody Allen: After the Fall

Jeffrey Rubin-Dorsky (University of Colorado at Colorado Springs)

**Yiddish Songs in the Soviet Union: the Reflection of Official Ideology
in the Popular Culture of 1917–41**

Anna Shternshis (Oxford University)

4.4

THE ETHNOGRAPHIC STUDY OF JEWISH LAW AND NARRATIVE

Chair: Sacha D. Stern (London School of Jewish Studies)

Rethinking Israelite Food Rules

Seth D. Kunin (University of Nottingham)

Medieval Constructions of Jewish and Muslim Dietary Systems:

Similarities and Differences

Samuel Z. Klausner (University of Pennsylvania)

The "Other" in the Folk Literature of the Jews in Libya

Rachel Simon (Princeton University)

**Narrative vs. Historical Truth: Insights from Field Work
in Right-Wing Popular Consciousness**

of U.S.-Born Immigrants in Palestine/Israel

Batya Susan Weinbaum (Cleveland State University)

4.5

ISSUES IN MEDIEVAL JEWISH THOUGHT

Chair: Kalman P. Bland (Duke University)

**Maimonides' Philosophy of Prayer: The Impact of Negative Theology
in Reconceiving the Nature and Role of Prayer**

Aryeh I. Botwinick (Temple University)

Samuel Ibn Tibbon on the Book of Job

Robert Eisen (George Washington University)

Theology, Providence, and The Metaphysics of Matter:

The Shared God of Ibn Gabirol and Maimonides

Sarah Pessin (Ohio State University)

Averroes' Influence on Rabbi Moshe Narboni's

Commentary on Ibn Tufayl's "Hayy Bin Yaqzan"

Gitit Holzman (Hebrew University)

4.6

GENDER AND JEWISH LITERARY STUDIES

Chair: Harriet L. Parmet (Lehigh University)

Ludwig Robert's "Die Tochter Jephthas": Challenging a Literary Type

Judith M. Lewin (Princeton University)

Gay Writers and the Jewish-American Canon

Michael Weingrad (University of Washington)

The Space Between Revealing and Concealing:

Wasteland by Jo Sinclair

Barbara Chiarello (University of Texas at Arlington)

4.7

PICTURES AND WORDS ON EASTERN EUROPEAN JEWISH LIFE IN THE AMERICAS

Chair: Jeffrey S. Gurock (Yeshiva University)

The Death of An Artist: Maurycy Minkowski in Buenos Aires, 1930

Zachary M. Baker (YIVO Institute)

Recalling the "Lost Paradise": Holocaust Education and

Commemoration in American Yiddish Schools and Camps

Rona Sheramy (Brandeis University)

Learning the Meaning of Yiddish in America

Jeffrey A. Shandler (New York University)

A View from the Fringe:

Jewish Artists Re-envision the Modern American City, 1905–1936

Lauren B. Strauss (Jewish Theological Seminary)

4.8a

KARAITES IN MODERN EUROPE

Chair: Marc B. Shapiro (University of Scranton)

A Case of Infanticide in the Karaite Community of Troki in 1789

Philip E. Miller (Hebrew Union College)

Karaites in the Soviet Union: New Sources of Oral History

Igor Kotler (Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation)

4.8b *(follows 4.8a at 9:30)*

INTERFAITH DIALOG AFTER AUSCHWITZ

Chair: Sol Tanenzapf (York University)

New Beginning or Old Dilemma? A Reading of Some Jewish Responses

Alan L. Berger (Florida Atlantic University)

More Than Mere Rhetoric?: Interfaith Dialog

and Theological Triumphalism After Vatican II

Susan E. Nowak (Nazareth College)

Monday, December 21, 1998

Session 5, 10:45 A.M.–12:15 P.M.

5.1

THE ORIGINS OF ANTI-SEMITISM

Co-sponsored by the American Section of the International Association of Societies for the Study of Jewish History

Chair: Robert Chazan (New York University)

Judeophobia: Peter Schäfer on the Origins of Anti-Semitism

Christine Hayes (Yale University)

Were the Jews Themselves Responsible for Ancient Anti-Semitism?

Robert Goldenberg (SUNY—Stony Brook)

Respondent:

Peter Schäfer (Princeton University)

5.2

GERMAN JEWRY: IDEOLOGIES AND HISTORIOGRAPHY

Chair: Michael Brenner (Universität München)

**Narrativity and Interpretive Community: Immanuel Wolf,
Leopold Zunz, I. M. Jost, and German-Jewish Historiography**

Robert F. Southard (Earlham College)

The Myth of the Hidden Jew

Dennis B. Klein (Kean University)

Jewish Ideologies of Transgression in Weimar Germany

Benjamin Lazier (University of California at Berkeley)

5.3

WHEN DIASPORAS MEET: INTERACTIONS BETWEEN

SEPHARDI/MIZRAHI AND ASHKENAZI JEWS IN MODERN TIMES

Chair: Norman A. Stillman (University of Oklahoma)

**Close Encounters of the Ethnic Kind: Sephardic and Ashkenazic Jews in
Early Twentieth-Century New York City**

Aviva Ben-Ur (Queens College—CUNY)

**“The Jews Who Weren’t There”: Integrating Sephardim and Mizrachim
into the Jewish Studies World View**

Marianne R. Sanua (Florida Atlantic University)

Commentator:

Aron Rodrigue (Stanford University)

Sephardic Studies Caucus to follow in this room.

5.4

CONVERSATIONS ACROSS RELIGIOUS BOUNDARIES

Chair: Eugene B. Borowitz (HUC-JIR)

Schoeps vs. Rosenzweig: Transcending Religious Borders

Marc A. Krell (University of Arizona)

Rosenzweig, Tillich, and Dialectical Theology

Randi L. Rashkover (University of Virginia)

Mordecai Kaplan and Ralph Waldo Emerson—An Odd Affinity

Mel Scult (Brooklyn College—CUNY)

5.5

AMERICAN JUDAISMS

Chair and Commentator: Michael G. Brown (York University)

**The Cleveland Conference of 1855 and the Emerging Conflict over
the Nature of Jewish Identity in Antebellum American Judaism**

Dana Evan Kaplan (University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee)

**Synagogue Decorum in Modern Jewish History:
Appraisals and Re-appraisal**

Richard Menkis (University of British Columbia)

Messianic Speculation in Post-Revolutionary America

Jay M. Eidelman (Museum of Jewish Heritage)

5.6

ETHNICITY AND CITIZENSHIP AS FACTORS

IN JEWISH RESPONSES TO THE HOLOCAUST

Chair: Robert Moses Shapiro (Yeshiva University)

Ethnic Versus National Consciousness—

German and Polish Jews on the Eve of the Holocaust

Yfaat Weiss (Universität München)

Ethnicity and Citizenship in Conflict—

The Representation of Polish Jewry, 1940–45

David Engel (New York University)

Citizenship, Patriotism, and Group Solidarity:

American Jews and the Nazi Crisis

Gulie Ne'eman Arad (Tel-Aviv University)

5.7

VILNA, 1915–44: POLITICS, CULTURE, COMMUNITY

Chair: David G. Roskies (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Yankev Vygodsky and Vilna Jewry, 1915–22

Samuel D. Kassow (Trinity College)

Jewish Scholarship Between East and West:

The Founding of the YIVO Institute in Berlin and Vilna

Cecile E. Kuznitz (Stanford University)

Tsevorfene Bleter: The Literary Origins of Yung Vilne

Justin Daniel Cammy (Harvard University)

Lunchtime Colloquium: **The State of Yiddish**, to follow in this room.

5.8

EDUCATORS AND INNOVATORS: TWENTIETH-CENTURY JEWISH WOMEN

Co-sponsored by the Jewish Studies Women's Caucus

Chair and Commentator: Paula E. Hyman (Yale University)

Fragmented Identities:

Women Teachers of the Alliance Israélite Universelle

Frances Malino (Wellesley College)

**Those Who Can, Teach: Jewish Women in Secondary and
Higher Education in Germany and Austria**

Harriet Pass Freidenreich (Temple University)

**A Web of Influence: Boston Women Teachers and
the Shaping of Jewish Education**

Joyce Antler (Brandeis University)

5.9

STAMMAITIC TALMUD STUDIES

Chair: Michael L. Chernick (Hebrew Union College)

Thematic Developments in the Second Perek of Bava Metzia:

Rabbinic Reflections on Spiritual Loss

Marjorie S. Lehman (Reconstructionist Rabbinical College)

**The Handiwork of a Talmudic Glossator in
the First Three Chapters of Massekhet Shevuot**

Avram Israel Reisner (Jewish Theological Seminary)

The Rise of the Babylonian Talmudic Academy:

A Reexamination of the Evidence

Jeffrey L. Rubenstein (New York University)

Monday, December 21, 1998

5.10

AMERICAN JEWISH LITERATURE IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY:
ETHICS OR AESTHETICS?

Chair: Sara R. Horowitz (University of Delaware)

Presentater: Carole S. Kessner (SUNY—Stony Brook)

Respondents: Ellen Schiff (Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts)
Norman Finkelstein (Xavier University)

Lunchtime Meetings and Colloquia

12:15 P.M.–1:15 P.M.

SEPHARDIC STUDIES CAUCUS (*follows 5.3*)

Co-chairs: Aviva Ben-Ur (Queens College—CUNY)
Aron Rodrigue (Stanford University)

THE STATE OF YIDDISH STUDIES: A COLLOQUIUM (*follows 5.7*)

Moderator: Samuel Norich (Teaneck, New Jersey)

Discussants: Janet Ruth Hadda (UCLA)
Monika Garbowska (Marie Curie University, Lublin)

THEORY AND PRAXIS IN JEWISH THOUGHT

“Good Thought” and “Bad Thought” in the Halakhah

Presenter: Yochanan D. Silman (Bar-Ilan University)

Discussant: Shaul Magid (Jewish Theological Seminary)

MEETING OF DIRECTORS OF JEWISH STUDIES PROGRAMS

Chair: Arnold Dashefsky (University of Connecticut)

JEWISH STUDIES AND/IN THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

with Barry Shrage (Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston)

GENERAL LUNCH

AAJR LUNCH

for the Fellows of the American Academy for Jewish Research

12:15 P.M.–1:15 P.M.

Monday, December 21, 1998

Session 6, 1:30 P.M.–3:30 P.M.

6.1

THE PEDAGOGY OF GERMAN-JEWISH LITERATURE AND THOUGHT—A WORKSHOP

Chair: Abigail E. Gillman (Boston University)

Discussants: Jefferey Sammons (Yale University)
Jeffrey A. Grossman (University of Virginia)
Noah W. Isenberg (Wesleyan University)
Willi Goetschl (Columbia University)
Jonathan S. Skolnik (Columbia University)
Sabine von Mering (Brandeis University)

6.2

WOMEN IN THE HOLOCAUST: NEW RESEARCH

Chair: John K. Roth (Claremont McKenna College)

Kashariot: Women Fighters in the Jewish Resistance During the Holocaust

Lenore J. Weitzman (George Mason University)

Rupture and Solidarity: The Jewish Family in Eastern European Ghettos

Dalia Ofer (Hebrew University)

Food, Women, and the Holocaust

Myrna Goldenberg (Montgomery College)

The Camp Sister Relationship as Described by Women Holocaust Survivors in Their Oral History Interviews

Bonnie Gurewitsch (Museum of Jewish Heritage)

Session 7.2 follows in this room

6.3

LITURGY IN THE LIFE OF THE SYNAGOGUE

Chair: Ruth Langer (Boston College)

Biblical and Rabbinic Texts in the Decoration of Late Antique and Early Medieval Synagogues

Steven Fine (Baltimore Hebrew University)

The Ashkenazic Practice of Repeating Kaddish and Barekhu for Latecomers to Synagogue

Debra Blank (Jewish Theological Seminary)

The Minor Kaddish or Kaddish for a Minor

Menachem Schmelzer (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Changes in Jewish Liturgy

in the Wake of the Founding of the State of Israel

Joseph Tabory (Bar-Ilan University)

6.4

THE LEGACY OF FRANZ BOAS

FOR A **MULTICULTURAL ANALYSIS OF JEWS AND ISSUES IN RACE**

Chair: Riv-Ellen Prell (University of Minnesota)

The Anti-Racist Legacy of Franz Boas:

American Anthropology, Jewish Studies, and Multiculturalism

Gelya Frank (University of Southern California)

Franz Boas and the “Problem” of Jewishness

Julia E. Liss (Scripps College)

Dilemmas of the *Engagé* Ethnographer

Judith L. Goldstein (Vassar College)

Jewishness After Mount Sinai:

Jews, Blacks, and the (Multi)Racial Category

Katya Gibel Azoulay (Grinnell College)

Discussant: Karen Brodtkin (UCLA)

6.5

EUROPEAN JEWRY IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY: CRISIS AND REBIRTH

Chair: Miriam Bodian (Pennsylvania State University)

Judaizing in the Seventeenth Century:

The Conversion of Johann Peter Spaeth (Moses Germanus)

Allison P. Coudert (Arizona State University)

Toward a Reappraisal of Early Modern Jewish Messianism:

Moshe Idel’s *Messianic Mystics* and Harris Lenowitz’s *Jewish Messiahs*

Matt Goldish (University of Arizona)

The Seventeenth-Century Jewish Settlement of Ireland

Gordon M. Weiner (Arizona State University)

**Jews and Others in Polemical and Controversial Literature
in Early Modern Poland**

Magdalena O. Teter (Columbia University)

6.6

WOMEN AS SYMBOLS AND PARTICIPANTS IN THE BIRTH OF MODERN JUDAISM

Chair: Judith Tydor Baumel (University of Haifa)

Jewish Women in Germany Between Community and Domesticity

Maria Baader (Columbia University)

**Social Success Without Conversion: Amalie Beer as Patron of
the Israel Jacobson Temple in Berlin, 1815–23**

Deborah Hertz (Sarah Lawrence College)

Women and Nineteenth-Century Judaism—A Comparative Inquiry

Karla A. Goldman (Hebrew Union College)

Commentator:

Deborah Dash Moore (Vassar College)

6.7

**NEGOTIATING THE DOMINANT CULTURE: ADOPTION, ADAPTATION, AND RESISTANCE
IN EARLY MODERN YIDDISH CULTURE**

Chair: Marc M. Epstein (Vassar College)

The Jewish Woman and Her *Minhagim*

Naomi Feuchtwanger Serig (Jerusalem, Israel)

The Illustrations of the Frankfurt *Sefer Meshalim* of 1697

Diane Wolfthal (Arizona State University)

**Aristocratic Wiving Etiquette, Class Conflict, and Old Yiddish
Courtly Epic**

Jerold C. Frakes (University of Southern California)

“I Know This Book of Mine Will Give Offense”:

Boccaccio’s *Decameron* in Yiddish

Marion J. Aptroot (Heinrich Heine Universität)

6.8

NEW METHODOLOGICAL TRENDS IN THE STUDY OF RABBINIC LITERATURE

Chair: Jeffrey L. Rubenstein (New York University)

Gender as a Category in Redaction Criticism of Rabbinic Texts:

The Case of *Avot de Rabbi Nathan*

Charlotte Fonrobert (University of Judaism)

**Can the “Ideal” Properties of Midrash Assist in
the Definition or Emendation of Texts?**

Rivka B. Kern-Ulmer (Harvard University)

Tannaitic Textuality and Talmud Torah:

Issues of Oral and Written Transmission

W. David Nelson (Hebrew Union College)

**Some Aspects of Azariah de’ Rossi’s Historical Criticism of
the Halakhic Tradition**

Lester A. Segal (University of Massachusetts—Boston)

6.9

BIBLICAL HISTORIOGRAPHY

Chair: Nahum M. Waldman (Gratz College)

The *bytdwd*-Inscription and Biblical Historiography

Carl S. Ehrlich (York University)

The Relationship Between II Kings 12:5–17 and II Kings 22:3–7:

The Socio-Economic Aspect of Josiah’s Cult Reform

Paul Heger (University of Toronto)

Men and Women’s Oral Telling of the Stories of Esther and Mordecai

Yona Shapira (New Orleans, Louisiana)

A “History of Saul’s Rise”? Historiography in Eleventh-Century Israel

Marsha White (Somerville, Massachusetts)

6.10

**THE FOUNDING AND DEVELOPMENT OF JEWISH STUDIES IN NORTH AMERICA:
THE AMERICAN ACADEMY FOR JEWISH RESEARCH, 1929-1999**
Organizer and Chair: Hasia R. Diner (New York University)
Sponsored by the American Academy for Jewish Research

Session 7, 3:45 P.M.–5:45 P.M.

7.1

IN MEMORY OF AMOS FUNKENSTEIN

Co-sponsored by Jewish Social Studies

Chair: David Biale (Graduate Theological Union)

Panelists: David Engel (New York University)
Abe P. Socher (University of California at Berkeley)
Steven J. Zipperstein (Stanford University)
Richard D. Hecht (University of California, Santa Barbara)
Nina Caputo (Florida International University)

7.2

WOMEN IN THE HOLOCAUST: THE NEXT STEPS

(Part 2 of a two-part session; see 6.2 above)

Chair: Lenore J. Weitzman (George Mason University)

Panelists: Dalia Ofer (Hebrew University)
Myrna Goldenberg (Montgomery College)
Sara R. Horowitz (University of Delaware)
John K. Roth (Claremont McKenna College)
Paula E. Hyman (Yale University)

7.3

PRIESTS, RABBIS, AND AUTHORITY IN LATE TEMPLE AND TALMUDIC TIMES

Chair: Stuart S. Miller (University of Connecticut)

Rava's Career as *Mara d'Atra*:

Challenges to Rabbinic Authority in Amoraic Babylonia

Yaakov Elman (Yeshiva University)

The Red-Herring of Hellenism and the Maccabean Revolt

Adam L. Porter (Duke University)

**The Spread of Rabbinic Authority in Palestine of Late Antiquity:
Fresh Evidence From Zoar**

Sacha Stern (London School of Jewish Studies)

**Greater Than His Brothers: The Body of the Priest and His
Accouterments in Ancient Jewish Interpretation**

Michael D. Swartz (Ohio State University)

7.4

CONSTRUCTIVE JEWISH THEOLOGY:

Laura Levitt's *Jews and Feminism: The Ambivalent Search for Home*

Sponsored by the Society for Constructive Theology

Co-sponsored by Gender Studies

Chair: David R. Blumenthal (Emory University)

Other Embraces

Liora Gubkin (University of Southern California)

Home/Work: Searching Feminist Ambivalence

Laurence Silberstein (Lehigh University)

Finding and Making a Lesbian Jewish Feminist Home in America

Leila Gal Berner (Emory University)

Respondent:

Laura S. Levitt (Temple University)

(SCT Business Meeting follows the session)

7.5

ROSKIES V. LANGER: TWO MODELS IN THE STUDY OF HOLOCAUST LITERATURE

Chair: Anne Golomb Hoffman (Fordham University)

Presenter: Alan L. Mintz (Brandeis University)

Respondents: Sara R. Horowitz (University of Delaware)
James E. Young (University of Massachusetts—Amherst)
Dan Laor (Tel-Aviv University)

7.6

CULTURE AND POLITICS IN MEDIEVAL JEWRY

Chair: Ephraim Kanarfogel (Stern College)

Women and Ritual Immersion in Ashkenaz: The Sexual Politics of Piety

Judith Reesa Baskin (University at Albany, SUNY)

Parallel Images of the Afterlife in Jewish and Christian Martyrology

Shmuel Shepkaru (University of Oklahoma)

Controversy and Jewish Cultural History in Medieval Southern France

Gregg Stern (Rutgers University)

Davidic Ancestry and the Transmission of Babylonian Authority

Arnold Franklin (Princeton University)

7.7

BECOMING RUSSIAN JEWS

Chair: Michael Stanislawski (Columbia University)

The Beginnings of Jewish Studies at the State Rabbinical Seminary of Vilna
Verena Dohrn (Universität zu Göttingen)

**Jacob Teitel', Russian-Jewish Consciousness, and
the Legacy of the Great Reforms**

Brian Horowitz (University of Nebraska at Lincoln)

Reforming Jewish Schools:

A Portrait of Local Jewish Culture in Russia in 1900

Steven G. Rappaport (Stanford University)

7.8

SACRED TIME AND SPACE IN RABBINIC THOUGHT

Chair: Christine E. Hayes (Yale University)

An Early Rabbinic Periodization of Mundane Time

Herbert Bronstein (Lake Forest College)

This Hallowed Ground: the Defilement of Land in Ancient Judaism

Jonathan Klawans (Boston University)

Festival Visions: Earthly Temples and Heavenly Temples

Mara Schiffren (Harvard University)

Land, City, and Temple in the Aramaic Version of Psalms

Moshe J. Bernstein (Yeshiva University)

7.9

CONFLICT AND COOPERATION IN THE AMERICAN JEWISH "COMMUNITY"

Chair: Hasia R. Diner (New York University)

**Orthodoxy, Heterodoxy, and the Foundation of a Moral Community:
Jews in Sullivan County, New York**

Maurie Sacks (Montclair State University)

**Sibling Rivalry in the "Congregational Family"?
Sisterhoods and Brotherhoods, 1913–41**

Felicia Herman (Brandeis University)

Is Community-Wide Orthodox Education Possible?

**Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik's 1933 Effort
to Reform Boston's Bureau of Jewish Education**

Seth Farber (Hebrew University)

Monday, December 21, 1998

EVENING PROGRAM

5:45 P.M. GRADUATE STUDENT RECEPTION

A Social Hour Sponsored by the ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES

5:45 P.M. CAUCUS

AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

Remarks: Ralph I. Goldman (Honorary Executive Vice-President)

Academic Judaica in the Former Soviet Union:

Light refreshments will be served.

6:45 P.M. GRAND BUFFET

Greetings: Jay M. Harris, Vice-President for Program

PLENARY SESSION

8:00 P.M.–9:45 P.M.

**THE STATE OF ISRAEL AND JEWISH STUDIES AROUND THE WORLD:
ON ISRAEL'S FIFTIETH BIRTHDAY**

Chair: Jay M. Harris (Harvard University)

Discussants: David Biale (Graduate Theological Union)
Yael Feldman (New York University)
Paul Mendes-Flohr (Hebrew University)
Elliot R. Wolfson (New York University)

Tuesday, December 22, 1998

and Nausett available for Services

7:00 A.M.

BREAKFAST 7:30 A.M.–8:30 A.M.

BREAKFAST MEETING 7:30–8:30 A.M.

AJS Program Committee and Section Coordinators

AJS REVIEW EDITORIAL BOARD MEETING 7:45 A.M.

Chair: Norman A. Stillman (University of Oklahoma)

EXHIBITS 8:30 A.M.–12:00 Noon

Tuesday, December 22, 1998

Session 8, 8:30 A.M.–10:30 A.M.

8.1

**ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF JEWISH STUDIES IN RUSSIA:
TRADITION AND CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IN RUSSIAN-JEWISH HISTORIOGRAPHY**

Chair: Antony Polonsky (Brandeis University)

Scholarly Publications

Elina Chkolnikova (Brandeis University)

Jewish Studies in Russian Universities

Viktoria Mochalova (Moscow Center “Sefer”)

Archival Studies

Vassili Schedrin (Brandeis University)

Holocaust Studies

Vadim Altskan (U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum)

Studies in Jewish Art

Musia Glants (Harvard University)

8.2

FRENCH AND ITALIAN JEWRY: PRE-REVOLUTION TO POSTWAR

Chair: Richard Menkis (University of British Columbia)

**Social and Religious Controls in Pre-Emancipation Alsace-Lorraine:
The Forging of Public Policy**

Jay R. Berkovitz (University of Massachusetts—Amherst)

**Religion At a Reasonable Price: The Failed Renovation of
the École Centrale Rabbiniqne de France at Metz, 1850–59**

Jeffrey Haus (Brandeis University)

Am I My Brother’s Keeper?

The American Influence on Post-War French Jewry

Maud S. Mandel (Brown University)

Jewish Patriots: The Jews of Italy and the Risorgimento

James Walston (Rome International University)

8.3

**ON THE RECEPTION OF PRE-MODERN TRADITIONAL JEWISH CULTURE
IN THE MODERN PERIOD**

Chair: Lawrence J. Kaplan (McGill University)

Attempts to Revive Kabbalah Among Rabbi S. R. Hirsch's Disciples

Rivka Horwitz (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

Aspects of R. Moses Sofer's Intellectual Profile

Marc B. Shapiro (University of Scranton)

**Spinoza's Critique of Maimonides in the *Theological-Political Treatise*:
A Political Interpretation**

Steven H. Frankel (University of Chicago)

Who Was The Author of *Sefer ha-Kuzari*?

The History of the Image of a Book

Adam B. Shear (University of Pennsylvania)

8.4

CONTEMPORARY JEWISH NORTH AMERICAN LITERATURE

Chair: Elaine Safer (University of Delaware)

David Mamet: The Prism of Multiple Pasts

Janet Burstein (Drew University)

**The Metaphysics of Loss and Jewish-American Identity
in David Mamet's *Homicide***

Ranen Omer (University of Notre Dame)

Aesthetics of Yiddish in Recent Jewish American Literature

Michael Taub (Riverdale, New York)

**Unearthing Buried Memories: A Second-Generation Perspective
in Anne Michaels' *Fugitive Pieces***

Ellen S. Fine (City University of New York)

8.5

MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE BIBLE EXEGESIS

Chair: Bernard M. Septimus (Harvard University)

**New Steps Towards Recovering the Original Text of
Rashi's *Commentary on Genesis***

Deborah A. Abecassis (McGill University)

Rashbam as a Talmud Exegete

Marty Lockshin (York University)

**Parabolic Precision and Parabolic Flourish: Solomon's "Married Harlot"
as Opposed to "Jacob's Ladder" in the *Guide of the Perplexed***

James A. Diamond (University of Toronto)

**The Wisdom of Solomon in Jewish Apologetic Commentaries
in Italy Around 1500**

Arthur M. Lesley (Baltimore Hebrew University)

8.6

PERFORMING “AMERICANNESS”:

THE THEATRICALIZATION OF JEWISH IDENTITY

Chair: Joyce Antler (Brandeis University)

Crossing Over: Performing Jewishness

on American Yiddish and English Stages of the 1920s

Harley Erdman (University of Massachusetts—Amherst)

Haunch, Paunch, and Jowl: The Theater of Jewish Identity

Laura Browder (Virginia Commonwealth University)

Betty Boop: Yiddish Film Star

Amelia S. Holberg (University of California at Berkeley)

8.7

DIMENSIONS OF HOLOCAUST STUDIES

Chair: Weaver M. Santaniello (Pennsylvania State University)

Women’s Agency and Survival Strategies During the Holocaust:

Communal and Individual Patterns

Judith Tydor Baumel (University of Haifa)

The History of the Assault on the Holy Recorded in the Holocaust Diary

David Alan Patterson (University of Memphis)

The Holocaust in American Memory

D. G. Myers (Texas A&M University)

The Movement to Recover Stolen Jewish Assets:

Organizational, Political, and Cultural Dimensions

Daniel Kadden (Evergreen State College) *and*

Janice Friebaum (Washington State Office of Insurance Commissioner)

8.8

HEBREW LITERATURE AND LITERARY LANGUAGE

Chair: Lewis H. Glinert (Dartmouth College)

“The Dream” and “The Box”—Caution: Amichaic Prose!

Rivka Friedman (Hunter College—CUNY)

The Insurgent Vagrant Double in the Novels of

Shimon Ballas, Albert Swissa, and Ronit Matalon

Joshua Getz (Emory University)

The Return of The Diaspora: The Multilingual Revolution

in Contemporary Israeli Fiction

Elliott I. Rabin (University of Louisville)

Shlonsky’s Poetic Predecessors and the New Accent in Palestine

Miryam Segal (University of California at Berkeley)

8.9

BIBLICAL LOVE, BIBLICAL WOMEN

Chair: Marc Zvi Brettler (Brandeis University)

The Adultery Type-Scene and the Construction of the Biblical Wife

Esther Fuchs (University of Arizona)

**Love At First Sight? An Examination of
the Relationship Between David and Jonathan**

Yaron Peleg (Brandeis University)

L'atrabilaire amoureux: The Love Plot in Jonah

Theodore A. Perry (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

De-victimizing Hagar: A New Look At Genesis 16

Pamela Tamarkin Reis (Branford, CT)

8.10

RACE, GENDER, CLASS, SEXUAL ORIENTATION: JEWISH PERSPECTIVES

Chair: Marla A. Brettschneider (University of New Hampshire)

**Embedded Categories: Identity Among Jewish Young Adults
in the United States**

Debra R. Kaufman (Northeastern University)

Why Is This Oppression Different From All Others (or Not)?

Placing Jewish Women Into the Dialogue of Intersectionality

Jessica Greenbaum (Syracuse University)

**“A Most Amazing Borsht”: Multiple Identities
in a Jewish Bisexual Community**

Haley Hinda Seif (University of California at Davis)

Respondent:

A Focus on Class

Dawn Robinson Rose (Reconstructionist Rabbinical College)

Session 9, 10:45 A.M.–12:45 P.M.

9.1

THE MORAL MINEFIELD: ISSUES IN THE ARTISTIC REPRESENTATION OF THE HOLOCAUST

Chair: James E. Young (University of Massachusetts—Amherst)

Magic Realism and the Legacy of the Holocaust

Ori Zarah Soltes (Georgetown University)

Jewish-American Artists and the Holocaust: The Responses of Two Generations

Matthew Baigell (Rutgers University)

Images of Anne Frank in Art about the Holocaust

Stephen C. Feinstein (University of Wisconsin)

**A Delicate Balance: The Postmodern Modernism
of Contemporary Holocaust-Related Art**

Andrew Weinstein (Institute of Fine Arts–NYU)

9.2

GENDER AND JUDAISM IN CULTURE AND TEXT

*Co-sponsored by the International Research Institute on Jewish Women,
Brandeis University*

Moderator: Susan Kahn (Brandeis University)

Queer Theory and the Jewish Woman Question

Ann Pellegrini (Harvard University)

Rhetoric, Gender, and Idolatry in the Thought of Emmanuel Levinas

Susan Ellen Shapiro (Columbia University)

Images and Perceptions: Picturing Jews and Gender

Sylvia Barack Fishman (Brandeis University)

An Epistemology of the Mechitza:

The Ambivalent Attractions of Sexual Segregation

Naomi Seidman (Graduate Theological Union)

9.3

AMERICAN JEWS AND THE CULTURE OF LITERARY PRODUCTION

Chair: Stephen Whitfield (Brandeis University)

Of the Book but not By the Book: New York Jews Publish High and Low

Charles Dellheim (Arizona State University)

Tabloid Blacks and Jews: The *New York Post* Covers the Crown Heights Riots

Laurence D. Roth (Susquehanna University)

Cyrus Adler and *The American*: Portrait of the Scholar as a Young Man

Ira Robinson (Concordia University)

A Gallery of Missing Husbands: The Interplay of Class, Ethnicity, and

Gender in the Work of the National Desertion Bureau, 1911–20

Lois Refkin (New York, New York)

9.4

RE-FRAMING STUDIES OF AMERICAN JEWISH IDENTITY

Chair: Deborah Dash Moore (Vassar College)

Meaning-making and Jewishness in the Lives of American Jewish Adults:

Findings From the ‘Connections and Journeys’ Study

Bethamie Horowitz (CUNY Graduate Center)

Developmental Judaism: Challenging the Study of

American Jewish Identity in the Social Sciences

Riv-Ellen Prell (University of Minnesota)

Ethnography and Biography, or “What Happened

When I Asked People to Tell Me the Story of Their Lives as Jews”

Samuel Heilman (Queens College—CUNY)

Religion and Ethnicity as Features of Jewish Journeys

Among the Moderately Affiliated

Steven M. Cohen (Hebrew University)

9.5

PERSPECTIVES ON THE WORK OF A.B. YEHOShUA

Chair: Nurith Gretz (The Open University of Israel)

Faulknerian Reclamations:

From American Writer to American Reader

Through the Fiction of A.B. Yehoshua

Emily Budick (Hebrew University)

Wrestling With History and Memory

in A.B. Yehoshua and Toni Morrison

Bernard Horn (Framingham State College)

A. B. Yehoshua's Passage to India

Anne Golomb Hoffman (Fordham University)

9.6

CONSTRUCTING JEWISH IDENTITIES IN AMERICAN LETTERS

Chair: Seth L. Wolitz (University of Texas)

Jewish, Again: Aging and Autobiography,

Judaism and Intellectual Identity

Steven Weiland (Michigan State University)

How Emma Lazarus Built the Statue of Liberty

Michael Kramer (Bar-Ilan University)

Edna Ferber: A Jewish American Success Story

Ann R. Shapiro (SUNY-Farmingdale)

9.7

PROPHECY, PRAYER, TORAH STUDY, AND JUSTICE

IN JEWISH THOUGHT IN THE MODERN ERA

Chair: Morris M. Faienstein (Montgomery, Alabama)

The Imperative of Prophecy:

The Twentieth-Century *Hasidut* of the Piaseczno Rebbe

Henry Abramson (Florida Atlantic University) *and*

Shlomo Ackerman (North Miami Beach, Florida)

Prayer in the Thought of the Vilna Gaon,

R. Hayyim of Volozhin, and Levinas

Alan Brill (Yeshiva University)

Levinas's Ethics and Problems of Justice

Michael Gottsegen (CLAL)

Philosophy and Torah Study

in the Thought of Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik

Aryeh Klapper (Cambridge, Massachusetts)

9.8

PENITENTIAL THEMES IN MEDIEVAL JEWISH LITERATURE

Chair: Menachem Schmelzer (Jewish Theological Seminary)

The Penitential Ideology and Liturgy of the Mourners of Zion

Daniel Frank (Ohio State University)

The Andalusian *Selīḥah* and its Humanistic Conception of Penitence

Adena Tanenbaum (Ohio State University)

The Troyes Elegies: Jewish Martyrology in Hebrew and Old French

Susan L. Einbinder (Hebrew Union College)

The Problematics of Repentance in Late Medieval Sephardic Preaching

Marc E. Saperstein (George Washington University)

9.9

LANGUAGE, LITERATURE, AND ART IN MODERN JEWISH THOUGHT

Chair: Jacob E. Meskin (Princeton University)

Franz Rosenzweig and Heinrich Wölfflin:

Beautiful Form in *The Star of Redemption*

Zachary J. Braiterman (Syracuse University)

On the Sublime,: Mendelssohn, Shakespeare, and the Psalms

Leah Hochman (Boston University)

On Logic, Speech, and Writing in Mendelssohn's *Jerusalem*

Martin Kavka (Rice University)

1:00 P.M. CONFERENCE ADJOURNMENT

LUNCH 1:00 P.M.

AJS Board of Directors Lunch Meeting 1:00 P.M.

Start Planning Now for Next Year!
The 31st Annual AJS Conference
December 19–21, 1999
Location to Be Announced in the Call for Papers
Proposals for Papers and Sessions are due
Monday, March 15, 1999

Index to Sessions

Bible	6.9, 8.9
Folklore and Anthropology	3.9, 4.4
Gender Studies	2.3, 5.8, 6.2, 6.6, 7.2, 9.2
Holocaust Studies	1.3, 4.8, 5.6, 8.7
Jewish History in Late Antiquity	3.2, 5.1, 7.3
Jewish Mysticism	2.2
Jewish Studies in North America	6.10
Jewish Studies and the Jewish Community	<i>Monday Lunch Colloquium</i>
Jewish Studies in Israel and the Diaspora	<i>Monday Evening Plenary</i>
Jewish Studies—Meeting of Program Directors	<i>Monday Lunch Colloquium</i>
Jewish Thought	<i>Monday Lunch Colloquium</i>
Jews and the Arts	1.8, 3.8, 4.3, 8.6, 9.1
Medieval Jewish History	1.4, 3.4, 6.5, 7.6
Medieval Jewish Literature	6.3, 8.5, 9.8
Medieval Jewish Philosophy	1.1, 3.3, 4.5
Modern Hebrew Literature	3.7, 8.8, 9.5
Modern Jewish History	<i>AJS Distinguished Lecture</i>
Modern Jewish History-Europe and Israel	1.5, 2.7, 3.5, 4.8, 5.2, 7.1, 7.7, 8.1, 8.2
Modern Jewish History-The Americas	3.1, 4.7, 5.5, 6.10, 7.9, 9.3
Modern Jewish Literature	2.4, 4.6, 5.10, 6.1, 7.5, 8.4, 9.6
Modern Jewish Thought	1.6, 2.5, 4.1, 5.4, 7.1, 7.4, 8.3, 9.7, 9.9
Sephardic Jewry	3.6, 5.3, <i>Monday Lunch Colloquium</i>
Social Sciences	1.9, 2.1, 3.10, 6.4, 8.10, 9.4
Talmud, Midrash, and Rabbinics	1.2, 2.6, 4.2, 5.9, 6.8, 7.8
Yiddish Literature	1.7, 2.8, 5.7, 6.7, <i>Monday Lunch Colloquium</i>

Co-Sponsoring Groups and Organizations

American Academy for Jewish Research	6.10
American Section of the International Association of Societies for the Study of Jewish History	5.1
Association for the Social Scientific Study of Jewry	2.1
Gender Studies Section	7.4
International Research Institute on Jewish Women, Brandeis University	9.2
Jacob and Libby Goodman Institute for the Study of Zionism, Brandeis University	2.7
<i>Jewish Social Studies</i>	7.1
Jewish Studies Women's Caucus	5.8
Society for Constructive Theology	7.4

Index of Participants in the Program

- Abecassis, Deborah A., 8.5
 Abramson, Henry, 9.7
 Ackerman, Shlomo, 9.7
 Adamczyk-Garbowska, Monika, 5.12
 Altskan, Vadim, 8.1
 Antler, Joyce, 5.8; 8.6 (Chair)
 Aptroot, Marion J., 6.7
 Arad, Gulie Ne'eman, 5.6
 Aschkenasy, Nehama, 3.7
 Baader, Maria T., 6.6
 Baigell, Matthew, 9.1
 Baker, Zachary M., 4.7
 Baskin, Judith Reesa, 7.6; 2.3 (Chair)
 Batnitzky, Leora F., 2.5
 Baumel, Judith Tydor, 8.7; 6.6 (Chair)
 Bell, Dean P., 3.4
 Ben-Ur, Aviva, 5.3; *Monday Lunch* (Chair)
 Berger, Alan L., 4.8
 Berger, David, *AJS Lectureship* (Chair)
 Berkovitz, Jay R., 8.2
 Berner, Leila G., 7.4
 Bernstein, Moshe J., 7.8
 Biale, David J., *Monday Plenary*; 7.1 (Chair)
 Bland, Kalman P., 4.5 (Chair)
 Blank, Debra Reed, 6.3
 Blumenthal, David R., 7.4 (Chair)
 Bodian, Miriam, 3.6; 6.5 (Chair)
 Borowitz, Eugene B., 5.4 (Chair)
 Botwinick, Aryeh I., 4.5
 Braiterman, Zachary J., 9.9
 Branham, Joan R., 1.8 (Chair)
 Brenner, Michael, 5.2 (Chair)
 Brettler, Marc Zvi, 8.9 (Chair)
 Brettschneider, Marla A., 8.10 (Chair)
 Brill, Alan, 9.7
 Brodkin, Karen, 6.4
 Bronstein, Herbert, 7.8
 Browder, Laura, 8.6
 Brown, Michael G., 5.5 (Chair)
 Bruckstein, Almut Sh., 1.1
 Budick, Emily, 9.5
 Burnett, Stephen G., 3.4
 Burstein, Janet, 8.4
 Cahan, Jean Axelrad, 1.1
 Cammy, Justin Daniel, 5.7
 Caputo, Nina, 7.1
 Carlebach, Elisheva, 3.4
 Caron, Vicki, 1.5 (Chair)
 Chanes, Jerome A., 3.10 (Chair)
 Charmé, Stuart Z., 1.6
 Chazan, Robert, 5.1 (Chair)
 Chernick, Michael L., 5.9 (Chair)
 Chiarello, Barbara, 4.6
 Chkolnikova, Elina, 8.1
 Cohen, Aryeh, 1.2; 2.6 (Chair)
 Cohen, Steven M., 9.4
 Coudert, Allison P., 6.5
 D'Arms, John, 3.2 (Chair)
 Dashefsky, Arnold, *Monday Lunch* (Chair)
 Davis, Joseph M., 1.4
 Davis, Natalie Zemon,
 1998 Distinguished Lecturer
 Dellheim, Charles, 9.3
 Diamond, Eliezer B., 1.2
 Diamond, James A., 8.5
 Diner, Hasia R., Chair of 6.10 and 7.9
 Dohrn, Verena, 7.7
 Doneson, Judith E., 2.4
 Efron, Noah J., 1.4
 Ehrlich, Carl S., 6.9
 Ehrlich, Uri, 2.6
 Eidelman, Jay M., 5.5
 Einbinder, Susan L., 9.8
 Eisen, Robert J., 4.5
 Elman, Yaakov, 7.3
 Engel, David, 5.6; 7.1
 Epstein, Marc M., 6.7 (Chair)
 Epstein, Shifra, 3.9
 Erdman, Harley, 8.6
 Even-Levy, Yael M., 2.4
 Faienstein, Morris M., 4.1; 9.7 (Chair)
 Farber, Seth, 7.9
 Feiner, Shmuel, 3.5
 Feinstein, Stephen C., 9.1
 Feldman, Louis H., 3.2
 Feldman, Yael, *Mon. Plenary*; 3.7 (Chair)
 Feuchtwanger Serig, Naomi, 6.7
 Fine, Ellen S., 8.4; 2.4 (Chair)
 Fine, Steven D., 6.3
 Finkelstein, Norman, 5.10

Index of Participants in the Program

- Fishman, Sylvia Barack, 9.2
Flatto, Sharon H., 1.4
Fonrobert, Charlotte, 6.8
Frakes, Jerold C., 6.7
Frank, Daniel, 9.8
Frank, Gelya, 6.4
Frankel, Jonathan, 1.5
Frankel, Steven H., 8.3
Franklin, Arnold, 7.6
Freidenreich, Harriet P., 5.8
Friedman, Rivka, 8.8
Friedman, Shamma, 4.2
Fuchs, Esther, 8.9
Galli, Barbara E., 4.1
Gampel, Benjamin R., 3.6 (Chair)
Getz, Joshua, 8.8
Gibel Azoulay, Katya, 6.4
Giller, Pinchas, 2.2
Gillman, Abigail, 6.1 (Chair)
Glants, Musya, 2.8; 8.1
Glicksman, Allen, 2.1 (Chair)
Glinert, Lewis H., 8.8 (Chair)
Goetschl, Willi, 6.1
Goldenberg, Myrna, 6.2, 7.2
Goldenberg, Robert G., 5.1
Goldish, Matt, 6.5
Goldman, Karla A., 6.6
Goldstein, Judith L., 6.4
Gottesman, Itzik Nakhmen, 3.9
Gottsegen, Michael, 9.7; 1.6 (Chair)
Greenbaum, Jessica, 8.10
Gretz, Nurith, 9.5 (Chair)
Grossman, Jeffrey A., 6.1
Gubkin, J. Liora, 7.4
Gurewitsch, Brana, 7.2
Gurock, Jeffrey S., 4.7 (Chair)
Haberman, Bonna Devora, 1.2
Hadda, Janet, *Monday Lunch*; 1.7 (Chair)
Halamish, Aviva, 1.3
Harris, Jay M., 4.2; *Monday Plenary* (Chair)
Harvey, Warren Zev, 3.3
Haskell, Guy H., 3.9 (Chair)
Hauptman, Judith, 4.2 (Chair)
Haus, Jeffrey, 8.2
Hayes, Christine E., 5.1; 7.8 (Chair)
Hecht, Richard D., 7.1
Hecker, Joel, 2.2
Heger, Paul, 6.9
Heilman, Samuel, 9.4
Herman, Felicia D., 7.9
Hertz, Deborah, 6.6
Hirsch, David H., 3.7
Hochman, Leah, 9.9
Hoffer, Victoria K., 2.6
Hoffman, Anne Golomb, 9.5; 7.5 (Chair)
Holberg, Amelia S., 8.6
Holzman, Gitit, 4.5
Horn, Bernard, 9.5
Horowitz, Bethamie, 9.4
Horowitz, Brian J., 7.7
Horowitz, Sara R., 6.2; 7.5; 5.10 (Chair)
Horwitz, Rivka, 8.3
Hubka, Thomas C., 1.8
Huss, Boaz H., 2.2
Hyman, Paula E., 6.2; 5.8 (Chair)
Isenberg, Noah W., 6.1
Ivry, Alfred Lyon, 3.3
Jacobson, David C., 3.7
Joseph, Norma Baumel, 2.3
Kadar, Naomi Praver, 2.4
Kadden, Daniel, 8.7
Kahn, Susan, 9.2 (Chair)
Kanarfogel, Ephraim, 7.6 (Chair)
Kaplan, Dana Evan, 5.5
Kaplan, Edward K., 4.1 (Chair)
Kaplan, Eran, 2.7
Kaplan, Lawrence J., 8.3 (Chair)
Kassow, Samuel D., 5.7
Kaufman, Debra R., 8.10
Kavka, Martin, 9.9
Kepnes, Steven D., 2.5
Kern-Ulmer, Rivka B., 6.8; 1.2 (Chair)
Kessner, Carole S., 5.10
Kieval, Hillel J., 1.4 (Chair)
Klapper, Aryeh, 9.7
Klausner, Samuel Z., 4.4
Klawans, Jonathan, 7.8
Klein, Dennis B., 5.2
Klein, Elka B., 3.6
Kligman, Mark L., 3.9

Index of Participants in the Program

- Klingenstein, Susanne C., 3.1
Kogan, Barry Sherman, 3.3 (Chair)
Koltun-Fromm, Ken, 1.6
Koren, Sharon, 2.2
Kotler, Igor, 4.8
Kramer, Michael, 9.6
Krell, Marc A., 5.4
Kunin, Seth D., 4.4
Kuznitz, Cecile E., 5.7
Lampert, Lisa R., 3.8
Langer, Ruth, 6.3 (Chair)
Laor, Dan, 7.5
Laskin, Martin, 1.9
Lazier, Benjamin, 5.2
Lazin, Fred A., 3.10
Legge, Jr., Jerome S., 2.3
Lehman, Marjorie S., 5.9
Lesley, Arthur M., 8.5
Levi, Neil, 3.8
Levisohn, Joshua M., 3.5
Levitt, Laura S., 7.4
Lewin, Judith M., 4.6
Lindbeck, George, 2.5
Liss, Julia E., 6.4
Lockshin, Martin I., 8.5
Lynd-Porter, Adam L., 7.3
Magid, Shaul, 10.9
Magnus, Shulamit S., 3.5
Malino, Frances, 5.8
Mandel, Maud S., 8.2
Margolis, Rebecca E., 2.8
Marty, Cornelia, 2.8
Mendes-Flohr, Paul, *Monday Plenary*; 3.1
Menkis, Richard, 5.5; 8.2 (Chair)
Merkle, John C., 4.1
Merwin, Edward P., 4.3
Meskin, Jacob E., 2.5; 9.9 (Chair)
Meyerson, Mark D., 3.6
Millen, Rochelle L., 2.3
Miller, Marc, 2.8
Miller, Philip E., 4.8
Miller, Scott, 1.3
Miller, Stuart S., 3.2; 7.3 (Chair)
Mintz, Alan L., 7.5
Misra, Joya, 2.3
Mochalova, Viktoria, 8.1
Moore, Deborah Dash, 6.6; 9.4 (Chair)
Myers, David Gershom, 8.7
Myers, David N., 3.5 (Chair)
Myers, Jody, 2.3
Nelson, W. David, 6.8
Newberg, Adina B., 1.9
Norich, Samuel, 5.12 (Chair)
Nowak, Susan E., 4.8
Ofer, Dalia, 6.2; 7.2
Omer-Sherman, Ranen, 8.4
Oppenheim, Michael D., 1.6
Panken, Aaron D., 2.6
Parmet, Harriet L., 4.6 (Chair)
Patterson, David Alan, 8.7
Peleg, Yaron, 8.9
Pellegrini, Ann, 9.2
Peltz, Rakhmiel, 2.8 (Chair)
Penkower, Monty, 1.3 (Chair)
Penslar, Derek, 1.5; 2.7 (Chair)
Perry, Theodore A., 8.9
Pessin, Sarah, 4.5
Phillips, Bruce A., 2.1
Polonsky, Antony, 8.1 (Chair)
Porat, Dina, 1.3
Prell, Riv-Ellen, 9.4; 6.4 (Chair)
Preminger, Briana, 1.8
Rabin, Elliott I., 8.8
Rappaport, Steven G., 7.7
Rashkover, Randi Lynn, 5.4
Ravitch, Frank Stuart, 3.10
Refkin, Lois, 9.3
Reis, Pamela Tamarkin, 8.9
Reisman, Bernard, 2.1
Reisner, Avram Israel, 5.9
Robinson, Ira, 9.3
Rodrigue, Aron, *Monday Lunch*; 5.3
Roer-Strier, Dorit, 1.9
Rose, Dawn Robinson, 8.10
Rose, Paul Lawrence, 4.3; 3.4 (Chair)
Roskies, David G., 5.7 (Chair)
Roth, John K., 6.2; 7.2 (Chair)
Roth, Laurence D., 9.3
Rubenstein, Jeffrey L., 5.9; 6.8 (Chair)
Rubin, Adam M., 2.7

Index of Participants in the Program

- Rubin-Dorsky, Jeffrey, 4.3
Sacks, Maurie, 7.9; 1.9 (Chair)
Safer, Elaine, 8.4 (Chair)
Sammons, Jefferey, 6.1
Samuelson, Norbert M., 1.1
Sandmel, David Fox, 2.7
Sands, Roberta G., 1.9
Santaniello, Weaver M., 8.7 (Chair)
Sanua, Marianne R., 5.3
Saperstein, Marc E., 9.8
Sarna, Jonathan D., 3.1 (Chair)
Schäfer, Peter, 5.1
Schedrin, Vassili, 8.1
Schiff, Ellen, 5.10
Schiffman, Lawrence H., 3.2
Schiffren, Mara, 7.8
Schmelzer, Menachem, 6.3; 9.8 (Chair)
Schmidt, Gilya Gerda, 1.8; 4.3 (Chair)
Schnoor, Randal F., 3.10
Schwarz, Jan, 1.7
Schweber, Silvan, 3.1
Scult, Melvin M., 5.4
Segal, Lester A., 6.8
Segal, Miryam, 8.8
Seidman, Naomi, 9.2
Seif, Haley Hinda, 8.10
Septimus, Bernard M., 8.5 (Chair)
Shandler, Jeffrey A., 4.7
Shapira, Yona, 6.9
Shapiro, Ann R., 9.6
Shapiro, James, 3.8 (Chair)
Shapiro, Marc B., 8.3; 4.8 (Chair)
Shapiro, Robert Moses, 5.6 (Chair)
Shapiro, Susan Ellen, 9.2
Shear, Adam B., 8.3
Shepkaru, Shmuel, 7.6
Sheramy, Rona, 4.7
Shrage, Barry, *Monday Lunch*
Shternshis, Anna, 4.3
Silberstein, Laurence, 7.4
Silman, Yochanan D., *Monday Lunch*
Simon, Rachel, 4.4
Skolnik, Jonathan S., 3.8, 6.1
Socher, Abe P., 7.1
Sokol, Moshe, 1.1 (Chair)
Soloveitchik, Haym, 4.2
Soltes, Ori Zarah, 9.1
Southard, Robert F., 5.2
Stanislawski, Michael, 7.7 (Chair)
Stein, Sarah Abrevaya, 1.5
Stern, Bat-Sheva, 2.7
Stern, Gregg, 7.6
Stern, Sacha D., 7.3; 4.4 (Chair)
Stillman, Norman A., 5.3 (Chair)
Strauss, Lauren B., 4.7
Swartz, Michael D., 7.3
Tabory, Joseph, 6.3
Tanenbaum, Adena, 9.8
Tanenzapf, Sol, 4.8 (Chair)
Taub, Michael, 8.4
Tenenbaum, Shelly, 2.1
Teter, Magdalena O., 6.5
Tirosh-Samuelson, Hava, 2.2 (Chair)
von Mering, Sabine, 6.1
Wacholder, Ben Zion, 2.6
Waldman, Nahum M., 6.9 (Chair)
Walston, James, 8.2
Warnke, Nina, 1.7
Weiland, Steven, 9.6
Weinbaum, Batya Susan, 4.4
Weiner, Gordon M., 6.5
Weingrad, Michael Ray, 4.6
Weinstein, Andrew, 9.1
Weiss, Yfaat, 5.6
Weitzman, Lenore J., 6.2 (Chair); 7.2
White, Marsha, 6.9
Whitfield, Stephen, 9.3 (Chair)
Wolfson, Elliot R., *Monday Plenary*, 4.1
Wolfthal, Diane B., 6.7
Wolitz, Seth L., 1.7; 9.6 (Chair)
Young, James E., 7.5; 9.1 (Chair)
Zank, Michael E. J., 2.5 (Chair)
Zenner, Walter, 3.9
Zierler, Wendy Ilene, 2.4
Zipperstein, Steven J., 7.1

Advertisements

**Interview Room Request Form
Membership Dues and Data Form
Conference Registration Form**

AJS MISSION STATEMENT

ADVERTISEMENTS

Conference Exhibitors	1
American Jewish Archives	2
Univ. of Pennsylvania Center for Judaic Studies	3
John Templeton Foundation	4
University of Alabama Press	5
Bar-Ilan University Press	6
Basic Books	7
Beacon Press	8
Berghahn Books	9
Brill Academic Publishers	10
University of California Press	12
Cambridge University Press	14
Columbia University Press	13
Duquesne University Press	16
Harvard University Press	17
University of Illinois Press	18
Indiana University Press	19
Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities	20
Jewish Publication Society	21
Johns Hopkins University Press	22
<i>Journal of Palestine Studies</i>	23
JTS Publications	24
Krieger Publishing Company	59
Ktav Publishing House	30
Littman Library of Jewish Civilization	28
Magnes Press	31
Edwin Mellen Press	32
Mercer University Press	33
J.C.B. Mohr (Paul Siebeck)	34
University of Nebraska Press	35
University of New Mexico Press	36
New York University Press	37
Ohio State University Press	40
Oxford University Press	38
University of Pittsburgh Press	59
Princeton University Press	41
Routledge	42
Schocken Books/Random House	48
Scholars Press	43
Zalman Shazar Center for Jewish History	49
Stanford University Press	46
State University of New York Press	50
Syracuse University Press	51
Transaction Books	52
University Press of New England	53
University of Washington Press	54
Wayne State University Press	56
Westview Press	55
Yale University Press	58

1998 AJS Conference Exhibitors

Association of American University Presses (AAUP)

AltaMira Press

American Jewish Archives

Association Book Exhibit

Berghahn Books

Brill Academic Publishers

University of California Press

Holmes & Meier

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Jewish Lights Publishing

Jewish Publication Society

Johns Hopkins University Press

JTS Publications

Ktav Publishing House

Littman Library of Jewish Civilization

J.C.B. Mohr (Paul Siebeck)

University of Nebraska Press

New York University Press

Norman Ross Publishing Inc

Oxford University Press

Routledge

Schocken Books/Random House

Schoen Books

Scholar's Choice

Scholars Press

Simon & Schuster

Stanford University Press

State University of New York Press

Syracuse University Press

Tara Publications

University Press of New England

Wayne State University Press

Westview Press/Basic Books

Yale University Press

Interview Room Request Form

30th Annual Conference
December 20–22, 1998

Westin Hotel Copley Place
10 Huntington Ave.
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

AJS Policy on Interviews

AJS policy forbids the use of private guest rooms for the scheduling of interviews with attendees at our conference. We are pleased to accommodate the needs of those wishing to conduct interviews by making available a sufficient number of parlors or suites, courtesy of the Westin Hotel, for candidates to be met in a dignified and comfortable setting. Institutions are, of course, welcome to reserve directly from the Westin their own multi-room suites for use in interviewing, so long as the sleeping quarters are separated by a closed door. Candidates who encounter difficulties are asked to inform the AJS Executive Secretary.

To Request the Use of an Interview Room

Authorized representatives of institutions advertising positions and wishing to interview candidates should submit their requests for blocks of time on this form. There is a non-refundable fee of \$5.00 per half-hour time-period. Thus, based on the number of candidates you anticipate interviewing, you should request an appropriate number of slots, and AJS will schedule your meetings on a confidential basis, taking into account the inclusive arrival and departure dates and times you indicate overleaf. We cannot guarantee that any particular time slot will be available. All requests will be on a first-come, first-served basis, and we ask interviewers and candidates to be flexible. Please note that for a full day a sitting room may be rented from the hotel at a comparable rate to the fee we are charging.

The AJS-assigned rooms will be available from 11:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. on Sunday, 8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. on Monday, and 8:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. on Tuesday. We will add additional hours in the evenings, in the event of demand.

Name: First _____ Initial _____ Last _____

Position _____ Institution _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State or Province _____ ZIP or Postal Code _____ - _____

Country _____ e-mail address: _____

Tel. Office: (____) _____ - _____ FAX: (____) _____ - _____ Home: (____) _____ - _____

Please reserve an interview room for my institution.

I require ____ half-hour slots @\$5.00 per half-hour
and enclose a total of \$_____

I will be at the conference from _____ at _____
(date) (time)
to _____ at _____
(date) (time)

In order of preference I request the following dates and times:

- | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1) _____ at _____ | 6) _____ at _____ | 11) _____ at _____ | 16) _____ at _____ |
| 2) _____ at _____ | 7) _____ at _____ | 12) _____ at _____ | 17) _____ at _____ |
| 3) _____ at _____ | 8) _____ at _____ | 13) _____ at _____ | 18) _____ at _____ |
| 4) _____ at _____ | 9) _____ at _____ | 14) _____ at _____ | 19) _____ at _____ |
| 5) _____ at _____ | 10) _____ at _____ | 15) _____ at _____ | 20) _____ at _____ |

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TOGETHER WITH A CHECK
in U.S. Dollars payable at a U.S. bank TO:

Association for Jewish Studies
MB 0001
Brandeis University
P.O. Box 9110
Waltham, MA 02454-9110

attn.: Interview Room Request

Association for Jewish Studies

MB 0001
Brandeis University
P.O. Box 9110
Waltham, MA 02454-9110

(781) 736-2981
FAX (781) 736-2982
ajs@brandeis.edu

NOTE OUR CHANGED ZIP CODE

MEMBERSHIP DUES & DATA FORM

NEW RENEWAL

PLEASE PRINT

Name: First _____ Middle _____ Last _____

Position _____

Field(s) of Interest _____

Academic Affiliation (if any) _____

◆ Joint Member First _____ Last _____ Affiliation _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State or Province _____ ZIP or Postal Code _____ - _____

Country _____ e-mail address: _____

Tel. Office: (_____) _____ - _____ FAX: (_____) _____ - _____ Home: (_____) _____ - _____

◆ **JOINT MEMBERSHIP** for married couples who are both engaged in Jewish Studies.

A single membership fee is determined in accordance with the higher of the two rates for which either partner would qualify in an individual capacity. Both names are included on a single address for mailing and record purposes.

Please add the Joint Member's name and academic affiliation, if applicable, on the appropriate line above.

AJS Membership Categories and Rates 1998-99

_____ **REGULAR MEMBERSHIP (\$50.00)**

Individuals whose full-time vocation is devoted to either teaching or research in academic Jewish Studies or related endeavors in academic Jewish Studies are eligible for Regular Membership in the Association.

_____ **ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP (\$40.00)**

Those individuals whose full-time vocation is not in academic Jewish Studies, but whose intellectual concerns are related to the purposes of the Association, are invited to Associate Membership.

_____ **EMERITUS OR ISRAELI MEMBERSHIP (\$25.00)**

Emeritus Membership is available to Regular/Associate Members who retire from their regular positions. *Israeli Membership* is open to permanent residents of the State of Israel *only while residing in Israel*.

_____ **STUDENT MEMBERSHIP (\$20.00)**

Student Membership is open to *full-time* graduate students who are concentrating in an area of Jewish Studies.

N.B. Graduate students who are employed on more than a half-time basis are not eligible for Student Membership.

Verification of *full-time* status by the registrar of the institution where the student is enrolled must be submitted with membership application and with membership renewal *each year*. *No other forms of verification will be accepted.*

_____ **Additional voluntary contribution.** Your generosity in support of our programs and publications is greatly appreciated.

\$ _____

Total

The membership year begins 1 September.

Dues paid between 1 June and 31 August are credited

for the membership year beginning 1 September.

Dues paid between 1 September and 31 May are credited for the current membership year.

Subscriptions to the *AJS Review* and the *AJS Newsletter* begin upon receipt of dues.

Applications are accepted subject to the approval of The Membership Committee.

Please make checks payable to
Association for Jewish Studies
If you reside outside the USA
and wish to pay by check,
it must be both in U.S. Dollars
and payable at a U.S. bank.
Members resident outside the USA
may also use Mastercard or VISA
See the Conference Registration Form.

Please note:

We keep e-mail & telephone information confidential. It is for our own use, in case we need to contact you. Our mailing list, which we rent via A.B. Data Information 8050 N. Port Washington Road Milwaukee, WI 53217, (414) 352-4404 or (800) 558-6908, contains only names and mailing addresses.

Association for Jewish Studies

Conference Registration



THE WESTIN HOTEL
Copley Place Boston

30th Annual Conference
December 20-22, 1998

30 !דמד

Please complete both sides of this form

Badge Information Please print your name exactly as you wish it to appear on your conference badge. Use one character per space and one space between words. Print clearly and do not exceed the spaces provided. We reserve the right to standardize institutional names. *Badges must be worn at all conference sessions.*

NAME _____
FIRST and MIDDLE
LAST

ACADEMIC AFFILIATION _____

EARLYBIRD REGISTRATION FEE SCHEDULE

Must be received with paid-up '98-'99 dues by Oct. 31, 1998

1. \$40.00 (Regular/Associate/Emeritus/Israeli Member)
2. \$20.00 (Student Member)
3. \$70.00 (Non-Member)

STANDARD REGISTRATION FEE SCHEDULE

On-site at the AJS Registration Desk

Third Floor THE WESTIN HOTEL COPLEY PLACE
10 Huntington Ave., Boston, MA 02116
December 20-22, 1998

4. \$50.00 (Regular/Associate/Emeritus/Israeli Member)
5. \$30.00 (Student Member)
6. \$80.00 (Non-Member)

N.B.: Payment of Conference registration fee does not constitute AJS membership, which is required of all participants.

Joint Members *must register separately*, should they wish to attend.

FOR REGISTRATION BY MAIL, **ONLY THOSE OUTSIDE THE USA**
MAY USE Mastercard or VISA (*please check one*)

PLEASE ENTER AMOUNT ENCLOSED

- \$ _____ **Membership 1998-99** (*see previous pages*)
 New Renewal (*for paid-up '97-'98*)
- \$ _____ **Membership 1997-98** (*if unpaid*)
 New Renewal
- \$ _____ **Conference Registration** (*see schedule*)
- \$ _____ **Meals** (*from other side*) (*paid by Nov. 30, 1998*)
- \$ _____ **Contribution** (*Thank you*)
- \$ _____ **GRAND TOTAL**

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WITH PAYMENT *in U.S. Dollars*
(all checks must be payable at a U.S. bank)
 TO: ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES
 MB 0001, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA 02454-9110

(For credit card use by residents outside the USA only) Name on card: _____

Signature: _____

Card #: _____ Expires: _____

No mail registrations will be accepted after Oct. 31
 No refunds or cancellations after 30 November 1998

1998 Meal Reservations and Hotel Information

Paid reservations must be received by November 30, 1998 for

KOSHER CATERING BY THE WESTIN HOTEL

		Number		\$ Total
Breakfast	Sunday	# ____	@ \$12.50 = \$	____.____
	Monday	# ____	@ \$12.50 = \$	____.____
	Tuesday	# ____	@ \$12.50 = \$	____.____
Lunch	Sunday	# ____	@ \$20.00 = \$	____.____
	Monday	# ____	@ \$20.00 = \$	____.____
	Tuesday	# ____	@ \$20.00 = \$	____.____
Sunday Banquet		# ____	@ \$39.00 = \$	____.____
Monday Grand Buffet		# ____	@ \$31.00 = \$	____.____
<i>Total for Meals</i>				\$ ____.

PRICES INCLUDE ALL SERVICE CHARGES AND GRATUITITES

N.B.: Conference Registrants may use this form thru Nov. 30, 1998 to make or add conference meal reservations

Check here if previously registered and this is a meals request only: ____

WOMEN'S CAUCUS BREAKFAST

Send reservations with payment by Nov. 30 to:

Prof. Rochelle L. Millen, Dept. of Religion
Wittenberg University, Box 720
Springfield, OH 45501-0720

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

1-800-WESTIN-1 or 1-800-228-3000

Local Hotel Number: (617) 262-9600

FAX: (617) 424-7502

Telex: 94-8286

Cable: WESTINBOST

<http://www.westin.com>

\$97.00 AJS Conference Room Rate must be booked by Nov. 27
There is a limited number of rooms at the *\$75.00 Student Rate*

The Association reserves the right
to make such changes in the Conference arrangements
as may be necessary.

CONFERENCE BADGES *must be worn*
for admission to all Conference sessions
and for admission to the Exhibits.

*Confirmation, including name badges,
will be sent to addresses in the USA after Dec. 1.*