ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES
54th ANNUAL CONFERENCE
December 18-20, 2022
BOSTON
Guidebook
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THE ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES (AJS) was founded in 1969 by a small group of scholars seeking a forum for exploring methodological and pedagogical issues in the new field of Jewish Studies. Since its founding, the AJS has grown into the largest learned society and professional organization representing Jewish Studies scholars worldwide. As a constituent organization of the American Council of Learned Societies, the Association for Jewish Studies represents the field in the larger arena of the academic study of the humanities and social sciences in North America. The AJS’s mission is to advance research and teaching in Jewish Studies at colleges, universities, and other institutions of higher learning, and to foster greater understanding of Jewish Studies scholarship among the wider public. Its 1800 members are university faculty, graduate students, independent scholars, and museum and related professionals who represent the breadth of Jewish Studies scholarship. The organization’s institutional members represent leading programs and departments in the field and related organizations promoting Jewish Studies scholarship.

About the AJS

The AJS’s major programs and projects include an annual scholarly conference, featuring more than 200 sessions; publications; professional development opportunities; job, fellowship, and grant opportunities; and public programs. The AJS publishes three primary publications: a peer-reviewed scholarly journal, AJS Review; a biannual magazine, AJS Perspectives, that explores methodological and pedagogical issues; and AJS Member News, a member-focused online publication. The AJS also operates the AJS Career Center, the most comprehensive listing of Jewish Studies job opportunities. The AJS administers the annual Jordan Schnitzer Book Awards, which recognize outstanding research in the field of Jewish Studies, as well as the AJS Dissertation Completion Fellowships and the Jordan Schnitzer First Book Publication Awards. The AJS engages the public through the podcast series Adventures in Jewish Studies, now in its fourth season.

Membership in the association is open to individuals whose full-time vocation is teaching, research, or related endeavors in academic Jewish Studies; to other individuals whose intellectual concerns are related to the purposes of the
association; and to graduate students concentrating in an area of Jewish Studies. Institutional membership is open to Jewish Studies programs and departments, foundations, and other institutions whose work supports the mission of the AJS.

In order to maintain a professional and comfortable environment for its members, conference registrants, and staff, the association requires certain standards of behavior. These standards include, without limitation, courtesy of discourse, respect for the diversity of AJS members and conference attendees, and the ability to conduct AJS business and participate in the AJS conference in a nontargeting, collegial atmosphere. AJS members and conference participants who do not uphold these standards may jeopardize their membership or conference participation. Please reach out to Executive Director Warren Hoffman at whoffman@associationforjewishstudies.org if you have any problems or concerns.

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More information about AJS Institutional Membership, including a list of benefits, can be found at: http://bit.ly/ajs-im


For questions or help enrolling your institution, please contact Melinda Man at mman@associationforjewishstudies.org or (917) 606-8249.
WELCOME!

It seems fitting that we are in Boston this year for the 54th annual AJS conference. Boston is always a bit of a homecoming for the AJS. It’s where the organization was founded over 50 years ago, and Boston always draws our largest numbers of attendees; I guess AJS members have a thing for cold December nights. But this year, fingers crossed, is hopefully the year we will see a close-to-normal number of AJS members at the conference. Despite our best planning, nothing could have fully prepared us for the rapid rise of the Omicron variant at last year’s Chicago conference, resulting in many last-minute cancellations. While no solution was ideal at that moment, the AJS made the decision in 2021 not to cancel and to go forward with a smaller conference for approximately 600 people. Those who were able to attend valued the ability to meet with other scholars in person, see old friends, and make new connections. We hope that this year sees only more of all those things.

You might be wondering as you hold this guidebook in your hands, where the actual program is and why we have decided not to include it. Over the last four years, the AJS conference has weathered a number of events: a strike at the conference hotel in 2018, a virtual conference in 2020, and mass cancellations due to COVID-19 in 2021. All of those major interruptions meant that the hours upon hours of work that the staff spent designing, proofing, and rechecking a print program book were essentially for naught, not to mention the steep economic and environmental costs of printing a full program book that was no longer useful. By the time the conference arrived, the expensive program book was already out of date. Even in a “normal” year, the conference experiences its fair share of last-minute changes and cancellations. Trying to keep up with all this in real time AND make that happen in print form has not been easy. For this reason, the entire program in its most up-to-date form lives on the AJS Conference app, which you can download for free and use over cell service or the free hotel wifi. This program is updated live and offers the most accurate and current view of what is happening, where, and when. We hope, though, that you will still peruse this guidebook for other information about the conference.
as well as take a look at all the offers from the conference’s many sponsors whose support of the AJS, financial and otherwise, makes this conference possible. If you have any questions about the conference app, please see an AJS staff member and they will be happy to assist you.

I hope that this conference is a productive, meaningful, and enjoyable experience for everyone. For the staff, it’s not just that we spend so much time working on this conference year-round, but it is truly the only time when we can see and interact with so many members face to face. As a membership organization, you’re the reason we exist and we, the AJS staff, delight in getting to know you better. For those of you attending your first AJS conference, welcome! And for returnees, it’s so good to have you back. Have a wonderful conference.

Warren Hoffman
Association for Jewish Studies

WELCOME TO THE 54TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE AJS

It is a privilege to greet you in my capacity as the organization’s president. In the past year, I have heard from many of you, and I hope that over the course of the conference and the coming year, members continue to reach out to me, AJS Executive Director Warren Hoffman, and the AJS board to share their thoughts and interests. We are a member-based learned society, and it is vital for our success that we understand the diverse—and sometimes conflicting—needs of our members.

The past twelve months have been a period of tremendous growth for the AJS. As we entered last year’s conference, we faced several obstacles. Some of those challenges, like the weaknesses in our governance structures, were specific to the Association; others, like the pandemic, were not. Over the last year, AJS leadership has worked hard to improve our governance structures and communications policies, to make ourselves available to members, and to consider and address the many obstacles that our members face in this changing world.

I am proud of the improvements the AJS board has made to its
Governance Structure and Practices. Influenced by member feedback and recommendations made by the 2021 Leadership Task Force, the board implemented several changes. We now regularly meet every other month, which allows the board to be more planful and strategic. There is at least one board member sitting on all committees and task forces, and we have worked to clarify the responsibilities of leadership positions and ways to become involved in organizational leadership. We created a task force to consider how to best review and support our executive director and complemented our onboarding orientation with an exit interview process for leaders at the end of their service.

We have worked to address matters of Access. The board expressed its commitment to extant programs, such as our summer writing workshop, and to working with the newly created Diversity Equity and Inclusion committee. We launched our AJS Conversations series and began to tackle the growing financial need among our members. Because of the high number of applications for travel support for the 2022 conference, the board authorized an additional $6,000 of spending from our reserves—in addition to the $46,000 originally budgeted—for individual travel grants. Current financial needs also force us to think about how we practice development, and Warren and I have begun to work with the board to change development practices and expectations.

When you read our email communications or look to our website, I hope it is apparent how deeply the AJS board and staff value Transparency. We have publicized leadership opportunities, made our board minutes available on the AJS website, and regularly apprise members of AJS programs, opportunities, and developments.

Despite these advancements, we know there remains room for improvement. Our in-person conferences are not accessible to some of our members, and our 2024 online conference will pose obstacles to others. We need to better acknowledge and thank those who volunteer with the AJS. The board will be working on these and other Strategic Initiatives as it responds to the shifting needs and interests within our changing membership.

I am so glad that you are here, and hope that you enjoy the conference.

Warmly,
Robin Judd
Vice President for Program
DEAR AJS MEMBERS,

Thank you so much for taking the time out of your busy schedules to attend the AJS conference. Each year that COVID-19 disrupts our daily lives, I am struck anew by what a gift it is to be able to meet with old and new friends and hear about each other’s research. Our hearts go out to those who weren’t able to be with us this year, particularly those waylaid by health concerns, family needs, or economic uncertainty. As a community, we also owe a particular debt to people’s loved ones who made it possible for us to travel, including those who have stepped up to take care of dependents during a busy time. For members celebrating the festival of Hanukkah, I want to acknowledge the extra sacrifice you are making to be with us, rather than at home. We are indebted to a local congregation of Boston for providing us not only with a Torah scroll for services, but also a safe place to light candles on the first night of Hanukkah.

I am tremendously excited about our program for this year. For the first time ever, we will have our plenary online before the conference, accompanied by a 2021 documentary film livestreamed free to members. This year’s plenary takes the issues of memory, identity, war, and conflict, and the ongoing Russian aggression against Ukraine as a starting point to ask how warfare disrupts sites of memory, places scholars at those sites at risk, and challenges who owns memories of the past. Following the plenary, this theme of risk and memory will be taken up by a number of panels spread across the three days of our meeting, along with the two cultural tours: a Judaica tour at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and a tour and material culture workshop at Boston’s historical Walnut Street Synagogue. I am incredibly grateful to the AJS staff, the Division Chairs, and the Program Committee for their tireless work putting together an incredible array of dazzling panels, roundtables, and seminars spanning not only several continents but also the full range of eras from antiquity to the present. My deepest gratitude to all our members for your dedication and the knowledge you are about to share.

I look forward during these three precious days to learning from all of you.

Best wishes,
Laura Leibman
Vice President for Program

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The American Academy for Jewish Research, Fordham’s Center for Jewish Studies, and The New York Public Library are delighted to welcome Ukrainian scholars affected by the current war as remote research fellows.

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National Sanctuary Complex of “Kyiv Sophia  

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Serhiy Hirik  
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Raphael Lemkin Center for Genocide Studies, Kherson State University

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Pavlo Yeremieiev  
V. N. Karazin Kharkiv National University, Kharkiv

Anna Mariya Basauri Ziuzina  
Independent scholar

http://aajr.org/  
http://www.fordham.edu/JewishStudies  
https://www.nypl.org/
Logistics

SESSIONS
All sessions take place at the Sheraton Boston. Please consult the hotel floor plans on pages 56–59 of this guidebook for meeting room locations. Please consult the conference app for all events, room assignments, and times.

BADGES, GUIDEBOOKS, MEALS
Conference Guidebooks, tote bags, and badges are available at Conference Registration (Grand Ballroom Foyer, 2nd floor). Conference badges must be worn at all times for admission to all sessions and the Exhibit Hall. For the security and safety of all conference participants, security personnel located outside of the Exhibit Hall entrance and throughout the hotel are authorized to check badges and instructed to only admit registered attendees to sessions and to the Exhibit Hall.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
The AJS Annual Business Meeting takes place on Sunday from 11:45 AM to 12:15 PM in Berkeley (3rd floor). All AJS members are invited to attend to hear short annual reports from the AJS President and Vice Presidents.

WELCOME RECEPTION
Please join us Sunday at 6:00 PM in the Exhibit Hall (2nd floor) for the Welcome Reception. Thank you to our generous plenary and party sponsors who helped subsidize the cost of the events. (See page 41 for a list of sponsors.)

CONFERENCE PROGRAM
The full conference program is available in the AJS app. Instructions to download the AJS app are on page 25. A preliminary version of the program may be printed from the AJS website: http://bit.ly/AJS22program.

FILMS
Stream recent international films with Jewish themes selected by the AJS Film Committee that can be adopted for classrooms and public programming. See pages 71–73 for details.

AJS HONORS ITS AUTHORS
Please visit the AJS Honors Its Authors in the Exhibit Hall to celebrate our 2022 AJS member authors and publishers. Members’ books will be on display at booth 501.

PLENARY
To stream a recording of this year’s plenary, “Memory in the Time of War” scan the QR code image with your phone’s camera or go to: https://bit.ly/AJSplenary. The plenary is moderated by Mira Sucharov, Professor of Political Science at Carleton University, with panelists Dr. Marta Havryshko, Director of the Babyn Yar Holocaust Memorial Center (Kyiv), and Dr. Jessica Auchter, Professor of International Studies at Université Lava.

LOST AND FOUND
Any items left behind will be turned in to AJS Registration or hotel security.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY
Pick up any guest phone or house phone and dial 1000 to be connected with the 24-hour Hotel Security dispatcher.
Conference Information

SHERATON BOSTON
39 Dalton Street, Boston, MA 02199
www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/bosbo-sheraton-boston-hotel

EXHIBITS
Constitution Ballroom (2nd Floor)
Visit publishers, booksellers, academic institutions, cultural organizations, and providers of academic services.

EXHIBIT HALL HOURS
Sunday, December 18
9:00 AM – 7:00 PM

Monday, December 19
9:00 AM – 1:30 PM
2:30 PM – 5:00 PM

Tuesday, December 20
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

WELCOME RECEPTION
Sunday, December 18
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM

EXHIBIT HALL COFFEE BREAKS
Sunday, December 18
2:00 PM – 2:30 PM

Monday, December 19
10:00 AM – 10:30 AM
4:30 PM – 5:00 PM

DOWNLOAD THE AJS APP

Scan here or go to: http://bit.ly/AJSapp22

• Sign up: Enter your preferred email address and create a password, or use one of the social sign-in options, and click Sign Up

• Or search in your app store for “Association for Jewish Studies”

• Access Code: AJS2022

Please also visit the Online Exhibit Hall at http://bit.ly/AJS22expo
The AJS Office on Sexual Misconduct

OSM Reporting Members may be contacted to learn more about the AJS’s resolution procedures and the process for reporting an incident. Please feel free to reach out to any ombudsperson with a concern or see Executive Director Warren Hoffman for assistance.

- Ombud Flora Cassen
- Ombud Ashley Valanzola
- Ombud Marjorie Lehman
- Ombud Mira Wasserman
- Ombud William Plevan
- Chair Laura Levitt
- Ombud Micha’el Rosenberg
- Secretary Lisa Fishbayn Joffe
SPECIAL SPACES:

QUIET ROOM
The AJS offers a designated quiet room in Forest Hills (5th Floor), within which the lights will be dimmed. You can work, think, or decompress in the quiet room. Using headphones, computers, or phones (set to silent) is appropriate, provided you do not have a voice conversation on these or other devices. If you and someone else in the quiet room want to chat, please leave the room.

LACTATION ROOM
The AJS is offering a private lactation room available to any nursing parents in Franklin (5th floor). Please see AJS staff for access.

GENDER-NEUTRAL RESTROOMS
Gender-neutral restrooms are available on the 3rd floor across from Commonwealth meeting room.

MOBILITY
The aisles of all conference program rooms will accommodate wheelchairs or other mobility assistance devices. Additionally, rooms with session content will not have any steps up to the dais or stage.

SOUND
All conference rooms with session content will have at least one microphone. Chairs and moderators should repeat any audience questions in the microphone to ensure hearing.

OTHER

FOOD
All food and beverages served at AJS receptions is kosher and under the rabbinical supervision of the Vaad Harabonim of Massachusetts and prepared by Catering by Andrew.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES (JEWISH)
Conference participants who wish to organize religious services may do so in Liberty A (traditional) and Liberty C (egalitarian), on the 2nd Floor, at 3:30 PM on Sunday, 8:00 AM and 3:30 PM Monday, and 8:00 AM Tuesday. A list of Boston-area synagogues can be found online at: https://www.jewishboston.com/find/unaffiliated-synagogues/.

HANNUKAH CANDLE LIGHTING
The hotel does not permit the lighting of candles; Central Synagogue Boston welcomes all conference participants for candle lighting, who have preregistered for this event, which is on Sunday December 18 from 6:30-7:30 PM. Participants who have not registered should inquire at AJS registration about space for this program.
Announcing Feinstein’s 2023 fellowship to support research in the American Jewish experience, open to pre- and postdoctoral scholars. Grants awarded up to $4,000.

To apply, send a 5-page proposal including a detailed budget, a CV, and contact information for a reference by March 24, 2023 to feinsteincenter@temple.edu.

2022 Feinstein Center Fellows:

Natalia Dubno Shevin  
New York University

Uri Schreter  
Harvard University
Scan here or go to https://bit.ly/AJSapp22 for the AJS app with the full conference program.
The Carolina Center for Jewish Studies, in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, offers a rich, interdisciplinary academic program and a popular public events series for those who seek a deeper understanding of Jewish history, culture and thought.

An undergraduate degree, two minors, study abroad programs and a graduate certificate are offered to Carolina’s students. The Center also provides recruitment fellowships, research/travel grants and summer stipends, and dissertation completion fellowships for students.

The Center has an ambitious plan for the future, including continued expansion of academic programs and public event initiatives, as well as recruitment for new, tenure-track faculty positions.

To learn more about the Carolina Center for Jewish Studies, visit: jewishstudies.unc.edu.
Rice University’s Program in Jewish Studies

Exploring the diversity of Judaism
Crossing disciplinary boundaries
Creating a bridge to the community

Program in Jewish Studies
jewishstudies.rice.edu
Congratulations to the Salo Baron Prize Winner

The American Academy for Jewish Research is pleased to announce the winner of its annual Salo Baron Prize for the best first book in Jewish studies published in calendar year 2021. The prize honors:


In *The August Trials*, Andrew Kornbluth examines a series of trials of Polish Nazi collaborators held in Poland during the decade or so following the end of World War II. Kornbluth demonstrates that far from being a tool in the hands of the Soviet authorities, these trials began as a genuine attempt to come to terms with the violence and murder committed by Poles under German occupation. With the passage of time, however, the trials became a site for creating a usable past for Poland, downplaying or even erasing Polish responsibility for the ethnic cleansing of Polish Jewry. *The August Trials* is a major contribution to the study of Polish-Jewish relations during and after the Holocaust, the search for justice in post-Holocaust Europe, and the nexus between history, memory, and politics in the 20th and 21st centuries.

Honorable Mention is awarded to Jason Lustig of the University of Texas, Austin for *A Time to Gather: Archives and the Control of Jewish Culture* (Oxford University Press). This is an innovative study of the establishment in the 20th century of Jewish archival institutions in Europe, Israel, and the United States. The author demonstrates how the creation of these archives involved a struggle not just to acquire the materials themselves but also to construct interpretations of both the Jewish past and present.

The American Academy for Jewish Research (www.aajr.org) is the oldest professional organization of Judaica scholars in North America. Its membership consists of senior scholars whose work has made a major impact on their field.

The Baron Prize honors the memory of the distinguished historian Salo W. Baron, a long-time president of the AAJR, who taught at Columbia University for many decades. It is one of the signal honors that can be bestowed on a young scholar in Jewish Studies and a sign of the excellence, vitality, and creativity of the field.
Baron Book Prize

The American Academy for Jewish Research invites submissions for the Salo Wittmayer Baron Book Prize. The Baron Book Prize ($3,000) is awarded annually to the author of an outstanding first book in Jewish studies.

Eligibility: An academic book, in English, in any area of Jewish studies published in calendar year 2022. The work must be the author’s first scholarly book. Authors must have received their Ph.D. within the previous ten years, no earlier than 2012.

Deadline: Submissions must be received by January 31, 2023. The winner will be notified in late spring 2023.

When submitting a book for consideration, please have four copies sent, along with a statement including the author’s email address and when and where the author received their Ph.D. In addition, please send a digital submission of the author’s book to the below email address. Hard copy books can be sent to:

Cheri Thompson
American Academy for Jewish Research
221 E. Michigan Ave #883
Grass Lake, Michigan 49240
Please email admin.office@aajr.org when books are placed in the mail.

For further information, please contact Professor Anna Shternshis, Chair of the prize committee at anna.shternshis@utoronto.ca.
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Visit us at Booth 300!

If you are interested in publishing with us, please contact acquisitions editor Sandra Korn (sandra.korn@wayne.edu) to schedule a meeting.

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Spertus Institute's graduate programs make serious Jewish learning available for students of all backgrounds, a mission we have embraced for nearly 100 years. Our instructors are world class, and our students are passionate and motivated.

I look forward to connecting with you at AJS. Let’s talk about how Spertus can be the next step in your Jewish educational journey.

David N. Gottlieb, PhD
Director, Jewish Studies

Spertus Institute is a partner with the Jewish United Fund in serving our community.
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AJS Program Committee

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AJS Dissertation Completion Fellowships

The Association for Jewish Studies congratulates the recipients of the 2022–2023 AJS Dissertation Completion Fellowships.

Fellowship Recipients

CARRIE CIFERS
University of Virginia, Department of Religious Studies
“Deciding Dinah: An Investigation in the Narrative Ethics of Genesis 34 and Its Re-presentation in Jubilees, Josephus’ Judean Antiquities, and Joseph and Aseneth”

MOLLY THEODORA ORINGER
UCLA, Department of Anthropology
“Spatial Relations: Post-War Rehabilitation and the Afterlives of Jewish Terrains in Lebanon”

STEVEN WEISS SAMOLS
University of Southern California, Department of History
“Capturing Difference, Making History: The Photobook as a Jewish Artifact”

REBEKAH VAN SANT-CLARK
University of Oxford, Department of Theology and Religion
“Re-presenting Dislocation: The Poetics of Exile and Wilderness in Ancient Jewish Texts”

Honorary Recipient

PATRICK ANGIOLILLO
New York University, Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies
“Praying By the Name: Divine Epithets in Ancient Jewish Prayer”

Finalists

SARAH GREENBERG
Cornell University, Department of Government
“The Law Is Not in Heaven’: Authority and Covenant in Jewish Political Thought”

PHILIP KEISMAN
CUNY Graduate Center, Department of Modern European History
“‘If in a Town With a Post Office, Go to the Local Post Office‘: A German-Jewish Mission to Civilize in the Central European Borderlands”
2022 JORDAN SCHNITZER BOOK AWARDS

Limited free space may remain for the Jordan Schnitzer Book Awards Reception and Dinner on Sunday December 18th at 7:15 PM. Please inquire at AJS Registration for more information.

WINNERS

BIBLICAL STUDIES, RABBINICS, AND JEWISH HISTORY AND CULTURE IN ANTIQUITY
Time and Difference in Rabbinic Judaism
SARIT KATTAN GRIBETZ
Fordham University
Princeton University Press

JEWS AND THE ARTS: MUSIC, PERFORMANCE, AND VISUAL
A City in Fragments: Urban Text in Modern Jerusalem
YAIR WALLACH
SOAS University of London
Stanford University Press

MODERN JEWISH HISTORY AND CULTURE: EUROPE AND ISRAEL
Yiddish in Israel: A History
RACHEL ROJANSKI
Brown University
Indiana University Press

SOCIAL SCIENCE, ANTHROPOLOGY, AND FOLKLORE
Genetic Afterlives: Black Jewish Indigeneity in South Africa
NOAH TAMARKIN
Cornell University
Duke University Press

FINALISTS

BIBLICAL STUDIES, RABBINICS, AND JEWISH HISTORY AND CULTURE IN ANTIQUITY
The Talmud’s Red Fence: Menstrual Impurity and Difference in Babylonian Judaism and Its Sasanian Context
SHAI SECUNDA
Bard College
Oxford University Press

JEWS AND THE ARTS: MUSIC, PERFORMANCE, AND VISUAL
Transcending Dystopia: Music, Mobility, and the Jewish Community in Germany, 1945–1989
TINA FRÜHAUF
Columbia University / The Graduate Center, CUNY
Oxford University Press

MODERN JEWISH HISTORY AND CULTURE: EUROPE AND ISRAEL
A Citizen of Yiddishland: Dovid Sfard and the Jewish Communist Milieu in Poland
JOANNA NALEWAJKO-KULIKOV
Polish Academy of Sciences
Peter Lang

SOCIAL SCIENCE, ANTHROPOLOGY, AND FOLKLORE
Hidden Heretics: Jewish Doubt in the Digital Age
AYALA FADER
Fordham University
Princeton University Press

This book award program has been made possible by generous funding from Jordan Schnitzer and Arlene Schnitzer through the Harold & Arlene Schnitzer Family Fund at the Oregon Jewish Community Foundation.
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The AJS thanks the following organizations for their support in funding the Travel Grant Program:

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The AJS would like to thank Rice University’s Jewish Studies Department for supporting this program with matching funds.
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<th>Recent from:</th>
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<td>The Wars of the Lord by Gersonides: Treatise 5, parts 2 and 3; Treatise 6</td>
<td>edited by Ofer Elior</td>
<td>A critical annotated edition with introduction of treatise 5, part 2 (the causes of the phenomena found in the heavenly bodies), part 3 (the movers of the heavenly bodies, the Active Intellect and God), and treatise 6 (the creation of the world) of Gersonides' magnum opus.</td>
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<td>The Kuzari by Judah Halevi</td>
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<td>A new annotated translation of the Kuzari into modern Hebrew by Israel Prize recipient Michael Schwarz z”l. The volume also contains an introduction by Daniel J. Lasker.</td>
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Please also visit our internet resource center in Jewish Thought
The Center extends its congratulations to the winners of the Goldstein-Goren Prize for the Best Book in Jewish Thought (2019-2021)

Yehuda Halper
Jewish Socratic Questions in an Age without Plato
Permitting and Forbidding Open Inquiry in 12-15th Century Europe and North Africa
Brill (2021), 266 pp. (English)

and

Maoz Kahana
A Heartless Chicken
Religion and Science in Early Modern Rabbinic Culture
Bialik Institute (2021), 432 pp. (Hebrew)

* * * * *

We are pleased to announce the appearance of the Fourth issue of our new academic journal Jewish Thought – New Trends in the Research of Jewish Thought. The issue contains 11 articles and is available on our website free of charge, as are our three first issues.

http://in.bgu.ac.il/en/humsos/goldstein-goren/Pages/journal.aspx

The journal is scheduled to be published once a year. Each volume will be devoted to a different topic in the academic research of Jewish thought. Articles submitted for consideration should be in Hebrew or in English and will be peer reviewed.

A CALL FOR PAPERS

Volume five deals with the topic of Hopes, Dreams and Aspirations in Jewish Thought Deadline for articles for this volume is April 1, 2023 and should be sent to: asherben@bgu.ac.il
Information and guidelines for submitting articles may be found on the center's website.

FUTURE VOLUMES

The Research of Jewish Magical Literature
Shi’ur Komah: A Special Issue Commemorating R. Moses Cordovero’s 500th birthday.
BOLD Ideas, ESSENTIAL Jewish Studies

JEWISH AND ROMAN FAMILIES IN THE HOLOCAUST AND ITS AFTERMATH
Edited by Elvira R. Adler and Katerina Czepke

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Holocaust Survivors on South Jersey Poultry Farms
Seth Stern

AMERICANS AND THE HOLOCAUST
A Reader
Edited by Daniel Grosof and Edward Phillips
Published in association with the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

THE VIRGIN OF GUADALUPE AND THE CONVERSES
Uncovering Hidden Influences from Spain to Mexico
Marie-Theresa Hernández

IT WILL YET BE HEARD
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Leon Thorne
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Exhibit Hall Map  Constitution Ballroom (2nd Floor)

Sunday, December 18
9:00 AM – 7:00 PM

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2nd Floor
Registration, Exhibit Hall, Meals, Sessions, Services

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3rd Floor
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Ariela Keysar (Trinity College)

Moderator: Judit Bokser Liwerant (UNAM, DVP Hebrew University of Jerusalem, President of ASSJ)

Sunday, December 18 | 4:15 pm - 5:45 pm (session) | 5:45 pm - 7:00 pm (reception) 
Back Bay Ballroom C
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**Timekeeping.** Keeping control of time is critical so that each person on the panel has an equal opportunity to present their paper. To that end, the chair is responsible for making sure that panelists speak for no longer than their allotted time (fifteen or twenty minutes). The AJS will provide five-minute warning, one-minute warning, and “time is up” signs for chairs to use. Chairs should sit close to the podium or near the speaker, so that they are able to communicate with the speakers while they’re presenting. Ideally, there should always be at least fifteen minutes for questions and answers. During that period, the audience should avoid jargon, speak “leanly” (no more than thirty seconds), and use a microphone to make sure everyone can hear.

**Q&A.** To ensure parity in audience participation, chairs should be mindful of who is asking questions. Research shows that when women or gender-nonconforming people are called on first, there tends to be more gender balance among subsequent questioners. Another best practice is to take three questions at a time and then give the panel a chance to respond in turn. This allows panelists to respond to only those questions they choose. Ideally, the panel will get through two rounds of three questions each.

**Microphones.** Presenters and respondents should use the microphone, even if they think they are loud enough to be heard without it. During the question-and-answer period, the chair should use the microphone to amplify audience questions.
Avoiding jargon. If panelists use technical jargon or foreign-language terms or phrases that some session attendees are not likely to understand, the chair should ask them to define or translate the relevant terminology.

Encouraging inclusion. Chairs and participants should refer to all panelists equally. We recommend having the chair introduce panelists/speakers using their first and last names, so as to avoid using titles that some presenters/respondents might not have.

More complete guidelines can be found at: https://associationforjewishstudies.org/2022cfp/guidance-for-panel-chairs

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As usual, the Film Committee will share with AJS members an exciting program—“the best of” recent films that can be adopted for classrooms and public programming. Our selection includes a seminal documentary, *Trembling before G-d*, which brought gay and lesbian Orthodox Jews trying to reconcile their sexuality with their religion to the big screen for the first time. The screening will take place in conjunction with the panel “Trembling before G-d: A Twenty-Year Retrospective,” celebrating the film’s twentieth anniversary. Another groundbreaking documentary, *Babi Yar. Context* tells a tragic story of the Holocaust of Ukrainian Jews using hitherto unseen archival footage. Today, with Ukraine again the site of mass atrocities, the film has a renewed relevance. At the AJS conference, the film will be screened in conjunction with the plenary “Memory in the Time of War.”

We conclude with a program, “New Israeli Shorts: The Full Range,” which represents a sampling of diverse themes, genres, and viewpoints characterizing Israeli cinema today. These short films correspond perfectly to the many panels dealing with aspects of Israeli society and culture at the AJS conference, and have a particularly good fit for use in a classroom. The entire program will stream online before, during, and after the conference. We hope that this schedule will give everyone a chance to watch the films.

The Film Committee also brings you a pedagogical session, “Teaching through Film,” which this year will focus on the theme of refugees, a timely subject in light of the current wars, conflicts, and climate crises that have caused mass displacement. In this panel, we explore how instructors can use film to help students make sense of the political, ethical, and social complexities of forced mass migration. We look forward to seeing you at the screenings and at the pedagogical session. Together, they celebrate the importance of cinema and media in scholarship and teaching. See you at the movies!

**The Film Committee:**
Olga Gershenson, Slava Greenberg, Daniel H. Magilow, Catherine Portuges
Trembling before G-d

Documentary by Sandi Simcha DuBowski, 2001  94 minutes  Israel, France, USA

*Trembling before G-d* was the first documentary to portray gay and lesbian Orthodox Jews trying to reconcile their sexuality with their faith. The film follows the lives of several of them in the United States and Israel and includes interviews with rabbis and psychotherapists about Orthodox attitudes toward homosexuality. Among the interviewees is Rabbi Steven Greenberg, known as the first openly gay Orthodox-ordained Jewish rabbi. The film won numerous awards, including Best Documentary at the 2001 Berlin and Chicago film festivals.

For educational sales contact the filmmaker: sandi@rabbifilm.com

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Babi Yar. Context

Documentary by Sergei Loznitsa, 2021  121 minutes  Netherlands, Ukraine

On September 29–30, 1941, Germans and their local auxiliaries murdered 33,771 Jews at the Babi Yar ravine in Kyiv. This slaughter, which returned to the headlines after Russian forces bombed the memorial site on March 1, 2022, is the focal point of Ukrainian director Sergei Loznitsa’s observational documentary *Babi Yar. Context*. Collaged from archival footage, much of it in color, *Babi Yar. Context* recounts the events that led up to and followed this largest single massacre of Jews during the Holocaust in rich and disturbing detail.

AJS members are also invited to view an interview with the filmmaker Sergei Loznitsa that Oren Stier conducted: https://youtu.be/w07JUaylh-s

For educational sales contact the filmmaker: sergei@loznitsa.com

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NEW ISRAELI SHORT FILMS: THE FULL RANGE

Curated by: Olga Gershenson, University of Massachusetts Amherst
Sponsored by the Department of Judaic and Near Eastern Studies and the Institute of the Holocaust, Genocide and Memory Studies at the University of Massachusetts Amherst

Paradise

Narrative by Asaf Saban, 2021  32 minutes  Israel

Ali, a young Palestinian, comes to Israel for a home visit after a long absence. Following a cold welcome, he decides to seek peace for a few days in the desert of Sinai, Egypt. But instead of peace and quiet, he finds himself embroiled in an unexpected identity crisis. *Paradise* creates a nuanced portrayal of the Palestinian position in Israel—which is always in-between and never fully accepted.

For educational sales contact Go2Films: https://www.go2films.com/
Fledge/Plumot

- Narrative animation by Hani Dombe and Tom Kouris, 2021
- 15 minutes  |

This highly original stop-motion animated film brings together elements of Slavic mythology with a realistic coming-of-age story. An immigrant teenage girl with feathers on her body is torn between the need to belong and her own identity.

For educational sales contact the producer Amit Gicelter: amit@thehivepro.com

Mission Hebron/Ha-mesima Hebron

- Documentary by Rona Segal, 2020  |

Six Israeli men who served in the army give an account of their mission in Hebron, a Palestinian city in the Israeli-occupied West Bank. The young soldiers were tasked with protecting Jewish settlers from the city's predominantly Palestinian population, and were given complete control of public life in the area. Based on the duties defined in their military handbook, the six former soldiers describe their mission, both official and unofficial.

The film is available on the IDFA website: https://bit.ly/3zuDpTW or at the New York Times website: https://nyti.ms/3gZCGDS

For educational sales contact the filmmaker: ronasegal@gmail.com

I’m from Jaffa/Ana min Yaffa

- Documentary by Rachel Shor and Yuval Abraham, 2022  |

In this engaging documentary, Amoneh Asfour, a young Palestinian Israeli born and raised in Jaffa, leads us on a tour of her city, revealing its rich history and complicated present. The film is produced by Sadaka-Reut, a nonprofit organization founded by Palestinian and Jewish Israeli students, which works with youth on issues surrounding identities and inequalities within Israeli society.

The film is available on Sadaka-Reut YouTube channel at https://youtu.be/K2XQvNQRRuc

For more information and screening rights contact: info@reutsadaka.org

Dreidel on Fire/Dmei Hanukah

- Narrative by Aviad Shtachelberg, 2021  |

Matti is the best dreidel spinner in town. On the seventh night of Hanukkah he tells his boss, the head of “the casino” that he wants to leave. His boss makes him an offer he can’t refuse.

For educational sales contact The Sam Spiegel Film and Television School: festivals@jsfs.co.il

Nine Moons/Tesha’ yereḥim

- Documentary animation by Alma Ben Zeev, 2021  |

An intimate diary of a young woman whose pregnancy causes her to suffer from enhanced nightmares, connected to family history.

For educational sales contact the filmmaker: almabenben@gmail.com
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PAULA OGIER is a digital and mixed-media artist based in Boston. Her artworks of places and of nature elements express the joyful and wondrous energies of both the manmade and the natural world. Her journey with digital paint began in the 1990s when the technology for working with it was much more simplistic than it is today. As digital art technology evolved, her practice evolved along with it. Today she “paints” with a pen on a large digital screen in her art studio in the SoWa Art + Design District, creating images that are made into archival quality prints. Her works are displayed in Boston Logan Airport, Boston Children’s Hospital, the Animal Rescue League of Boston, several Boston office developments, and many private collections. See more of her work at paulaogierart.com or on Instagram as @paula_ogier_artist.
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The USC Casden Institute salutes the participants of the 54th Annual AJS Conference, and we are honored to participate in such a time-honored institution.