

ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES 39TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Sheraton Centre Toronto Toronto, Canada

December 16–18, 2007

Saturday, December 15, 2007 8:00 PM – 10:00 PM

Dufferin, 2nd Floor

WORKS IN PROGRESS GROUP IN MODERN JEWISH STUDIES

Chairs: Adam B. Shear (University of Pittsburgh)

Claire Sufrin (Northeastern University/Stanford University)

Sunday, December 16, 2007

GENERAL BREAKFAST 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM *Grand Ballroom Centre, Lower Concourse*
(Note: By pre-paid reservation only)

REGISTRATION 8:30 AM – 6:00 PM *Lower Concourse Foyer*

AJS BUSINESS MEETING 8:30 AM – 9:00 AM *Sheraton A, Lower Concourse*

AJS REVIEW EDITORIAL 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM *Club Board Room*
BOARD MEETING

AJS BOARD OF 10:30 AM *Conference Room D/E, Mezzanine*
DIRECTORS MEETING

BOOK EXHIBIT 1:00 PM – 6:30 PM *Osgoode Ballroom, Lower Concourse*
(List of Exhibitors, p. 71)

FILM SCREENINGS 9:30 AM – 11:00 PM *City Hall, 2nd Floor*
(List of Films, pp. 68 - 9)

Session 1, Sunday, December 16, 2007

9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

1.1

Dufferin, 2nd Floor

JEWISH-MUSLIM ENCOUNTERS IN FRANCE AND NORTH AFRICA: COOPERATION AND CRISIS IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

Chair: H. Susannah Heschel (Dartmouth College)

**Anti-Semitism and the Colonial Situation: Official and Unofficial Accounts of a Riot in
Eastern Algeria, 1934**

Josh Cole (University of Michigan)

Identities on Trial: Jews and Muslims in France during the Second World War

Ethan Katz (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

Jewish-Muslim Relations in France: The Significance of 1967

Maud Strum Mandel (Brown University)

Respondent: Matti Bunzl (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

- 1.2 *Grand Ballroom East, Lower Concourse*
NEW AGE JEWS: THE JEWISH RENEWAL MOVEMENT IN NORTH AMERICA
Chair: Shaul Magid (Indiana University)
Jewish Yoga
 Celia E. Rothenberg (McMaster University)
Performing Kabbalah/“Kabbalah” in the Jewish Renewal Movement
 Chava Weissler (Lehigh University)
Beyond New Age: Jewish Renewal’s Reconstruction of Theological Meaning
 Josee Posen (University of Ottawa)
- 1.3 *Civic Ballroom South, 2nd Floor*
PERFORMANCE IN MODERN JEWISH CULTURE
Chair: Nina Warnke (Vanderbilt University)
A Mom and a Diva: Ester Rachel Kaminska and the Performance of Jewish Womanhood
 Shelly Hanna Zer-Zion (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
Notions of Self and Relationships in Jewish-Lesbian Films and Plays
 Jonathan C. Friedman (West Chester University)
Matsyahu and the Paradoxical Performance of Hasidic Reggae Superstardom
 Louis Kaplan (University of Toronto)
- 1.4 *Dominion Ballroom North, 2nd Floor*
ETHICS-AESTHETICS AFTER AUSCHWITZ: ADORNO, CELAN, LEVINAS
Chair: Martin Kavka (Florida State University)
“Over the Thorn”: Rereading Redoubled in Celan, Levinas, and Adorno
 James D. Hatley (Salisbury University)
Aestheticizing or Judaizing Adorno
 Bettina G. Bergo (Université de Montréal)
Negative Dialectics and Graven Images
 Oona Eisenstadt (Pomona College)
- 1.5 *Dominion Ballroom South, 2nd Floor*
RHETORIC AND JEWISH STUDIES: A ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION
Chair: Arthur M. Lesley (Baltimore Hebrew University)
Discussants: Janice Fernheimer (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute)
 Susan A. Handelman (Bar-Ilan University)
 Judith M. Lewin (Union College)
 Andrea Lieber (Dickinson College)
 David Metzger (Old Dominion University)
 Marla Segol (Skidmore College)
- 1.6 *Sheraton A, Lower Concourse*
INTEGRATION PROCESSES IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE: ITALY AND FRANCE IN THE LATE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY
Chair: Lois Dubin (Smith College)
Acculturation and Integration in Eighteenth-Century Metz: The Circuitous Path to Modernity
 Jay R. Berkovitz (University of Massachusetts-Amherst)
Two Jews Walk into a Coffeehouse: The “Jewish Question” in Late Eighteenth-Century Livorno
 Francesca Bregoli (University of Pennsylvania)
The “Civile Ammiglioramento”: Moisè Formiggini and his New Jewish Society in Northern Italy (1796 - 1810)
 Federica Francesconi (University of Haifa)

1.7

*Sheraton B, Lower Concourse***STUDIES IN JEWISH MYSTICISM***Chair:* Kalman P. Bland (Duke University)**The House in the Center of All: Divinity as Dwelling Place in *Sefer Ha-Zohar***

Ellen Haskell (Franklin and Marshall College)

The Messiah, the Rabbis, and the Sultan: Anatomy of a Kabbalistic Disputation

David Joel Halperin (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)

Kabbalah Season: *New Peshat* in Contemporary (Science) Fiction and Film

Nitsa Kann (Dickinson College)

1.8

*Conference Room B, Mezzanine***NEW PERSPECTIVES ON THE SCHLEMIEL***Chair:* Donald Weber (Mount Holyoke College)**Becoming Schlemiel**

Daniel Itzkovitz (Stonehill College)

Ezekiel's Holy Shenanigans and the Genealogy of the Schlemiel

Michael Kigel (Independent Scholar)

Schlemiel Envy: Thomas Bernhard's *The Loser*

John Limon (Williams College)

Respondent: Menachem Feuer (D'youville College)

1.9

*Wentworth, 2nd Floor***SPOTLIGHT ON CANADIAN JEWRY: DUAL IDENTITIES AND****TRANSNATIONALISM AMONG CANADIAN JEWS***Sponsored by the Association for Canadian Jewish Studies**Chair:* Randal F. Schnoor (York University)**Dual Identities and Loyalties among Canadian Jews**

Morton Weinfeld (McGill University)

Israelis in Toronto: From Stigmatization to Self-Organization

Dina Roginsky (University of Toronto)

The Treatment of Jewish Immigrants Slated for Deportation by the Canadian Immigration Branch following the Second World War

Ellen Scheinberg (Ontario Jewish Archives)

Stephen Scheinberg (Concordia University)

Respondent: Kalman Weiser (York University)

1.10

*Kenora, 2nd Floor***THE DISCURSIVE POSITION OF JEWS AND THE HOLOCAUST IN THE CURRENT GERMAN VICTIM DEBATE***Chair:* Robin E. Judd (Ohio State University)**Who "Inherits" the Victim Status? Vicarious Victims in Ericka Fischer's *Aimee und Jaguar***

Anne Rothe (Wayne State University)

Staging Nazis: Guilt, Denial and Victimhood in Three German Dramas

Kerstin M. Mueller (Connecticut College)

"What have we done to ourselves by doing away with the Jews?": German**Philo-Semitism, Deconstruction, and "Jewish" Architecture Between Libeskind and Eisenman**

Karyn M. Ball (University of Alberta)

1.11

*Huron, 2nd Floor***HEALTH AND COMMUNITY: THE RELATION OF PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH TO JEWISH COMMUNAL ISSUES***Chair and Respondent:* Roberta G. Sands (University of Pennsylvania)**Issues of Mental Health and Family Life among Older Holocaust Survivors**

Allen Glicksman (Philadelphia Corporation for Aging)

Family, Mental Health, and Attitudes of Tolerance among Older Survivors

Nancy Isserman (Temple University)

American Jews Respond to the Social, Psychological, and Spiritual Challenges of Chronic Illness

Gail Gaisin Glicksman (Reconstructionist Rabbinical College)

1.12

*Kent, 2nd Floor***EVERYDAY JEWISH LIFE IN EASTERN EUROPE***Chair and Respondent:* Rebecca Kobrin (Columbia University)**Everyday Life in the Russian Imperial Courts**

Eugene Avrutin (University of Illinois)

On the Streets of Minsk: Everyday Jewish Life in a Soviet City in the 1930s

Elissa Bemporad (Hunter College, CUNY)

In Pursuit of Knowledge: The Daily Toils of Polish Jewish Students in the 1930s

Natalia Aleksium (Touro College)

1.13

*Simcoe, 2nd Floor***HAMBURG: SONDERFALL IN THE SONDERWEG, OR A SPECIAL CASE FOR THE JEWS?***Chair:* Marion Kaplan (New York University)**Hamburg as *Sonderfall*: Disputes over Rabbinic Jurisdiction in Hamburg, 1750-1800**

David Horowitz (Columbia University)

Aby Warburg and Ernst Cassirer in Weimar-Era Hamburg: Non-Jewish Jews, Exceptional Jews, or Hamburg Jews?

Emily Levine (Stanford University)

“As bad as elsewhere”: The Persecution of Jews in Hamburg, 1933-1945

Beate Meyer (Institute for the History of the German Jews, Hamburg)

Respondent: Patricia Mazón (University of Buffalo, SUNY)

1.14

*Elgin, 2nd Floor***JEWS AND JUDAISM IN THE ROMAN EMPIRE***Chair:* Steven Bowman (Queens College, CUNY)**Rabbis in Rome: Familiar Faces in Faraway Places**

Yehuda Kurtzer (Harvard University)

The Jews in the Roman Empire: Dissidence and Sub-Culture

Sacha Stern (University College London)

Abraham, Philo, Josephus, and Astrology

Louis H. Feldman (Yeshiva University)

Session 2, Sunday, December 16, 2007

11:15 AM – 1:00 PM

2.1

*Dufferin, 2nd Floor***JEWISH FEMINISMS: THOUGHT AND VISUAL CULTURE***Chair:* Ellen M. Umansky (Fairfield University)**Jewish Feminist Theology: Frameworks for Analysis**

Mara Benjamin (Yale University)

A Case Study for Feminist Engagement with Modern Jewish Philosophy: Thinking through Gender in Fackenheim's *To Mend the World*

Deidre Butler (Carleton University)

Concepts of Halakhah in Reform Judaism and the Feminist Criticism of the Law (Feminist Jurisprudence)

Ronit Irshai (Harvard University)

Visualizing Heritage: The Pictorial Covers of *Lilith* Magazine

Ken Koltun-Fromm (Haverford College)

2.2

*Grand Ballroom East, Lower Concourse***THE FUTURE OF QUANTITATIVE STUDIES OF AMERICAN JEWRY***Chair:* Charles Kadushin (Brandeis University)*Discussants:* Sergio DellaPergola (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Bethamie Horowitz (Independent Scholar)

Barry A. Kosmin (Trinity College)

Benjamin Phillips (Brandeis University)

Leonard Saxe (Brandeis University)

2.3

*Civic Ballroom South, 2nd Floor***JEWES AND MUSICAL THEATER***Chair and Respondent:* Judah M. Cohen (Indiana University)**"Life upon the wicked stage": *Show Boat* and the Consolidation of Theatrical Liberalism**

Andrea M. Most (University of Toronto)

Dancing Forward, Marching Back: Mythologies of Assimilation in *Ragtime* vs. *Parade*

Stuart Hecht (Boston College)

The Voice of Shoemaking: Cobblers on the Israeli Stage

Dorit Yerushalmi (Tel-Aviv University)

2.4

*Dominion Ballroom North, 2nd Floor***JEWISH STUDIES IN THE UNIVERSITIES: MAINSTREAMED OR STILL ANOMALOUS?***Chair:* Robert M. Seltzer (Hunter College, CUNY)*Discussants:* Robert G. Goldenberg (Stony Brook University, SUNY)

Frederick E. Greenspahn (Florida Atlantic University)

Frances Horowitz (The Graduate Center, CUNY)

Mark A. Raider (University of Cincinnati)

2.5

*Dominion Ballroom South, 2nd Floor***TESTIMONIES FROM AND ABOUT THE EXPERIENCE OF THE HOLOCAUST***Chair:* Berel Lang (Wesleyan University)**Voices from Destruction: Two Eyewitness Testimonies from the Stanislawow Ghetto**

Rachel Feldhay Brenner (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

Legacies of the Holocaust in Refugee Memoirs

Judith M. Gerson (Rutgers University)

The "Raw Memory of War": The Reading of Early Postwar Testimonies of Children

Joanna Beata Michlic (Lehigh University)

Early Postwar Yizkor Books in Argentina, 1945-1961

Rosemary Horowitz (Appalachian State University)

2.6

*Sheraton A, Lower Concourse***DIALECTICS OF LITERARY FORM AND CULTURAL HISTORY: RIGHTS, RACE AND PLACE SINCE THE NINETEENTH CENTURY***Chair and Respondent:* Nadia Valman (Queen Mary, University of London)**The Promise and Failure of Global Civil Culture: Lily Montagu's Human Rights Sermons**

Michael Galchinsky (Georgia State University)

Shakespeare, Racial Science, and Nineteenth-Century British Poets

Michael Scrivener (Wayne State University)

Mourning and Translation: Hyman Hurwitz and Literary Authority

Karen Weisman (University of Toronto)

2.7

*Sheraton B, Lower Concourse***VIRTUALLY SEPHARDIC: MUSICAL CONSTRUCTIONS OF SEPHARDIC IDENTITY***Chair and Respondent:* Mark Kligman (HUC-JIR)**Medieval is Better: The Construction of a "Medieval" Ladino Identity and Repertoire in Spain's "Three Cultures" Festivals**

Judith R. Cohen (York University)

Back to Life, Twice: The Revivals of Ladino Song in Twentieth-Century Italy

Francesco Spagnolo (Judah L. Magnes Museum)

Dario Moreno: Cosmopolitanism and the Transformation of Sephardic Musical Culture in the Twentieth Century

Pamela Dorn Sezgin (Gainseville State College)

2.8

*Conference Room B, Mezzanine***CROSSING BORDERS, ARTICULATING TENSIONS: THE POETICS OF SOCIAL AND POLITICAL FRICTION IN ISRAELI LITERATURE AND FILM***Chair:* Wendy Ilene Zierler (HUC-JIR)**Political Writing or Mad Writing? Politics, Immigration, and the Transformation of Texts in Agnon's *Only Yesterday***

Shirli Sela-Levavi (Rutgers University)

To See a Tear Fade Away: Witnessing and Guilt in the Protest Poetry of Dalia Ravikovitch

Ilana Szobel (New York University/Brandeis University)

Beyond Victim and Perpetrator: New Subject Positions in Danny Verete's *Metallic Blues*

Michael G. Levine (Rutgers University)

An Existence at the Limits: The Language of Marginality in Sara Shilo's Novel *No Gnomes Will Appear*

Iris Milner (Tel-Aviv University)

2.9

*Wentworth, 2nd Floor***EXPLORATIONS IN ZOROASTRIAN AND RABBINIC SCRIPTURAL EXEGESIS***Chair:* Oktor Skjaervo (Harvard University)**Omnisignificant Exegesis in Zoroastrianism**

Yuhan S. D. Vevaina (Harvard University)

Sasanian Zoroastrian and Rabbinic Exegesis: The Evidence of the *Vidēvdād*

Samuel Secunda (Yale University)

Avestan Exegesis from Nomadic Existence to Centralized Empire

Yaakov Elman (Yeshiva University)

2.10

*Kenora, 2nd Floor***TARGUM: GERMAN-HEBREW ENCOUNTERS IN POST-ENLIGHTENMENT EUROPE***Chair:* Naomi Seidman (Graduate Theological Union)**In Other Words: Judah Leib ben Ze'ev's Hebrew Questions of Modernity**

Andrea Schatz (Princeton University)

Mendelssohn, Johlson, and Zunz as Translators of the Bible

Abigail Gillman (Boston University)

Anthologization and Translation as Poetic Principles in Micah Joseph Berdyczewski

Na'ama Rokem (Stanford University)

Respondent: Galili Shahar (University of Florida)

2.11

*Huron, 2nd Floor***MESSIANISM IN THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY***Chair:* Miriam Bodian (Touro College)**Messianism and History: A New Messianic Concept in the Sixteenth Century**

Moti Benmelech (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

David Reubeni, Solomon Molkho, and the Nature of Imposture

Matt Goldish (Ohio State University)

Kabbalah and Messianism in Shlomo Molcho's Circle: The Case of Elijah Menahem Halfan

Daniel Stein Kokin (Yale University)

2.12

*Kent, 2nd Floor***HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES ON JEWS AND ETHNIC DIVERSITY IN CANADA***Sponsored by the Association for Canadian Jewish Studies**Chair:* Ira Robinson (Concordia University)**"Multiculturalism" in Canadian Yiddish Literature**

Rebecca E. Margolis (University of Ottawa)

A Tale of Two Cities: The Jewish Communities of Montreal and Toronto during the 1960s

Harold Troper (University of Toronto)

Multiculturalism and the Writing of Canadian Jewish History

Richard Menkis (University of British Columbia)

2.13

*Simcoe, 2nd Floor***JEWISH LEGAL PRACTICES IN THE LANDS OF ISLAM***Chair and Respondent:* Steven M. Wasserstrom (Reed College)**The Influence of Islamic Law on Jewish Partnership Practice**

Phil Lieberman (Princeton University)

Prohibiting Recourse to Muslim Tribunals: Reassessing the Origins of Medieval Communal Structures

Uriel Simonsohn (Princeton University)

People of the Oral Book? Attitudes Toward Rabbinic Law in Islamic Legal Literature

David Freidenreich (Franklin and Marshall College)

2.14

*Elgin, 2nd Floor***RABBINIC AUTHORITY: QUESTIONS AND CHALLENGES***Chair:* Aaron Amit (Bar-Ilan University)**A Royal Dilemma: The Place of the King in the Judiciary in Pre-Rabbinic and Rabbinic Texts**

David Flatto (Harvard University)

Rabbinic Self-Perception of Power: Palestinian and Babylonian Interpretations of the Law of Rebellious Elder (Dt 17:8-13)

Richard Hidary (New York University)

The "One Flesh" of Conjugal Union: Nahmanides' Eros vs. Rashi's Functionalism

James Arthur Diamond (University of Waterloo)

GENERAL LUNCH **1:00 PM – 2:00 PM** *Grand Ballroom Centre, Lower Concourse*
(Note: By pre-paid reservation only)

LUNCHTIME MEETING **1:00 PM – 2:00 PM** *Conference Room F, Mezzanine*

WORKING GROUP ON THE HISTORY OF THE JEWISH BOOK

(Note: This meeting does not include lunch.)

Chair: Joseph Davis (Gratz College)

Commentators: David Stern (University of Pennsylvania), Adam Shear (University of Pittsburgh),
 Hindy Najman (University of Toronto), Jeremy Stolow (McMaster University)

Session 3, Sunday, December 16, 2007

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

3.1

Dufferin, 2nd Floor

BIBLICAL HEBREW AND ARAMAIC VERBAL SYSTEMS

Chair: Dana Greene (North Carolina Central University)

Pronominal Syntax in the Book of *Kobelet*

Robert Holmstedt (University of Toronto)

Verbal Aspect and Discourse Topic in Biblical Hebrew

Galia Hatav (University of Florida)

“Orphaned” Converted Tense Forms in Classical Biblical Hebrew Prose

Robert Kawashima (University of Florida)

The Verbal System of Babylonian Aramaic

Elitzur Avraham Bar-Asher (Harvard University)

3.2

Grand Ballroom East, Lower Concourse

EMBODYING AUTHORITY IN RABBINIC MIDRASH: LAW, THEOLOGY, AND ETHICS

Chair and Respondent: Elizabeth Alexander (University of Virginia)

Gentile Laws and Rabbinic Authority: A New Look at Gay Marriage in the *Sifra*

Beth A. Berkowitz (Jewish Theological Seminary)

In Law We Trust: Rabbinic Challenges to Divine Justice

Chaya Halberstam (Indiana University)

The Aging Body, God’s Justice, and the Authority of Rabbinic Instruction: Midrashic Treatments of Ecclesiastes 12:1-7

Jonathan Schofer (Harvard University)

3.3

Civic Ballroom South, 2nd Floor

**ENGAGING CONTEMPORARY ART IN JEWISH STUDIES: A SCHOLARS’
 ROUNDTABLE WITH THREE CONTEMPORARY TORONTO ARTISTS**

Chair: Jeffrey A. Shandler (Rutgers University)

Discussants: Jonathan Boyarin (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)

John M. Efron (University of California, Berkeley)

Shelley Hornstein (York University)

Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett (New York University)

Olga Litvak (University at Albany, SUNY)

Chava Weissler (Lehigh University)

Carol Zemel (York University)

3.4

*Dominion Ballroom North, 2nd Floor***PERCEPTIONS OF THE HOLOCAUST IN POLAND TODAY IN THE CONTEXT OF POLISH-JEWISH RELATIONS***Chair:* Joanna Beata Michlic (Lehigh University)**The Holocaust in the Consciousness of Polish Jews**

Malgorzata Melchior (University of Warsaw/Polish Center for Holocaust Research)

On Being a “Memorial Candle”

Regina Grol (Empire State College, SUNY)

How Do Polish History Textbooks Shape the Knowledge and the Consciousness of the Holocaust in Poland Today?

Hanna Wegrzynek (Jewish Historical Institute, Warsaw)

The Holocaust in Polish Life: Current Literary Perspectives

Dorota Glowacka (University of King's College)

3.5

*Dominion Ballroom South, 2nd Floor***LANGUAGE AND TRANSLATION IN ISRAELI WRITING***Chair:* Miryam Segal (Indiana University)**Bridging the Secular-Religious Divide: The Poetry of Hava Pinchas-Cohen**

Sharon Green (University of Toronto)

The Sly Art of Yossl Birstein's Bilingualism

Naomi Brenner (University of California, Berkeley)

Translating Keret/Translating Israel

Brenda Malkiel (University of Haifa/Bar-Ilan University)

The Biblical Component in Hebrew: S.Y. Agnon in Opposition to the *Maskilim*

Yochanan Breuer (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

3.6

*Sheraton A, Lower Concourse***GERMANS AND JEWS IN LOVE (AND LUST): “AFTER AUSCHWITZ”***Chair:* Anne Rothe (Wayne State University)**Inter-Generational After-Effects of the Nazi Past: Dualities and Dichotomies in Eytan Fox's*****Lalehbet al Ha-Mayim (Walk on Water)***

Avi Kempinski (Fort Hays State University)

From “Harlem Holocaust” to “*Liebe Heute*”: Germans and Jews in Love in Maxim Biller's Recent Work

Erin McGlothlin (Washington University in St. Louis)

Jewishing the German Subject: Performing the Negative Symbiosis with Maxim Biller

David A. Brenner (Kent State University)

Respondent: Leslie Morris (University of Minnesota)

3.7

*Sheraton B, Lower Concourse***NEW TAKES AND OLD TRAITS: GENDER AND THE JEW IN CONTEMPORARY CINEMA***Chair:* Bruce Kaplan (Independent Scholar)**Between the Fockers and the Fantastic Four: Jewishness and Gender in Recent American Cinema**

Michele Aaron (University of Birmingham)

“I'm Shomer Shabbos!” Jewish Masculinity and Judaism in Anglo-American Film, 1990 to the Present

Nathan D. Abrams (University of Wales, Bangor)

The New (Old) Jewess: Sandra Goldbacher's *The Governess*

Judith M. Lewin (Union College)

Funny Girl, Famous Jew: On the American Jewish Celebrity of Barbra Streisand

David E. Kaufman (HUC-JIR)

3.8

*Conference Room B, Mezzanine***TRANSNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES IN MODERN JEWISH HISTORY***Chair:* Victoria Khiterer (Macon State College)**“The Fifth Column”: The Anti-Zionist Campaign in Poland, June 1967**

Anat Plocker (Stanford University)

Polish Reactions to the Beilis Trial, 1911-1914

Jolanta Zyndul (Warsaw University)

The JDC vis-à-vis Russian Jewry and the American Government: Frank Rosenblatt’s Mission to Siberia in 1919

Michael Beizer (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

3.9

*Wentworth, 2nd Floor***THE “GOLDEN AGE” FOR AMERICAN JEWS: UNDERCURRENTS OF ANXIETY IN POSTWAR JEWISH CULTURE***Chair:* Riv-Ellen Prell (University of Minnesota)**“The world is not ready for this”: Jewish Sororities and the Desegregation Question**

Shira Miriam Kohn (New York University)

“Sissy, the most dreaded epithet of American boyhood”: The Gendered Politics of Jewish Intellectuals and the Civil Rights Movement

Ronnie Grinberg (Northwestern University)

Catskill Conflicts: Debating Jewish Vacation Habits in Postwar America

Rachel Kranson (New York University)

“The girls they didn’t leave behind”: War Brides and Immigration Conflicts during the So-Called Golden Age

Robin E. Judd (Ohio State University)

Respondent: Rebecca Kobrin (Columbia University)

3.10

*Kenora, 2nd Floor***THE LITERARY FORMS OF MEDIEVAL JEWISH PHILOSOPHY***Chair:* Jonathan Decter (Brandeis University)**Fiction as a Vehicle for Kabbalistic Teaching: Mystical Motifs in Zechariah Aldahiri’s *Sefer Ha-Musar***

Adena Tanenbaum (Ohio State University)

Heavy Beginnings: Philosophy and Philosophic Teachings in the Introductions of Medieval Jewish Authors

Steven Harvey (Bar-Ilan University)

The Peripatetic Picaro: Philosophy in the Hebrew *Maqama*

James T. Robinson (University of Chicago)

Medieval Philosophical Dialogues: A Case Study of Isaac Pollegar’s *Ezer Ha-Dat*

Aaron Hughes (University of Calgary)

- 3.11 *Huron, 2nd Floor*
IN THE WAKE OF THE GODDESS: A SESSION IN MEMORY OF TIKVA FRYMER-KENSKY
Chair: Lauren Monroe (Cornell University)
“Epigraphic Theology”: Changes in Popular Religion in Judah in the Ninth through Sixth Centuries BCE
 Shawn Zelig Aster (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)
“Weapons upon Her Body”: The Struggle for the Female Heroic in the Hebrew Bible
 Sandra Collins (University of Pittsburgh)
Daughter Zion as the Final Girl
 Amy Beth Kalmanofsky (Jewish Theological Seminary)
Respondent: Peter B. Machinist (Harvard University)
- 3.12 *Kent, 2nd Floor*
NEGOTIATING IDENTITY IN EAST CENTRAL EUROPE, 1918-1985
Chair and Respondent: Hillel J. Kieval (Washington University)
Space and Jewish Identity: František Friedmann and the Construction of Czechoslovak Jewry
 Tatjana Lichtenstein (University of Toronto)
Building Slovak Jewry: Material Evidence of Reorientation as Citizens of Czechoslovakia
 Rebekah Klein-Pejsova (Columbia University)
Secret Stages for Jewish Expression: Clandestine Spaces in Flux in Communist Budapest
 Zachary Levine (New York University)
- 3.13 *Simcoe, 2nd Floor*
CHRISTIAN HEBRAISM IN EARLY MODERN EUROPE
Chair: Elisheva Carlebach (Queens College, CUNY)
Useful Jewish Knowledge: Christian Hebraist Translations of Jewish Texts in the Reformation Era, 1500-1660
 Stephen G. Burnett (University of Nebraska at Lincoln)
Talk of the Holy Tongue: Jewish Linguistic Discourse in the Renaissance
 Deena Aranoff (Graduate Theological Union)
The *Urim* and *Thumim* and Christian Hebraism
 Jonathan M. Elukin (Trinity College)
- 3.14 *Elgin, 2nd Floor*
ONCE UPON A NEIGHBORHOOD: NEGOTIATING LOCAL SPACE IN RABBINIC CULTURE
Chair: Ishay Rosen-Zvi (Tel-Aviv University)
A Sukkah Is Not A Home: Unstable Space and Itinerant Inhabitants
 Galit Hasan-Rokem (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
Familiar and Uncanny: Domestic Symbols in Rabbinic Dream Texts
 Haim Weiss (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)
A Holy Man’s Space: Revisiting R. Hanina’s Neighborhood in Sepphoris
 Gil Klein (Cambridge University)
Respondent: Charlotte Fonrobert (Stanford University)

Session 4, Sunday, December 16, 2007

4:15 PM – 6:15 PM

4.1

*Dufferin, 2nd Floor***ISSUES IN JEWISH LANGUAGES***Chair:* Galia Hatav (University of Florida)**When Jewish Languages Don't Shift**

George Jochnowitz (College of Staten Island, CUNY)

The Changing Nature of Judeo-Arabic

Benjamin H. Hary (Emory University)

The Yiddish of Satmar Women and Girls

Zelda Kahan Newman (Lehman College, CUNY)

What Makes a Yiddish Word Seem Yiddish?

Paul D. Glasser (YIVO Institute for Jewish Research)

4.2

*Grand Ballroom East, Lower Concourse***JEWISH MUSEUMS AND DISPLAYS: NEW DIRECTIONS, OBSTACLES, AND OPPORTUNITIES***Chair and Respondent:* James E. Young (University of Massachusetts-Amherst)**"Rebirth After the Holocaust: The Bergen-Belsen Displaced Persons Camp, 1945-1950": New Directions and Opportunities Presented by a Museum Exhibition**

Jean Bloch Rosensaft (HUC-JIR Museum)

Healing, Building Bridges and Art: The Jewish Museum in Munich

Robin Ostow (University of Toronto)

Displaying Judaica: Secularizing the Sacred

Reesa Greenberg (Concordia University)

Mishkan l'Omanut: The Museum at Ein Harod

Galia Bar-Or (Museum of Art, Ein Harod)

4.3

*Civic Ballroom South, 2nd Floor***THE BORAT PHENOMENON: CULTURAL LEARNINGS OF THE MEDIA FOR MAKE BENEFIT GLORIOUS JEWISH NATION***Chair and Respondent:* Olga Gershenson (University of Massachusetts-Amherst)**From Social Satire to Mythic Debunking: Ernst Lubitsch's Early "Jewish" Comedies Meet Sasha Baron Cohen's *Borat***

Jeanette Malkin (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Hunting the Jew on YouTube: Performance of Anti-Semitism as Jewish Activist Art

Marc Tasman (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee)

Offense and Global Imagination: *Borat* and the Question of Genre

Judith L. Goldstein (Vassar College)

4.4

*Dominion Ballroom North, 2nd Floor***GENDER AND SOCIETY: MEDIEVAL EUROPEAN JEWISH WOMEN****A SESSION IN MEMORY OF ELKA KLEIN***Chair:* Michael A. Signer (University of Notre Dame)**Daily Life, the *Longue Durée*, and the History of Jewish Women in Medieval Perpignan**

Rebecca Lynn Winer (Villanova University)

Like Abigail and Nabal the Carmelite: Piety, Charity, and Control of Marital Property in Medieval Germany

Elisheva Baumgarten (Bar-Ilan University)

Mobility for Marriage in Two Medieval Jewish Societies

Judith R. Baskin (University of Oregon)

Interpreting Text, Gender, and the Other: Medieval Christian and Jewish Exegetes on the Menstruant (Lev. 15)

Sharon Koren (HUC-JIR)

4.5

*Dominion Ballroom South, 2nd Floor***MARSHALL SKLARE MEMORIAL LECTURE***Sponsored by the Association for the Social Scientific Study of Jewry**Chair:* Harriet Hartman (Rowan University)**The Rise and Fall of the Jewish Ph.D.**

Barry Chiswick (University of Illinois at Chicago)

Respondents: Sergio DellaPergola (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
Jonathan D. Sarna (Brandeis University)

4.6

*Sheraton A, Lower Concourse***HOLOCAUST MEMORY IN THE AGE OF DECOLONIZATION***Chair:* Brett A. Kaplan (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)**Dangerous Intersections: Allegory, History, and Inhumanity in Sartre**

Debarati Sanyal (University of California, Berkeley)

A Tale of Three Ghettos: Holocaust Memory and the Algerian War

Michael Rothberg (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

Transatlantic Pathways of Holocaust Remembrance in André Schwarz-Bart

Estelle Tarica (University of California, Berkeley)

4.7

*Sheraton B, Lower Concourse***RECLAIMING SEPHARAD: SEPHARDISM AND HISPANISM IN THE POLITICS OF CONSTRUCTING SPANISH AND JEWISH IDENTITIES, 1890s-1920s***Chair and Respondent:* Sarah Abrevaya Stein (University of Washington)**Max Nordau: Representations of Sephardic History and Contemporary Spain**

Carsten Schapkow (University of Oklahoma)

Philo-Semitic or Philo-Mimic? Colonial Overtures towards Sephardim in Early Twentieth-Century Spanish Political Arts

Stacy N. Beckwith (Carleton College)

Re-Constituting the Spanish Race: Philo-Sephardism, Spanish Nationalism, and Proto-Fascism in Ernesto Giménez Caballero's *Jews of the Spanish Homeland* (1929)

Michal Friedman (Columbia University)

4.8

*Conference Room B, Mezzanine***ELISIONS, BETRAYALS, AND LINGUISTIC QUANDARIES: CANADIAN PERSPECTIVES ON YIDDISH TRANSLATION***Chair:* Linda (Ley) Lipsky (York University)**The Sexual Politics of Yiddish Translation: Who is Brought Over and Who Is Left Behind**

Frieda Forman (University of Toronto)

The Spirit or the Letter: Translating the Hebrew-Aramaic Component of Yiddish Folk Sayings

Shirley Kumove (Independent Scholar)

Trying Not to Break the Contract: Translating Rokhl Korn

Seymour Levitan (Independent Scholar)

Speaking French in Yiddish: The Language of French-Canadians in Yiddish Canadian Literature

Goldie Morgentaler (University of Lethbridge)

4.9

*Wentworth, 2nd Floor***WHEN POETICS DO NOT FOLLOW RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: INTERSECTIONS BETWEEN JEWISH AND CHRISTIAN POETRY IN LATE ANTIQUITY***Chair:* Stuart S. Miller (University of Connecticut at Storrs)**On Stone and Song: Towards a Sacrificial Understanding of the Avodah and Related Genres**

Michael D. Swartz (Ohio State University)

Many Voices, One Choir: Jewish, Christian, and Samaritan Poets and the Rise of Neo-Semitic Poetry

Ophir Muenz-Manor (University of Pennsylvania)

“Beit” as Strophe in Hebrew Poetry: Toward an Early Dating of the Borrowing

Cyril Aslanov (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

4.10

*Kenora, 2nd Floor***THE ANTI-IMPERIALIST OPTION: JEWS AND THE STATELESS NATIONS OF EASTERN AND EAST CENTRAL EUROPE***Chair:* Antony Polonsky (Brandeis University)**Jewish Attitudes towards the Polish Uprising of 1830-1831: A Panoramic View**

Glenn Dynner (Sarah Lawrence College)

Neolog: Reforming Judaism in a Hungarian Milieu

Howard N. Lupovitch (Colby College)

Jews and the Ukrainian National Identity in the Early Twentieth Century

Myroslav Shkandrij (University of Manitoba)

The Anti-Colonialist Modernity: Zmitrok Biadulia and the Making of a Belorussian Jew

Yohanan Petrovsky-Shtern (Northwestern University)

4.11

*Huron, 2nd Floor***INTEGRATION TECHNIQUES OF THE BAVLI***Chair:* David Horwitz (Yeshiva University)***Na'aseh Ke-Omer*: Towards the Elucidation of a Rabbinic Hermeneutic Technique**

Leib Moscovitz (Bar-Ilan University)

Between Priests and Sages, Temple Worship and Torah: An Analysis of an Aggadah and Its Wider Context in *Bavli Yoma*

Yonatan Feintuch (Bar-Ilan University)

Did Abaye and Rava Edit the Talmud? A Reconsideration of Y.I. Halevy's Theory

Ari Bergmann (Columbia University)

Legal Revisionism and the Rabbis: *Meikara* as a Marker for Legal Change in Talmud Bavli

Aaron D. Panken (HUC-JIR)

4.12

*Kent, 2nd Floor***BIBLICAL POETRY AND POETICS***Chair and Respondent:* Chaya Halberstam (Indiana University)**Alternation and Its Poetics**

Simeon Chavel (Princeton University)

The Way of Poetry in Psalm 133

F.W. Dobbs-Allsopp (Princeton Theological Seminary)

Types of Closure in Biblical Narrative

Galen Marquis (Tulane University)

4.13

Simcoe, 2nd Floor

THE NEW, THE POLITICAL, AND THE NOW: WRITING IN ISRAEL TODAY

Chair: Karen Grumberg (University of Texas at Austin)

Tel Aviv Literary Journals: The New and the Now in Writing

Rachel S. Harris (University at Albany, SUNY)

Ho! Goldberg: The Desire for Form in Contemporary Israeli Poetry

Adriana X. Tatum (Princeton University)

Futures Past: Contemporary Israeli Literature and Allohstory

Adam Rovner (Hofstra University)

Terror at Home: Space, Domesticity, and the Israeli Political Crisis

Shiri Goren (Yale University/New York University)

4.14

Elgin, 2nd Floor

SOLOMON MAIMON AND THE PROJECTS OF MODERNITY

Chair: Paul Franks (University of Toronto)

Discussants:

Yitzhak Y. Melamed (University of Chicago)

Benjamin Pollock (Michigan State University)

Paul Reitter (Ohio State University)

Abraham Socher (Oberlin College)

Liliane Weissberg (University of Pennsylvania)

Sunday, December 16, 2007 Evening Program

MARSHALL SKLARE

6:15 PM – 7:00 PM

Dominion Ballroom Foyer, 2nd Floor

AWARD RECEPTION

Co-sponsored by the Association for the Social Scientific Study of Jewry (ASSJ), The Association for Canadian Jewish Studies (ACJS), the Canadian Society for Jewish Studies (CSJS), the Jewish Studies Program at the University of Illinois at Chicago, and the Jewish Studies Program at the University of Toronto.

WELCOME RECEPTION

6:15 PM – 6:45 PM

Grand Ballroom Foyer, Lower Concourse

GALA BANQUET

6:45 PM

Grand Ballroom Centre, Lower Concourse

(Note: By pre-paid reservation only)

Remarks: Sara Horowitz, AJS President (York University)

Sponsored by:

Association for Canadian Jewish Studies

Department of Religion, Concordia University

The Graduate School of JTS

Department of Jewish Studies, McGill University

Department of Religious Studies, McMaster University

The Posen Foundation

Jewish Studies Program, Queen's University

UJA Federation of Greater Toronto

Department of Classical, Near Eastern and Religious Studies, University of British Columbia

Department of Religious Studies, University of Calgary

Faculty of Arts and Sciences and Jewish Studies Program, University of Toronto

Centre for Jewish Studies, York University

PLENARY SESSION **8:00 PM** *Grand Ballroom Centre, Lower Concourse*
Introduction: Marsha Rozenblit, AJS Vice-President for Program (University of Maryland)

2008: IS IT 1938 ALL OVER AGAIN?
Professor Irwin Cotler, P.C., O.C., M.P.

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE **9:15 PM** *Sheraton A, Lower Concourse*
SONGS OF THE SEPHARDIM AND THEIR DIASPORAS
Performed by Judith Cohen and Tamar Cohen Adams
Sponsored by the Maurice Amado Foundation

RECEPTION FOR **9:30 PM** *Civic Ballroom Foyer, 2nd Floor*
FRIENDS OF HEBREW UNION COLLEGE-JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION
Open to all conference registrants.

RECEPTION FOR **9:30 PM** *Churchill, 2nd Floor*
FRIENDS OF BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY
Co-sponsored by Brandeis University's Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies; Department of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies; Hadassah-Brandeis Institute; Mandel Center for Studies in Jewish Education; Schusterman Center for Israel Studies/Summer Institute for Israel Studies; and Tauber Institute for the Study of European Jewry. Open to all conference registrants.

FILM SCREENING **9:30 PM** *City Hall, 2nd Floor*
YIPPEE! A JOURNEY TO JEWISH JOY
USA, 2006, 74 minutes, English
Directed by: Paul Mazursky
Film provided by the National Center for Jewish Film

Monday, December 17, 2007

GENERAL BREAKFAST **7:30 AM – 8:30 AM** *Grand Ballroom Centre,
Lower Concourse*
(Note: By pre-paid reservation only)

WOMEN'S CAUCUS BREAKFAST **7:00 AM – 8:30 AM** *Essex Ballroom, Mezzanine*

REGISTRATION **8:30 AM – 6:00 PM** *Lower Concourse Foyer*

BOOK EXHIBIT **9:00 AM – 6:30 PM** *Osgoode Ballroom, Lower Concourse*

FILM SCREENINGS **8:30 AM – 6:30 PM** *City Hall, 2nd Floor*
(List of Films, pp. 68 – 9)

Session 5, Monday, December 17, 2007

8:30 AM – 10:30 AM

5.1

Grand Ballroom West, Lower Concourse

A FRESH LOOK AT THE QUESTION: “WHERE DOES THE MODERN PERIOD OF JEWISH HISTORY BEGIN?” A ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION IN HONOR OF MICHAEL A. MEYER

Chair: Michael Brenner (University of Munich)

Discussants: Elisheva Carlebach (Queens College, CUNY)
Shmuel Feiner (Bar-Ilan University)
Paula E. Hyman (Yale University)
Michael Meyer (HUC-JIR)
Jonathan D. Sarna (Brandeis University)

5.2

Grand Ballroom East, Lower Concourse

COMPARATIVE APPROACHES TO THE EMERGENCE OF POPULAR JEWISH LITERATURES, PART I

Chair and Respondent: Jeremy Asher Dauber (Columbia University)

Ben Baruch and Popular Jewish Literature in Nineteenth-Century France

Maurice Samuels (Yale University)

Middlebrow Fiction and the Making of German-Jewish Orthodoxy

Jonathan M. Hess (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)

The Response of Di Yunge to the Idea of the Popular in Yiddish Poetry

Jeffrey A. Grossman (University of Virginia)

5.3

Civic Ballroom South, 2nd Floor

JUDAISM IN ANTIQUITY AND THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS AT SIXTY: FOUR PERSPECTIVES

Chair: Hindy Najman (University of Toronto)

The Contribution of the Dead Sea Scrolls to the History of the Jews in Late Antiquity

Lawrence H. Schiffman (New York University)

The Dead Sea Scrolls and Biblical Interpretation in Antiquity

Moshe J. Bernstein (Yeshiva University)

The Dead Sea Scrolls and the Jewish Matrix of Early Christianity

Eileen Schuller (McMaster University)

The Dead Sea Scrolls and Rabbinic Judaism after Sixty (Plus) Years: Retrospect and Prospect

Steven D. Fraade (Yale University)

5.4

Dominion Ballroom North, 2nd Floor

DREAMERS AND DOERS: WOMEN WHO SHAPED AMERICAN JEWISH EDUCATION

Chair: Carol K. Ingall (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Jessie Sampter and the Hadassah School of Zionism

Rebecca Boim Wolf (New York University)

Sadie Rose Weilerstein through the Looking Glass: *K'tonton* and the American Jewish Zeitgeist

Jonathan Krasner (HUC-JIR)

Mamie Gamoran: Modeling Her Jewish Life through Jewish Textbooks

Lisa D. Grant (HUC-JIR)

Rebecca Aronson Brickner (1894-1988), Benderly Boy?

Shuly Rubin Schwartz (Jewish Theological Seminary)

5.5

Dominion Ballroom South, 2nd Floor

REVISIONING RITUAL: JEWISH TRADITION IN TRANSITION

Chair: Simon J. Bronner (Pennsylvania State University)

Reacting to History: The Order of Prayers for Yom Ha-Atzmaut and Related

Commemorations

Seth Ward (University of Wyoming)

The Traditional Commitment Ceremony

Vanessa L. Ochs (University of Virginia)

Klezmer and the Shoah: New Rituals of Mourning and Commemoration in a Grassroots

Music Movement

Joel E. Rubin (University of Virginia)

Engendering Halakhah: Rachel Adler's *Brit Ahuvim* and the Quest to Create a Feminist Halakhic Praxis

Gail Labovitz (American Jewish University)

5.6

Sheraton A, Lower Concourse

THE ART AND POLITICS OF WRITING BIOGRAPHIES IN ISRAEL, PART I

Chair: S. Ilan Troen (Brandeis University)

Literary Biography in Israel: The State of the Art

Dan Laor (Tel-Aviv University)

Between the Biographer and His Protagonist

Dina Porat (Tel-Aviv University)

Ben-Gurion's Zionism: "A Renaissance Leadership"

Shlomo Aronson (University of Arizona)

5.7

Conference Room F, Mezzanine

SEXUALITY AND SECULARIZATION IN ASHKENAZI CULTURE: A SEMINAR

Sponsored by The Posen Foundation

Chair: Ofer Nur (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Presenter: Naomi Seidman (Graduate Theological Union)

Discussants: Lynn R. Davidman (Brown University)

Laura S. Levitt (Temple University)

Seminar paper can be downloaded in advance from the AJS website, www.ajsnet.org.

5.8

Conference Room B, Mezzanine

AMERICA, HEBREW, AND THE BIBLE: FICTIONAL AND POETIC EXPLORATIONS

Chair and Respondent: Alan L. Mintz (Jewish Theological Seminary)

"Who are you and what are you Leo Halper?": Immigrant Self-Examination in the American Hebrew Novel

Jill Havi Aizenstein (New York University)

American Israeli Writing: The Case of Robert Reiss/Reuven Ben-Yosef

Michael Weingrad (Portland State University)

Pastan's Eyes: An Exploration of the Ways in which the Biblical Eve Appears in the Poetry of Linda Pastan

Anne Lapidus Lerner (Jewish Theological Seminary)

5.9

*Wentworth, 2nd Floor***ON THE ETHICS OF VISUALITY***Chair:* Carol Zemel (York University)**The Unshowable after the Unspeakable**

Berel Lang (Wesleyan University)

Seeing Otherwise: Freud and Levinas on the Visual

Susan Ellen Shapiro (University of Massachusetts-Amherst)

Displaying Evil: Visual Idolatry and the Dead and Disfigured in the Museum

Roger I. Simon (University of Toronto)

Respondent: Margaret Olin (School of the Art Institute of Chicago)

5.10

*Kenora, 2nd Floor***NEW RESEARCH ON SOCIETY AND DAILY LIFE IN THE NAZI GHETTOS***Chair:* Avinoam Patt (University of Hartford)**Young Czech Men as the Dominant Social Elite of the Terezín Ghetto**

Anna Hajkova (University of Pittsburgh/University of Toronto)

Everyday Choices on Childbearing and Abortion in the Lodz Ghetto

Rachel Iskov (Clark University)

Jewish Society in the Ghettos of Subcarpathian Russia: The Complexities of Facing Genocide

Raz Shmuel Segal (Clark University)

Culture and Everyday Life in the Vilna Ghetto

Frank Gruener (University of Heidelberg)

5.11

*Huron, 2nd Floor***HISTORY AND HISTORIOGRAPHY OF MEDIEVAL JEWISH PHILOSOPHY***Chair:* James Arthur Diamond (University of Waterloo)**From Esotericism to Science: The Account of the Chariot in Maimonidean Philosophy**

Haim (Howard) Kreisel (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

Ritva: A Respectful and Sophisticated Defender of Early Maimonideanism

Gregg Stern (University of Massachusetts-Amherst)

Late-Medieval Philosophical Interpretation of Rabbinic Literature

Maud Kozodoy (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Soul Food: Popular Consumption via Immanuel of Rome's *Mabberet Tophet V'Eden*

Dana Fishkin (New York University)

5.12

*Kent, 2nd Floor***FRENCH-SPEAKING SEPHARDIM TODAY: FROM INTELLECTUAL CONTROVERSIES TO COMIC RELIEF***Chair:* Johann Sadock (MIT)**A Sephardic Family in Sarcelles: *La Petite Jérusalem***

Catherine Portuges (University of Massachusetts-Amherst)

Gad Elmaleh: The Comedy of the Other

Dinah Stillman (University of Oklahoma)

Neither True nor False

Vivian Kogan (Dartmouth College)

5.13

*Simcoe, 2nd Floor***GENDER AND RABBINIC TEXTS***Chair:* Alyssa Gray (HUC-JIR)**Discipline or Punish? The *Sotah* through the Eyes of Foucault**

Sarra Lev (Reconstructionist Rabbinical College)

Parables of Gender

Gwynn Kessler (University of Florida)

A Match Made in Heaven: Rebecca and the Construction of Rabbinic Marriage

Jane Kanarek (Hebrew College)

Respondent: Charlotte Fonrobert (Stanford University)

5.14

*Elgin, 2nd Floor***DISCOURSES OF JEWISH IDENTITY CONSTRUCTION***Chair:* Rela Mintz Geffen (Baltimore Hebrew University)**Raising Jews by Gender: Jewish and Non-Jewish Men and Women Talk about Their Jewish Connections and Parenting Strategies**

Sylvia Barack Fishman (Brandeis University)

Daniel Parmer (Brandeis University)

The “In-Between” Status of *Baalei Teshuvah*

Roberta G. Sands (University of Pennsylvania)

“I want there to be less hate in the world and more love”: Canadian Jewish Girls (Age 10-12)**Reflect On Being Jewish and Female**

Nora Gold (University of Toronto)

5.15

*Conference Room C, Mezzanine***JEWISH TOPOGRAPHIES I: TRACING JEWISH LANDSCAPES IN EASTERN EUROPE***Chair and Respondent:* Anna Lipphardt (Centre Marc Bloch, Berlin)**Jewish Legendary Poland: Materialized Settlement and Metaphysical Landscape**

Haya Bar-Itzhak (University of Haifa/Pennsylvania State University)

Claiming Our Space: The Landkentenish Movement in Interwar Poland

Samuel D. Kassow (Trinity College)

Constructing an Atlas from a Forgotten Past: Problematica and Prospects

Jonathan Dekel-Chen (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

BOOK EXHIBIT**10:30 AM – 11:15 AM***Osgoode Ballroom, Lower Concourse***COFFEE RECEPTION***Sponsored by the Center for Jewish History***Session 6, Monday, December 17, 2007****10:30 AM – 12:30 PM****6.1 Poster Session***Sheraton E, Lower Concourse***ISRAEL STUDIES****Bearing Witness: Liminality and Alternative Jewish Tourism**

Caryn Aviv (University of Denver)

Ethiopian-Israeli *Buba Mayses*

Ruby K. Newman (York University)

JEWISH MYSTICISM**The Alter Rebbe's Radical Transvaluation of *Or Hozer* in *Igeret Hakodesh 20***

David Seidenberg (Graduate Theological Union)

The Prince, the Hermit, and the Kohen: Buddhist Stories in *Toldot Ya'akov Yosef*

Aryeh J. Wineman (Independent Scholar)

MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN JEWISH HISTORY, LITERATURE, AND CULTURE**The Imagined Emperor Constantine**

Katja Vehlow (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

The Kingdom of Granada Jeweries on the Eve of the 1492 Expulsion

Raquel Sanz Barrio (Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales)

MODERN JEWISH HISTORY**Deserted Women (*Agumot*) in Hebrew Newspapers, 1857-1876**

Haim Sperber (Western Galilee College)

Disenchantment: George Steiner and the Meaning of Western Culture after Auschwitz

Catherine D. Chatterley (University of Winnipeg)

Herzl in Czortkov: Ahron Marcus as Zionist *Shaliach* to the Hasidic World

Joshua Shanes (College of Charleston)

The Memoirs of M.M. Frieden and "History from Below"

Lee Shai Weissbach (University of Louisville)

Transatlantic Crossings: The Interchange of Ideas between Anglo-Jewry and Conservative Judaism

Matthew LaGrone (University of Toronto)

MODERN HEBREW LITERATURE AND JEWISH LITERATURE**Contesting Jewish Identities in Modernism: Wyndham Lewis's *Apes of God* and John Rodker's *Ape of Genius***

Dominic Williams (University of Leeds)

Israeli Popular Literature Collection: New Research Prospects

Rachel Leket-Mor (Arizona State University)

SEPHARDI/MIZRAHI STUDIES**A Paradoxical Outcome?: Understanding the Relationship between Protestant Missionaries and the Bene Israel in the Context of Nineteenth-Century Christian-Jewish and Christian-Indian Encounters**

Mitchell Numark (University of Oklahoma)

The Verbs *Ser* and *Estar* in Sephardic Spanish: A Comparative Study of Their Use in Contemporary Istanbul and Florida

Luisa Kluger (Rice University)

SOCIAL SCIENCE, ANTHROPOLOGY, AND FOLKLORE

Community Effects on Jewish Identity

Matthew E. Boxer (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

Jewish Continuity through Non-Jewish Mothers

Jennifer Thompson (Emory University)

Jewish Fertility in Israel: Transitions to the 3rd and 4th Child

Sergio DellaPergola (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Jewish Identity in Eighth Grade: How Do Day School and Non-Day School Students Compare?

Tony Frank (University of Illinois at Chicago)

Varying Patterns of Relationship between Religiosity and Community

Mervin F. Verbit (Touro College)

The Detroit Jewish Community: Strength in the Face of a Decreasing Population

Ira Martin Sheskin (University of Miami)

TALMUD, MIDRASH, AND RABBINICS

Subjugation and Autonomy in Rabbi Shlomo Zalman Auerbach's Halakhic Ruling

Amir Mashiach (Bar-Ilan University)

The Curious Theological Grammar of *Ga'al Yisra'el*

Debra Reed Blank (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Where the Many Have Trodden: Social Factors in Rabbinic Discourse on Health Risks

Hillel Gray (University of Chicago)

Session 7, Monday, December 17, 2007

11:15 AM – 1:00 PM

7.1

Grand Ballroom West, Lower Concourse

HOW RELEVANT IS RABBINICS TO JUDAIC STUDIES?

Sponsored by the American Academy for Jewish Research

Chair: David C. Kraemer (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Discussants: Yael Feldman (New York University)
 Raymond P. Scheindlin (Jewish Theological Seminary)
 Lawrence H. Schiffman (New York University)
 David Stern (University of Pennsylvania)

7.2

Grand Ballroom East, Lower Concourse

GERMAN JEWISH HISTORIOGRAPHY IN POST-NATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

Chair: Willi Goetschel (University of Toronto)

Discussants: Nils Roemer (University of Texas at Dallas)
 David Suchoff (Colby College)
 Till van Rahden (Université de Montréal)

7.3

*Civic Ballroom South, 2nd Floor***THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS AT SIXTY, PART II***Chair:* Judith Newman (Emmanuel College)**Refocusing the Rule Texts from Qumran**

Sarianna Metso (University of Toronto)

Against a Theory of Individual Determinism in 1QS, 1QM, and 1QH^a

Paul Heger (University of Toronto)

Law and Exegesis at Qumran: The Sabbath Carrying Prohibition in Comparative Perspective

Alex P. Jassen (University of Minnesota)

The 364-Day “Qumran” Calendar and the Biblical Seventh-Day Sabbath: A Hypothesis Concerning Their Simultaneous Institutionalization by Nehemiah

Ron H. Feldman (Graduate Theological Union)

7.4

*Dominion Ballroom North, 2nd Floor***THEO-POLITICS AND BIBLICAL HERMENEUTICS: BUBER AND ROSENZWEIG ON THE KINGSHIP OF GOD***Chair:* Dana Hollander (McMaster University)**The Kingship of God in Buber’s Reading of the Hebrew Bible**

Claire Sufrin (Northeastern University/Stanford University)

The Eternal You and the We: Community and Divine Rule in Buber’s Philosophical Anthropology

William Plevan (Princeton University)

“As if I speak with Isaiah”: Rosenzweig on Politics, Vision, and the Kingdom of God

Benjamin Pollock (Michigan State University)

Respondent: Benjamin D. Sommer (Northwestern University)

7.5

*Dominion Ballroom South, 2nd Floor***JEWISH ART AND VISUAL CULTURE IN THE ACADEMY***Chair:* Margaret Olin (School of the Art Institute of Chicago)**The “Second Commandment” and Modern Constructions of Ancient Jewish Art: The Case of the Zodiac**

Steven Fine (Yeshiva University)

The Problem of Definition and the Problem of Acceptance

Vivian B. Mann (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Teaching Jewish Art and Visual Culture in Post-World War II America

Catherine M. Soussloff (University of California, Santa Cruz)

7.6

*Sheraton A, Lower Concourse***THE ART AND POLITICS OF WRITING BIOGRAPHIES IN ISRAEL, PART II***Chair and Respondent:* Anita Shapira (Tel-Aviv University)**Women Writing Biographies of Women: Synergy and Pitfalls**

Shulamit Reinharz (Brandeis University)

Decoding Enigmatic Leadership: Biographies of the Kibbutz Movement’s Leaders

Aviva Haramish (The Open University of Israel)

Commemorating Israeli Presidents and Prime Ministers by the State Archives

Arye Naor (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

7.7

*Sheraton B, Lower Concourse***IS KABBALAH MYSTICISM?***Chair:* Jonathan Dauber (Yeshiva University)*Discussants:*

Pinchas Giller (American Jewish University)

Hartley Lachter (Muhlenberg College)

Shaul Magid (Indiana University)

Hava Tirosh-Samuels (Arizona State University)

7.8

*Conference Room B, Mezzanine***CONFLICTING MEMORIES AND GLOBAL CHALLENGES OF POST-HOLOCAUST JEWISH HISTORY***Sponsored by the Center for Jewish History Fellowships Program**Chair:* Gabriel N. Finder (University of Virginia)**Finding the Children: Hidden Children and Holocaust Memory**

Daniella Doron (New York University)

Between “Jewish National Tragedy” and “European Cataclysm”: Early Holocaust Research and Memory in Transnational Perspective

Laura Jockusch (New York University)

Hashavat Avedah: The Distribution of Heirless Jewish Cultural Property after World War II

Dana Herman (McGill University)

Respondent: Hasia R. Diner (New York University)

7.9

*Wentworth, 2nd Floor***THE RIOTS OF 1391 AND THEIR IMMEDIATE IMPACT ON JEWS AND CONVERSOS IN THE CROWN OF ARAGON***Chair and Respondent:* Mark Meyerson (University of Toronto)**“Unless the Lord watches over the city...” Aragonese Royal Authorities and Their Jews, 1391–1392**

Benjamin R. Gampel (Jewish Theological Seminary)

The Jewish “Call” of Palma de Mallorca, 1390-1395: Transformations in Social Network Topography

Martin Elbl (Trent University/Portuguese Studies Review)

Confraternitas Conversorum: The Development of a Majorcan Converso Community

Natalie Brenda Oeltjen (University of Toronto)

7.10

*Kenora, 2nd Floor***RUSSIAN JEWRY IN PIECES: CULTURE AND COMMUNITY DURING WORLD WAR I***Chair and Respondent:* John M. Efron (University of California, Berkeley)**Jewish Public Culture during the Great War**

Jeffrey Veidlinger (Indiana University)

Frozen Folk Songs: Music, Technology, and Cultural Politics in Wartime Russia

James Loeffler (University of Virginia)

Hidden in Plain View: War, Peace, and the Narrative Unconscious in Sholem Aleichem’s *From the Fair*

Olga Litvak (University at Albany, SUNY)

7.11

*Huron, 2nd Floor***YIDDISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE TEACHING IN NORTH AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES***Chair:* Anna Shternshis (University of Toronto)

Discussants: Kathryn A. Hellerstein (University of Pennsylvania)
 Ellen Kellman (Brandeis University)
 Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett (New York University)
 Anita Norich (University of Michigan)
 Ato Quayson (University of Toronto)

7.12

*Kent, 2nd Floor***“MAKING TROUBLE”: SCREENING THE LIVES OF JEWISH WOMEN COMEDIANS***Sponsored by the Jewish Women’s Archive**Chair:* Karla Goldman (Jewish Women’s Archive)

Discussants: Joyce Antler (Brandeis University)
 David E. Kaufman (HUC-JIR)
 Andrea M. Most (University of Toronto)

7.13

Simcoe, 2nd Floor

THE OLD/NEW MENDELSSOHN

Chair: Robert B. Gibbs (University of Toronto)

Why Mendelssohn Still Matters

Leah Hochman (University of Florida)

Resisting Divine Tyranny: On the Limits of Mendelssohn's Pluralism

Robert Erlewine (Illinois Wesleyan University)

Heteronomy in Mendelssohn

Martin Kavka (Florida State University)

Respondent: Jonathan M. Hess (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)

7.14

Elgin, 2nd Floor

RE-THINKING CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORKS FOR STUDYING JEWISH COMMUNITIES: ORGANIZATION, STRUCTURE, AND AGENCY

Chair: Dana Greene (North Carolina Central University)

“Ya'akov Sonei et Eisav!” Redefining the Protocols for the Counteraction of Anti-Semitism

Jerome A. Chanes (Brandeis University)

Megaclusters: Jewish Geography for the Twenty-First Century

Jonathon Ament (United Jewish Communities)

Laurence Kotler-Berkowitz (United Jewish Communities)

Respondent: Bethamie Horowitz (Independent Scholar)

7.15

Conference Room C, Mezzanine

INDEPENDENT MINYANIM, JEWISH EMERGENTS, AND OTHER NEW SPIRITUAL COMMUNITIES: A RESEARCH SEMINAR

Sponsored by S3K Synagogue Studies Institute

Chair: J. Shawn Landres (Synagogue 3000/University of California, Los Angeles)

New Spiritual Communities: Younger Adult Jews in the United States

Steven Martin Cohen (HUC-JIR)

Discussants:

Caryn Aviv (University of Denver)

Tobin Belzer (University of Southern California)

Ari Y. Kelman (University of California, Davis)

Shaul Kelner (Vanderbilt University)

Seminar paper can be downloaded in advance from the AJS website, www.ajsnet.org.

GENERAL LUNCH

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Grand Ballroom Centre, Lower Concourse

(Note: By pre-paid reservation only)

AAJR LUNCH

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Conference Room D/E, Mezzanine

For the Fellows of the American Academy for Jewish Research

SEPHARDI/MIZRAHI

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Conference Room F, Mezzanine

CAUCUS LUNCH

(Note: By pre-paid reservation only)

Session 8, Monday, December 17, 2007

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

- 8.1 *Grand Ballroom West, Lower Concourse*
FUNNY, YOU DON'T LOOK AMERICAN: INTEGRATING AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY INTO THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES
Sponsored by the American Jewish Historical Society
Chair: Josh Perelman (National Museum of American Jewish History)
Discussants: Lila Corwin Berman (Pennsylvania State University)
 Marc Dollinger (San Francisco State University)
 Kirsten Fermaglich (Michigan State University)
 Cheryl Greenberg (Trinity College)
 Melissa Klapper (Rowan University)
- 8.2 *Grand Ballroom East, Lower Concourse*
JEWISH HISTORIOGRAPHY IN EXTREMIS: A ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION
Chair: David G. Roskies (Jewish Theological Seminary)
Discussants: David E. Fishman (Jewish Theological Seminary)
 Samuel D. Kassow (Trinity College)
 Dalia Ofer (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
- 8.3 *Civic Ballroom South, 2nd Floor*
GENDERING JEWISH STUDIES
Chair and Respondent: Judith M. Gerson (Rutgers University)
Jewish Women's Studies: Teaching about Multiple and Intersecting Identities
 Kathie Friedman (University of Washington)
The Feminist Enterprise in Teaching the Sociology of Jewish Life
 Diane Wolf (University of California, Davis)
Gendering Jewish Studies in the Study of Identity
 Debra Renee Kaufman (Northeastern University)
- 8.4 *Dominion Ballroom North, 2nd Floor*
YIDDISH PROSE: OLD AND NEW
Chair: Alan Astro (Trinity University)
A Yiddish Carnavalesque Text from the Renaissance
 Justin Jaron Lewis (Queen's University)
Match Made in Heaven, Hell, and the Marketplace: The Secret of a Good *Maskilic Shidekh*
 Donny Inbar (Graduate Theological Union)
Why Are the Jews Beyond the Sambatyon Red? A Yiddish Counter-History on a German Legend
 Rebekka Voss (University of Duesseldorf)
The Pregnant Bride from Suffolk Street: Intraethnic Class Conflict in a Yiddish Serial Novel (1931)
 Ellen Kellman (Brandeis University)
- 8.5 *Dominion Ballroom South, 2nd Floor*
CONSTITUTING ISRAEL AS A JEWISH STATE
Chair: Judith F. Rosen (CUNY Graduate Center)
A Modest Proposal for a Basic Law: Religion
 Martin Edelman (Kingsborough Community College, CUNY)
Zionism in Contemporary American "Official" Reform Jewish Discourse and its Theological and Pedagogic Implications
 Haim Otto Rechnitzer (HUC-JIR)
The Binational State Idea in Mandate-Era Palestine
 Lauren Apter (University of Texas at Austin)

8.6

Sheraton A, Lower Concourse

RABBINIC PRACTICES AND THEIR BROADER CULTURAL CONTEXT

Chair: Geoffrey Herman (Jewish Theological Seminary)

The Knowledgeable and the Weak: Rabbinic Parallels to I Corinthians 8:7-13

Aaron Amit (Bar-Ilan University)

Magical Mitzvot and the Tanna'im

Yehudah Cohn (CUNY)

Methodological Considerations on the Use of “Non-Rabbinic” Literary Sources for the Study of Rabbinic Literature

Eszter Katalin Fuzessy (University of Chicago)

On the Possibility of Pagan Midrash: Porphyry on Exodus 22:27

Azzan Yadin (Rutgers University)

8.7

Sheraton B, Lower Concourse

MYSTICAL POETICS: THE JEWISH MYSTICAL TEXT AS LITERATURE AND PRACTICE

Chair: Lawrence B. Fine (Mount Holyoke College)

Dramatic Monologue, Mystical Speech, and the Question of Genre in Zoharic Narrative

Eitan P. Fishbane (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Lurianic Kabbalah as Literature: A New Historicist Reading

Shaul Magid (Indiana University)

Towards a Hypersubjective Mystical Poetics: Beyond *Tiqqun Ha'nuqbab* to a Jewish Mysticism of the Feminine

Aubrey L. Glazer (JCC of Harrison)

The Poetics of Religious Subjectivity: Literature, Emotion, and Ritual Efficacy in Hasidic Texts

Don Seeman (Emory University)

8.8

Conference Room B, Mezzanine

FRANCO-SEPHARDI COLONIAL HISTORY AND POST-COLONIAL HISTORIOGRAPHY

Chair and Respondent: Daniel J. Schroeter (University of California, Irvine)

Anti-Semitic Mobilization, Violence, and the Redrawing of Colonial Algerian Society at the Fin de Siècle

Steven Uran (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique)

French Sepharad Historiography, New Judeophobia, and the Victimization Paradigm

Solange Guenoun (University of Connecticut)

Representations of the Subaltern: Evidence from the Correspondence of Women Educators at the Alliance Israelite Universelle School for Girls, Tunis, 1882-1914

Joy A. Land (University of Connecticut at Stamford)

8.9

Wentworth, 2nd Floor

JEWISH AMERICAN WOMEN WRITERS: JEW AND OTHER

Chair: Gerda Elata-Alster (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

“A Little Exotic?” Orientalism in the Fiction and Images of Fannie Hurst

Alisa Braun (University of California, Davis)

Anzia Yezierska's *Salome of the Tenements* and John Dewey's *Democracy*: Conversations with “The American” and Yezierska's Private Dialogism

Orit Rabkin (University of Oklahoma)

Jews and Others in the Fiction of Joanne Greenberg

Gail Sherman (Reed College)

Editorial Recovery: The Collected Poems of Miriam Dworkin Waddington

Ruth Panofsky (Ryerson University)

8.10

Kenora, 2nd Floor

PHILO-SEMITISM AND ANTI-SEMITISM IN MODERN BRITISH AND AMERICAN LITERATURE: A CO-DEPENDENT RELATIONSHIP

Chair: Phyllis Lassner (Northwestern University)

Nordomania: Fictions of Jewishness in the 1920s

Lisa Marcus (Pacific Lutheran University)

Exile and Jewish Identity: Marjorie Agosin and Urban Diasporic Possibility

Murray Baumgarten (University of California, Santa Cruz)

Two Modern Poems and the Emergence of the New Anti-Semitism in England: Tom Paulin's "Killed in Crossfire" and Peter Reading's "Cub"

Paul Lawrence Rose (Pennsylvania State University)

8.11

Huron, 2nd Floor

MEDIEVAL JEWISH RESPONSES TO CHRISTIANS AND CHRISTIANITY

Chair: David Berger (Yeshiva University)

Sefer Zekbirab's Portrayal of Christians: An Alternate Ashkenazic Voice

Chaviva Levin (Yeshiva University)

The Meiri's Halakhah about Christians and Christianity: A Response to Halberthal

Aryeh Klapper (The Center for Modern Torah Leadership/ Gann Academy)

Theory and Praxis: A Jewish Physician's Approach to Christian Learning

Susan L. Einbinder (HUC-JIR)

The Tzedakah La-Derekh's Apologia for the Birkat Ha-Minim

Ruth Langer (Boston College)

8.12

Kent, 2nd Floor

HOLOCAUST MEMORY IN SOVIET AND POST-SOVIET RUSSIA

Chair: Antony Polonsky (Brandeis University)

Screening the Holocaust

Olga Gershenson (University of Massachusetts-Amherst)

Picturing Grief: Wartime Photography and Soviet Holocaust Memory

David Shneer (University of Denver)

Lev Ginzburg, Soviet Holocaust Memory, and Germanophilia

Maxim D. Shrayer (Boston College)

So That Is Why We Have No Family in Ukraine: The Memory of the Holocaust among Soviet Jews during the 1950s-1990s

Anna Shternshis (University of Toronto)

8.13

Simcoe, 2nd Floor

GERSHON SHAKED AND THE NARRATIVE OF MODERN HEBREW FICTION: A MEMORIAL ASSESSMENT

Chair: Glenda Abramson (Oxford University)

Gershon Shaked's History of Hebrew Narrative Fiction: A Zionist Enterprise

Avner Holtzman (Tel-Aviv University)

The Challenges of Writing a Historiography of Modernist Hebrew Fiction

Shachar M. Pinsker (University of Michigan)

Inter-Generational Portraits: Agnon, Shaked, and the Gender of Narrative

Anne Golomb Hoffman (Fordham University)

Shaked and Agnon's *Hakbnasat Kalab*: Elective Affinities?

Alan L. Mintz (Jewish Theological Seminary)

8.14

Elgin, 2nd Floor

**JEWISH POLITICAL THEOLOGY AND JEWISH STATESMANSHIP:
FROM SPINOZA TO COHEN**

Chair: Alan Udoff (St. Francis College)

Spinoza's Defense of the Bible: The Model of Modern Statesmanship?

Kenneth Hart Green (University of Toronto)

Mendelssohn's Natural Theology as a Political Theology and Its Practical Tests: *Jerusalem* (1783) vs. *Cranz's Search for Right and Light* (1782) and *Jacobi's Spinoza Letters* (1785)

Martin D. Yaffe (University of North Texas)

Leo Strauss and the Pantheism Controversy

Michah Gottlieb (New York University)

Hermann Cohen on Religion and Politics

Dana Hollander (McMaster University)

Respondent: Sharon Portnoff (Pomona College/Boston University)

8.15

Conference Room C, Mezzanine

**ORTHODOX JEWRY IN AMERICA AS SEEN THROUGH THE PRISM OF
RESEARCH INTO JEWISH SCHOOLS**

Chair: Sylvia Barack Fishman (Brandeis University)

**Diversity, Legitimacy, and Competition: New Orthodox Day Schools as Indicators of
Developing Orthodox Communal Realities**

Shani Bechhofer (Yeshiva University)

**Internal Complexity, External Adaptation: Cultural Dynamics in the Ultra-Orthodox School
System**

Moshe Krakowski (Northwestern University)

What's Troubling Orthodox Jewish Educators? An Analysis of Listserv Conversation

Alex Pomson (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Chabad Hebrew School: A New Entry on the Frontier of Jewish Supplementary Education

Jack Wertheimer (Jewish Theological Seminary)

BOOK EXHIBIT

4:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Osgoode Ballroom, Lower Concourse

COFFEE RECEPTION

Sponsored by the Center for Jewish History

DIVISION MEETINGS

4:00 PM – 4:30 PM

See p. 67 for locations.

*An opportunity for conference attendees to meet with Division Chairs
to discuss themes for the 2008 Annual Meeting.*

Session 9, Monday, December 17, 2007

4:30 PM – 6:30 PM

9.1

Grand Ballroom West, Lower Concourse

THE MEANING OF RELIGIOUS BELIEF IN A POST-MODERN AGE

Chair: Ronit Irshai (Harvard University)

The Meaning of Religious Belief in a Post-Modern Age

Tamar Ross (Bar-Ilan University)

War and Peace: Bridging Modern Religious Discourse and its Post-Modern Critiques

Avinoam Rosenak (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Prophetic Peace: Judaism without Metaphysics

Alick Isaacs (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

It's Been Real: Metaphysics and Language in Religious Thought

Gordon Tucker (Independent Scholar)

9.2

*Grand Ballroom East, Lower Concourse***THE CONSTRUCTION OF DP IDENTITY AFTER THE HOLOCAUST***Chair:* Atina Grossmann (Cooper Union)**Exodus, Conquest, and Redemption: The Role of *Ha'apalah* in DP Zionism**

Avinoam Patt (University of Hartford)

The Reconstruction of Gender Identity among Jewish Postwar DPs

Judith Baumel (Bar-Ilan University)

Pedagogy of Training: Zionism and Education in the DP Camps in Germany

Ada Schein (Yad Vashem)

History versus Memory: Teaching the Holocaust in History Classes in Israeli High Schools

Idit Gil (The Open University of Israel)

Respondent: Aviva Halamish (The Open University of Israel)

9.3

*Civic Ballroom South, 2nd Floor***MEETING OF JEWISH STUDIES DIRECTORS***Chair:* Arnold Dashefsky (University of Connecticut at Storrs)*Respondents:* Norma Baumel Joseph (Concordia University)

Sara R. Horowitz (York University)

Kenneth Waltzer (Michigan State University)

Beth S. Wenger (University of Pennsylvania)

9.4

*Dominion Ballroom North, 2nd Floor***RIDING THE WAVES OF FEMINISM***Chair:* Marc Lee Raphael (College of William and Mary)**What Their Grandmothers Did: First Wave Foremothers of Jewish Feminism**

Melissa Klapper (Rowan University)

The Constellation Jewish Feminism

Pamela S. Nadell (American University)

The Paradox of American Jewish Feminism and Its Relationship to the Second Wave

Riv-Ellen Prell (University of Minnesota)

Respondent: Elspeth Brown (University of Toronto)

9.5

*Dominion Ballroom South, 2nd Floor***SHAPING PUBLIC MEMORY OF THE HOLOCAUST IN POLAND, LITHUANIA, AND "YIDDISHLAND"***Chair:* Natalia Aleksium (Touro College)**Yiddish Literary Testimonies of the Holocaust**

Jan Schwarz (University of Chicago)

Shmerke Kaczerginski, the Partisan Troubadour

Bret Werb (United States Holocaust Memorial Museum)

Memento Mori: Photographs from the Grave

Judith Cohen (United States Holocaust Memorial Museum)

"Is there anything else you would like to add?" Music and Narrative in the Holocaust**Testimonies of The Shoah Visual History Archive**

Leah Wolfson (Emory University)

Respondent: Antony Polonsky (Brandeis University)

9.6

*Sheraton A, Lower Concourse***JEWES AND TECHNOLOGY***Sponsored by the Working Group on Jews, Religion and Media, Center for Religion and Media, New York University**Chair and Respondent:* Jeremy Stolow (McMaster University)**Domesticating Healing Technologies, Making Them “Jewish”**

Vanessa L. Ochs (University of Virginia)

Is There a Jewish Critique of Technology? Gunther Anders and the “Soul” of Technology

Michael Dorland (Carleton University)

Video Rites: The Protocols of Recording American Jewish Life-Cycle Rituals

Jeffrey A. Shandler (Rutgers University)

9.7

*Sheraton B, Lower Concourse***ANTI-REVOLUTIONARY JEWS IN RUSSIA, 1897-1920***Chair and Respondent:* Zvi Gitelman (University of Michigan)**The Rabbinic Campaign against Jewish Radicalism, 1901-1905**

David E. Fishman (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Anti-Revolutionary Orientations in the Society for the Promotion of Enlightenment among the Jews in Russia (OPE), 1905-1917

Brian J. Horowitz (Tulane University)

Jewish Anti-Bolshevik Politics in the Civil War Period, 1917-1920

Oleg Budnitskii (International Center for Russian and East European Jewish Studies, Moscow)

9.8

*Conference Room B, Mezzanine***JEWISH STUDIES AND LATINA/O STUDIES: OVERLAPPING DIASPORAS AND REIMAGINED CONNECTIONS***Chair:* Dean Franco (Wake Forest University)**Border Secrets: Gender and Judaism in the Americas**

Theresa Delgadillo (Ohio State University)

Marranos, Conversos, and Crypto-Latinos: Jews in the Southwest and American Dramas of Racial and Ethnic Belonging

Jonathan Freedman (University of Michigan)

Sephardism and Latina/o Literature

Dalia Kandiyoti (College of Staten Island, CUNY)

“A fowl konspirissy - is it pussible?” Language, Race, and Landscape in the Comix of George Harriman and Milt Gross

Joshua Miller (University of Michigan)

9.9

*Wentworth, 2nd Floor***THE NORTHERN-FRENCH EXEGETICAL SCHOOL: NEW PERSPECTIVES IN CURRENT RESEARCH***Chair:* Andreas Lehnardt (University of Mainz)***Peshat* Exegesis and Narrativity in the Commentaries of Rashbam and His School**

Hanna Liss (College of Jewish Studies, Heidelberg)

Glossing and *Peshat*

Kirsten Fudeman (University of Pittsburgh)

Harmonizing *Peshat* and Midrash

Martin I. Lockshin (York University)

9.10

*Kenora, 2nd Floor***MODERN YIDDISH POETRY***Chair:* Kathryn A. Hellerstein (University of Pennsylvania)**The Modernist Connection: Else Lasker Schuler, Mordecai Ardon, and Rikuda Potash in Jerusalem**

Yael Chaver (University of California, Berkeley)

“Amerikanish Dertsoygene Yidishe Shrayber”: *Inzikh* as a School of Poetry and Poetics, 1920-1939

Itay B. Zutra (Jewish Theological Seminary)

The Sacco-Vanzetti Poem as a Crucible of Yiddish-American Identity

Jordan D. Finkin (University of Oxford)

Yung-Galitsie: Modern Yiddish Literature in Galicia

Carrie Friedman-Cohen (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Three Montreal Jewish Spinozists: Melech Ravitch, A.M. Klein, and Moshe Sambatyon

Allan L. Nadler (Drew University)

9.11

*Huron, 2nd Floor***RETHINKING AGGADIC FIGURES***Chair:* Gail Labovitz (American Jewish University)**Confusing the Heavenly and Human Fathers: Rabbinic Constructions of Power and Powerlessness in *Masekhet Ta’anit***

Julia Watts Belser (University of California, Berkeley/Graduate Theological Union)

Contours of the Messiah in *Pesiqta Rabbati*

Rivka B. Kern-Ulmer (Bucknell University)

The Story of Ilfa and R. Yohanan (*Bavli Ta’anit 21a*)

Jeffrey L. Rubenstein (New York University)

The Tale of Aher: Another View

Jay Rovner (Jewish Theological Seminary)

9.12

*Kent, 2nd Floor***JEWISH TOPOGRAPHIES II: PERFORMED URBAN SPACE***Chair:* Alexandra Nocke (University of Potsdam)**Into the Mouth: Hybridization and the Culinary Landscapes of Russian-Jewish New York**

Eve Jochnowitz (New York University)

Religious Microspaces in a Suburban Environment: The Orthodox Jews of Thornhill, Ontario

Etan Diamond (Independent Scholar)

The Buena Vista Baghdad Club Phenomenon: Tracing Discourses of Middle Eastern Music from Iraq to Israel

Galeet Dardashti (University of Texas at Austin)

Jungles and Cities: The Travel Writing of Markus Paryszewsky

Jack Kugelmass (University of Florida)

Respondent: Joachim Schloer (University of Southampton)

9.13

*Simcoe, 2nd Floor***INSCRIBING THE SELF: THEORY AND PRACTICE OF HEBREW SELF-WRITING IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY***Chair:* Michael Weingrad (Portland State University)**Hebrew Writers of the First World War: Memoir, Autobiography, or Fiction?**

Glenda Abramson (University of Oxford)

Self-Writing in the Letters of Hava Shapiro to Reuven Brainin

Wendy Ilene Zierler (HUC-JIR)

Pinhas Sadeh’s Parables of Self

Hannah S. Pressman (New York University)

9.14

Elgin, 2nd Floor

THE HEBREW BIBLE IN ITS ANCIENT NEAR EASTERN CONTEXT

Chair: Peter B. Machinist (Harvard University)

A New Look at the Babylonian Origin of the Motif of the Fiery Furnace in Daniel 3

Paul-Alain Beaulieu (University of Toronto)

History and Theology in the Account about the Fall of Samaria (2 Kings 17)

Ronnie Goldstein (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Usurper and Sovereign Judge: Absalom's Rebellion in West-Semitic Political Thought

Seth Sanders (Trinity College)

Early Aramaic Historical Literature: Reflections, with an Eye on Some Biblical Analogues

Abraham Winitzer (Notre Dame University)

The First Diasporas: Blueprints for the Future?

Carl S. Ehrlich (York University)

9.15

Conference Room C, Mezzanine

DEMOGRAPHIC ISSUES IN THE AMERICAN AND ISRAELI JEWISH COMMUNITIES

Chair: Ira Martin Sheskin (University of Miami)

Israelis in the United States: Social Mobility and Attachment to Homeland

Uzi Rebhun (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Occupational Similarity and Dissimilarity among American Jewish Couples

Moshe Hartman (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

Harriet Hartman (Rowan University)

The Impact of Intermarriage on Jewish Young Adults

Benjamin Phillips (Brandeis University)

Lakeville Revisited: Does Suburbanization Lead to Assimilation?

Bruce A. Phillips (HUC-JIR)

Monday, December 17, 2007 Evening Program

AJS PERSPECTIVES EDITORIAL

6:30 PM

Ice Palace, 4th Floor

BOARD MEETING

GRADUATE STUDENT RECEPTION

6:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Conference Room H, Mezzanine

Sponsored by the Association for Jewish Studies. Open to all graduate students.

ASSOCIATION FOR

6:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Conference Room G, Mezzanine

ISRAEL STUDIES RECEPTION

Sponsored by the Association for Israel Studies. Open to all conference registrants.

POLIN RECEPTION

6:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Essex Ballroom, Mezzanine

Honoring the twentieth anniversary of the publication of POLIN: Studies in Polish Jewry.

Sponsored by the Polish-Jewish Heritage Foundation of Canada, Toronto Chapter,

and the American Association for Polish-Jewish Studies. Open to all conference registrants.

FOUNDATION FOR JEWISH CULTURE DOCTORAL DISSERTATION FELLOWS RECEPTION
6:30 PM – 7:30 PM *Conference Room F, Mezzanine*
Honoring 2007-2008 Fellowship recipients. Sponsored by George M. Zeltzer and The Foundation for Jewish Culture. Open to all former recipients of the Foundation's Doctoral Dissertation Fellowships and all conference registrants.

YALE UNIVERSITY PRESS/ YIVO RECEPTION
6:30 PM – 7:30 PM *Conference Room D/E, Mezzanine*
Honoring the forthcoming publication of The YIVO Encyclopedia of Jews in Eastern Europe. Open to all conference registrants.

GENERAL DINNER
7:15 PM *Grand Ballroom Centre*
(Note: By pre-paid reservation only)

FILM
9:00 PM *City Hall, 2nd Floor*
LIES MY FATHER TOLD ME
 Canada, 1975, 103 minutes.
 Directed by Jan Kador.
Presented by the Joseph and Rebecca Meyerhoff Center for Jewish Studies, University of Maryland, College Park.

Tuesday, December 18, 2007

GENERAL BREAKFAST
7:30 AM – 8:30 AM *Grand Ballroom Centre, Lower Concourse*
(Note: By pre-paid reservation only)

AJS PROGRAM COMMITTEE AND DIVISION CHAIRS BREAKFAST MEETING
7:00 AM – 8:30 AM *Conference Room D/E, Mezzanine*

REGISTRATION
8:30 AM – 1:00 PM *Lower Concourse Foyer*

BOOK EXHIBIT
8:30 AM – 1:00 PM *Osgoode Ballroom, Lower Concourse*

FILM SCREENINGS
8:30 AM – 4:00 PM *City Hall, 2nd Floor*

Session 10, Tuesday, December 18, 2007 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM

10.1 *Dufferin, 2nd Floor*

MEDIATING SHYLOCK [AND JESSICA]

Chair: Edna Nahshon (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Christian Iconography and Jewish Accommodation in Maurycy Gottlieb's *Shylock and Jessica* (1876)

Susan Chevlowe (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Yiddishizing Shylock

Nina Warnke (Vanderbilt University)

Shylock the Bass: Confronting *The Merchant of Venice* on the Opera Stage

Judah M. Cohen (Indiana University)

- 10.2 *Grand Ballroom East, Lower Concourse*
JEWES AND VISUAL CULTURE I: REFRAMING THE HOLOCAUST
Chair: Lisa Silverman (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee)
Holocaust Metonymies and Moving Images: Moll's *The Last Days*
Bradley Prager (University of Missouri, Columbia)
What Nazis Look Like (and Jews Don't): On Piotr Uklanski's *The Nazis*
Daniel Magilow (University of Tennessee-Knoxville)
Reflections on and of Franz Stangl: Benjamin Ross' *Torte Bluma*
Jennie Hirsh (Maryland Institute College of Art)
Respondent: Darcy Buerkle (Smith College)
- 10.3 *Civic Ballroom South, 2nd Floor*
THE FIVE BOOKS OF MOSES: NEW INSIGHTS
Chair: Diana Lipton (King's College London)
Covering Up for Cain
Tzemah Yoreh (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)
"By the blood that you shed you are guilty": Perspectives on Female Blood in Leviticus and Ezekiel
Elizabeth Goldstein (University of California, San Diego)
The Torah Cycle: Study, Recitation, and Memorization in Deuteronomy
Baruch Alster (Bar-Ilan University)
Considerations on the Meaning of Sterility in the Patriarchal Cycle
Suzana Chwartz (University of Sao Paulo)
- 10.4 *Dominion Ballroom North, 2nd Floor*
CONCEPTUALIZING A FEMINIST COMMENTARY ON *SEDER MO'ED* OF THE BABYLONIAN TALMUD: RATIONALES AND PARAMETERS
Sponsored by the German Research Foundation
Chair: Tal Ilan (Freie Universität, Berlin)
Discussants: Aryeh Cohen (American Jewish University)
Charlotte Fonrobert (Stanford University)
Judith Hauptman (Jewish Theological Seminary)
Tamara Or (Freie Universität, Berlin)
Dorothea Salzer (Freie Universität, Berlin)
- 10.5 *Dominion Ballroom South, 2nd Floor*
BETWEEN ANTI-ZIONISM AND PHILO-SEMITISM: VIEWS OF JEWS IN CONTEMPORARY EUROPE
Chair: Allan M. Arkush (Binghamton University, SUNY)
Discussants: Matti Bunzl (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)
H. Susannah Heschel (Dartmouth College)
Jonathan Karp (Binghamton University, SUNY)
Norman A. Stillman (University of Oklahoma)
Adam D. Sutcliffe (King's College London)
- 10.6 *Sheraton A, Lower Concourse*
ATHENS AND JERUSALEM IN MODERN JEWISH THOUGHT
Chair: Sarah Hammerschlag (Williams College)
Discussants: Randy L. Friedman (Binghamton University, SUNY)
Martin Kavka (Florida State University)
Nancy Levene (Indiana University)
Kenneth R. Seeskin (Northwestern University)

10.7

*Sheraton B, Lower Concourse***MATERIAL AND HIGH CULTURE IN MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN EUROPE***Chair:* Maud Kozodoy (Jewish Theological Seminary)**The Geography, Built-Environment, and Culture of the Shtetl: Material Cultural Perspectives on the Development of the Eighteenth-Century Jewish-Polish Community**

Thomas C. Hubka (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee)

Eliezer Ashkenazi's Manifesto for Intellectual Freedom in Context

David Malkiel (Bar-Ilan University)

New Perspectives on the Emergence of Kabbalah

Jonathan Dauber (Yeshiva University)

Was Rabbi Jonathan Eibeschuetz a Crypto-Christian?

Pawel Maciejko (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

10.8

*Conference Room B, Mezzanine***rites of commemoration***Chair:* Jack Kugelmass (University of Florida)**"Zog nit keynmol az du geyst dem letstn veg!" From Vilna Resistance Song to Jewish Transnational Anthem**

Anna Lipphardt (Centre Marc Bloch, Berlin)

Patterns of Holocaust Commemoration after the Fall of the USSR: Memorial Days Celebrated by Post-Soviet Jews in Latvia and in the United States.

Bella Zisere (Sciences Po, Paris)

Have a Taste of Berlin! Beer, Currywurst, Holocaust...

Brigitte Sion (New York University)

Traces of the Autobiographical: Performing *Hana's Suitcase*

Belarie Zatzman (York University)

10.9

*Wentworth, 2nd Floor***THE REPRESENTATION OF BIBLICAL ANCESTORS IN MEDIEVAL MUSLIM SOCIETIES***Chair:* Judith Romney Wegner (Brown University)**Ishmael's Genealogy in Judaism and Islam**

Carol Bakhos (University of California, Los Angeles)

Rabbis and Imams in Love: Erotic Poetry and the Use of Biblical Lovers in Medieval Andalusia

Shari L. Lowin (Stonehill College)

The Wicked Woman: Lot's Wife in Medieval Qur'anic Exegesis

Alan Verskin (Princeton University)

The Islamic Context for the Biblical Ancestries of Medieval Jews

Arnold E. Franklin (Hunter College, CUNY)

10.10

*Kenora, 2nd Floor***MISHNAH, TOSEFTA, AND MIDRASH: STRUCTURE AND INTERRELATIONS***Chair:* Herbert Basser (Queen's University)**Mishnah and Tosefta on Grounds for Punitive Divorce**

Robert Brody (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

The Unintentional Killer: *Mishnah Makkot* and its Midrashic Sources

Michal Bar-Asher Siegal (Yale University)

Re-citing Scripture: On the Formal Links Between Lemma and Comment in Early Rabbinic Exegesis

Tzvi Novick (Yale University)

Building a Better Midrash? The Connotation of *Eino Tzarikh* in Midrash Halakhah

Eliezer Diamond (Jewish Theological Seminary)

10.11

*Huron, 2nd Floor***SOCIOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES ON JEWISH WOMEN***Chair:* Justin Jaron Lewis (Queen's University)**The Fragile Power of Consent: Consensual Transfer of Family Property in Eighteenth-Century Ashkenazic Jewry**

Birgit Elke Klein (College of Jewish Studies, Heidelberg)

The Price of Milk: Wet-Nursing and Illegal Services for Unwed Jewish Mothers in Nineteenth-Century Vilna

ChaeRan Y. Freeze (Brandeis University)

“Arbeiter Froyen, Vakht Oyf!” Working Women, Arise: Gender and Class in the Secular Jewish Left in Canada, 1920-1950

Ester Reiter (York University)

10.12

*Kent, 2nd Floor***MEDIEVAL INTELLECTUAL HISTORY***Chair:* Naomi Grunhaus (Stern College)**“Re-Inscribing the Difference”: Medieval Jewish Translations of the Book of Tobit**

Naomi S. Jacobs (Durham University)

On the Distribution of Science and Lore amongst the Jews in Twelfth-Century Angevin Normandy: Berekhiah Ben Natronai ha-Nakdan on the Virtues of Stones

Gerrit Bos (University of Cologne)

The (Non-) Diffusion of Maimonides' *Mishneh Torah* in Medieval Ashkenaz

Ephraim Kanarfogel (Yeshiva University)

The Lost Library of the Ashkenazic Sages: Hebrew and Aramaic Binding Fragments from Germany in Context

Andreas Lehnardt (University of Mainz)

10.13

*Simcoe, 2nd Floor***TRANSLATION, GENRES, AND POETICS OF MEMORY: READINGS IN YOEL HOFFMANN***Chair:* Rachel Feldhay Brenner (University of Wisconsin-Madison)**Generic Indeterminacy in the Works of Yoel Hoffmann**

Neta Stahl (The University of Chicago)

Soundboxes, Echoes, and Recalling in Hoffmann's Literature

Michal Ben-Horin (University of Florida)

Hoffmann's Other Europeans and the Redemption of Exile

Karen Grumberg (University of Texas at Austin)

The Jargon of Immigration: Yoel Hoffmann and the Foreign Word

Galili Shahar (University of Florida)

10.14

*Elgin, 2nd Floor***SCRIPTURES: CHRIST AND TORAH IN MODERN JEWISH THOUGHT***Chair:* Abraham Socher (Oberlin College)**Spinoza and the De-Christianized Christ**

Yitzhak Y. Melamed (University of Chicago)

Spinoza's Idea of Hebrew

Benjamin Stahlberg (Syracuse University)

Torah, Christ, and Modern Mediation: The Late Eighteenth-Century Religious Response to Pietism

Eliyahu Stern (University of California, Berkeley)

The Botanical Model of Torah Interpretation

Shai Cherry (American Jewish University)

10.15

*Conference Room C, Mezzanine***CONTEMPORARY JEWISH LITERATURE: DIASPORA AND HOMECOMING***Chair:* Ezra Cappell (University of Texas at El Paso)**Indigeneity and Diaspora: Jews Going Native in Contemporary Fiction**

Sarah Casteel (Carleton University)

***Theatrum Mundi*: The World as a Stage in the Latest Works of Dina Rubina**

Anna P. Ronell (Wellesley College)

“Every story comes from an absence”: Some Problems with “Third Generation” Holocaust Art

Adam Sol (Laurentian University)

The Topography of Diaspora in Postwar Jewish American Literature

Jennifer Glaser (University of Pennsylvania)

Session 11, Tuesday, December 18, 2007**10:45 AM – 12:45 PM**

11.1

*Dufferin, 2nd Floor***JEWES AND BOXING: AN INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE***Chair and Respondent:* Susan Tananbaum (Bowdoin College)**Jewish Boxing in Europe and America: A Transatlantic Perspective**

George Eisen (Nazareth College)

Boxing Clever? Anglo-Jewish Fighters between Bad Behavior and Respectability

Michael Berkowitz (University College London)

“Boxing for Everyone!” Jewish Displaced Persons and Boxing after the Shoah

Gabriel N. Finder (University of Virginia)

11.2

*Grand Ballroom East, Lower Concourse***JEWES AND VISUAL CULTURE II: PHOTOGRAPHY***Chair:* Louis Kaplan (University of Toronto)**The Social Legacy of the Photo League: Cameras, Neighborhoods, and Jews on New York’s Streets in the 1930s and 40s**

Lauren B. Strauss (George Washington University)

Visualizing Atrocities: Madame d’Ora and Photography after the Holocaust

Lisa Silverman (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee)

“Regarding the Pain of Others”: Reflections on the Use of Photography in Holocaust Museums

K. Hannah Holtschneider (University of Edinburgh)

11.3

*Civic Ballroom South, 2nd Floor***RESURRECTION, IMMATERIALITY, AND TAXONOMY: THE RABBINIC BODY***Chair:* Judith Hauptman (Jewish Theological Seminary)**Resurrection in Classical Judaism and Christianity: Theodicy or Anthropology?**

Reuven R. Kimelman (Brandeis University)

Animals Do Not Die: Autonomy of Expounding and Taxonomy of Mortality in Talmudic Argument

Serguei Dolgopolskii (University of Kansas, Lawrence)

Always Angels

Jonah Chanan Steinberg (Hebrew College)

Reconceiving Jewish Law: *Tosefta Hagigah 2*

Barry Scott Wimpfheimer (Northwestern University)

- 11.4 *Dominion Ballroom North, 2nd Floor*
ASTROLOGY AND MYSTICISM
Chair: Katja Vehlow (University of Wisconsin-Madison)
The Appeal of Kabbalah in the Sermons of Isaac di Lattes
 Bernard D. Cooperman (University of Maryland)
Kabbalah and Haskalah: A Dialectic Revisited
 Sharon H. Flatto (Brooklyn College, CUNY)
The Birth of the Jewish Astrological Discipline: A Re-Examination
 Piergabriele Mancuso (Boston University)
- 11.5 *Dominion Ballroom South, 2nd Floor*
MEDIEVAL PHILOSOPHY, BIBLICAL THEOLOGY, AND NATURAL LAW
Chair: Daniel H. Frank (Purdue University)
Against Theology
 Howard Wettstein (University of California, Riverside)
Biblical Narrative and Medieval Philosophy
 Eleonore Stump (Saint Louis University)
The Bible Is Not a Science Textbook: Religious Objections to Medieval and Contemporary Concordism
 David C. Shatz (Yeshiva University)
What Has Athens or Jerusalem to Do with Medieval Jewish Philosophy?
 Abraham Socher (Oberlin College)
Practical Wisdom, Natural Law, and Medieval Jewish Moral Epistemology: An Approach to Understanding the Reasons of the Commandments
 Jonathan A. Jacobs (Colgate University)
- 11.6 *Sheraton A, Lower Concourse*
DIMENSIONS OF LATE MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN SEPHARDIC JEWISH CULTURE AND SOCIETY
Chair: Jonathan Schorsch (Columbia University)
How Should a Jew Believe? Examining Jacob Ibn Habib's Commentary to the *Ein Ya'akov*
 Marjorie Lehman (Jewish Theological Seminary)
Terminal Dutch Jerusalem: Migration of Jews and the Portuguese Jewish Community of Early Modern Amsterdam
 Tirtsah Levie Bernfeld (Independent Scholar)
Moses Hagiz and the *Shelihut* from Palestine in the Eighteenth Century
 Mathias B. Lehmann (Indiana University)
- 11.7 *Sheraton B, Lower Concourse*
JEWISH FAMILIES, MERCHANTS, AND INTELLIGENTSIA BETWEEN POLISH SOCIETY AND STATE: SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC INTEGRATION FROM THE LATE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY TO THE POST-HOLOCAUST PERIOD
Chair: Joshua Zimmerman (Yeshiva University)
Commercial Networks and Agency: A Jewish Merchant Family in Late Eighteenth- and Early Nineteenth-Century Warsaw
 Cornelia Aust (University of Pennsylvania)
The First Generations of the Jewish Intelligentsia of Warsaw: How Jewish? How Polish? How Integrated?
 Helena Datner (Jewish Historical Institute, Warsaw)
The Interwar Period in a Small Galician City: A Recovered Correspondence
 Rochelle L. Millen (Wittenberg University)
Communism, Publishing, and Paths to Polishness Among a Residential Cluster of Jewish Families in Post-War Warsaw
 Karen Michelle Auerbach (Brandeis University)

11.8

*Conference Room B, Mezzanine***SPIRITUALITY IN THE SYNAGOGUE: THE MUSIC AND ARCHITECTURE OF SYNAGOGUES IN AMERICA AND EUROPE***Chair:* Lawrence A. Hoffman (HUC-JIR/Synagogue 3000)**The Language of Spirituality: A Study of Religious Semiotics at B'nai Jeshurun Synagogue in New York City**

Ayala Fader (Fordham University)

It's Not Your Father's Shteibl: The Music of B'nai Jeshurun (BJ) Services

Mark Kligman (HUC-JIR)

East European Wall-Painting Decoration in the Shtetl Synagogues and their Spread in North America and Israel

Eugeny Kotlyar (Kharkiv State Academy of Design and Arts)

Sephardic Sacred Space in Colonial America

Laura Arnold Leibman (Reed College)

11.9

*Wentworth, 2nd Floor***STATUS AND LIMINALITY***Chair:* Yaakov Elman (Yeshiva University)**Slavery and Natural Law**

Harry Fox (University of Toronto)

The Status of the *Kohenet*

Tirzah Meacham (University of Toronto)

The Status of Women in Modern Jewish Law: The *Mishnah Berurah* and the *Arukh Hashbulchan*

Simha Fishbane (Touro College)

Rabbinic Power and Powerlessness in the Bedroom: Halakhic Guides to Sexual Relations from the Thirteenth to the Twenty-First Century

Evyatar Marienberg (Jewish Theological Seminary)

11.10

*Kenora, 2nd Floor***WOMEN, POLITICS, AND NATION BUILDING***Chair:* Mark A. Raider (University of Cincinnati)**The Movement of Zionist Working Women during World War I**

Gilat Gofer (Tel-Aviv University)

Hadassah Leaders in the Thirties and Forties: Radical Women and Revolutionary Leaders

Zohar Segev (University of Haifa)

Women's Equal Rights Law, 1951: Historical Perspective

Orit Rozin (Tel-Aviv University)

11.11

*Huron, 2nd Floor***DILEMMAS AND CONFLICTS: ISRAEL AND THE WORLD***Chair:* Arye Naor (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)**"I am in the East and my Heart is in the West": Israel between the Middle East and Europe**

David Tal (Syracuse University)

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs' Ad Hoc Policy towards the Jewish Diaspora

Natan Aridan (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

The Attitude of the World Council of Churches to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

Haim Genizi (Bar-Ilan University)

Media and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

Matt Evans (Northwestern University)

- 11.12 *Kent, 2nd Floor*
COMPARATIVE APPROACHES TO THE EMERGENCE OF POPULAR JEWISH LITERATURES, PART II
Chair: Jonathan M. Hess (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)
History, Fiction, and Popular Culture in the Nineteenth Century: German-Jewish Literature in Context
 Jonathan S. Skolnik (University of Massachusetts-Amherst)
East End/Eastern Europe: Ghetto Fiction in Fin-de-Siècle England
 Nadia Valman (Queen Mary, University of London)
Hasidic Daughters, Literary Ethnographers, or Israeli Writers? Malkah Shapiro and Ita Kalish
 Sheila Jelen (University of Maryland)
Contemporary American Jewish Comic Books: Abject Pasts, Heroic Futures
 Laurence Roth (Susquehanna University)
- 11.13 *Simcoe, 2nd Floor*
JEWS, CHRISTIANS, AND MUSLIMS IN THE MIDDLE AGES
Chair and Respondent: Magda Teter (Wesleyan University)
Iraq: A Medieval Interfaith Utopia? Benjamin of Tudela on Shrines Venerated by Jews, Christians, and Muslims
 Martin Jacobs (Washington University)
Jewish Gates and Funerary Processions in Medieval Ashkenaz: The Case of Fourteenth-Century Erfurt
 Yechiel Y. Schur (New York University)
- 11.14 *Elgin, 2nd Floor*
MODERN RUSSIAN AND POLISH JEWRY: NEW PERSPECTIVES
Chair: ChaeRan Y. Freeze (Brandeis University)
One Hundred Years Together: Russian Government Policy towards Judaism
 Vassili Schedrin (Brandeis University)
Family and Marginality in Russian Jewish History
 Natan M. Meir (University of Southampton)
Reinventing Religion: Jewish Religion Textbooks in Russian Gymnasia
 Eliyana R. Adler (University of Maryland)
Citizens of Yiddishland: Portrait of a Generation
 Joanna Nalewajko-Kulikow (Polish Academy of Sciences)

GENERAL LUNCH **12:45 PM – 1:45 PM** *Grand Ballroom Centre, Lower Concourse*
(Note: By pre-paid reservation only)

AJS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING **12:45 PM** *Conference Room D/E, Mezzanine*

LUNCHTIME MEETINGS **12:45 PM – 1:45 PM**
A NEW WEB RESOURCE FOR JOSEPHUS: A TOUR OF PACE (PROJECT ON ANCIENT CULTURAL ENGAGEMENT) *Conference Room G, Mezzanine*
Chair: Steven Mason (York University)
(Note: This meeting does not include lunch.)

GRADUATE STUDENT AND FACULTY SUMMER RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE AT THE BERMAN INSTITUTE – NORTH AMERICAN JEWISH DATA BANK *Conference Room F, Mezzanine*
Chair: Arnold Dashefsky (University of Connecticut)
(Note: This meeting does not include lunch.)

Session 12, Tuesday, December 18, 2007

1:45 PM – 3:45 PM

12.1

*Dufferin, 2nd Floor***NEGOTIATING TENSIONS IN ORTHODOX FRAMEWORKS: IDENTITY, INNOVATION, AND AUTHORITY***Chair:* Shani Bechhofer (Yeshiva University)**A Hasidic Woman's Life Cycle in Song**

Ester-Basya Vaisman (Harvard University)

What to Do with the Problem of the Flesh? Negotiating Modern-Orthodox Sexual Anxieties

Orit Avishai (University of California, Berkeley)

Talking about the Wedding Ritual and the Act of Acquisition: Issues of Hierarchies, Knowledge, and Authority

Irit Koren (Bar-Ilan University)

Intersections of Technology and Tradition in Talmudic Study: Modalities of Religious Learning in Historical Perspective

Henry Abramson (Touro College South)

12.2

*Grand Ballroom East, Lower Concourse***POST-HOLOCAUST:***Chair:* Michael Rothberg (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)**Of Mice, Cats, and Pigs: Postmemorial Relations in the Jewish-German-Polish Troika**

Erica Lehrer (Concordia University)

Post-Holocaust Literature as Provocation, Not Postmemory

Gary Weissman (University of Cincinnati)

A New Era in (Post)Holocaust (Post)Memory?

Brett A. Kaplan (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

Respondent: Bradley Prager (University of Missouri, Columbia)

12.3

*Civic Ballroom South, 2nd Floor***GENDER IN AGGADAH AND HALAKHAH***Chair:* Evyatar Marienberg (Jewish Theological Seminary)**Arousing Compassion: Is Rabbinic Intercession Gendered?**

Diana Lipton (King's College London)

Rabbinic Interpretations of Biblical "Man": When is it "Woman" Also?

Elizabeth Alexander (University of Virginia)

Reproductive Metaphors in Rabbinic Literature: The Miscarriage of the Canaanites at the Wedding of the Israelites by the River of Arnon

Ohr Margalit (Harvard University)

The Tannaitic Schools and the Birth of the "Evil Inclination"

Ishay Rosen-Zvi (Tel-Aviv University)

12.4

*Dominion Ballroom North, 2nd Floor***MUSIC IN ASHKENAZIC SOCIETY: CA. 1600-1920***Chair and Respondent:* James Loeffler (University of Virginia)**The Insider's View of Theory of Ashkenazi Liturgical Music and Some of Its Implications**

Boaz Tarsi (Jewish Theological Seminary)

The Instrumental (Klezmer) Repertoire of Eastern Europe in Relation to the Eastern Ashkenazic Wedding (Early Seventeenth to Early Twentieth Centuries)

Walter Zev Feldman (Bar-Ilan University)

Genre Classification of Yiddish Folksongs

Lyudmila Sholokhova (YIVO Institute for Jewish Research)

- 12.5 *Dominion Ballroom South, 2nd Floor*
EMOTIONS, SUBJECTIVITY, AND JEWISH MYSTICISM
Chair and Respondent: Avriel Bar-Levav (The Open University of Jerusalem)
Suprarational Emotions: Kabbalistic Dialectic with Hierarchy
 Israel Moshe Sandman (University of Wisconsin-Madison)
The Metamorphosis of Imagination into Feeling in Rav Kook's Early Writings
 Yehudah Mirsky (Jewish People Policy Planning Institute)
The Man Behind the Text/The Man Within the Text: Textual Subjectivity and the Relationship between Mystical Experiences and Mystical Texts
 Yechiel Shalom Goldberg (California State University, Long Beach)
- 12.6 *Sheraton A, Lower Concourse*
NARRATIVE, SPACE, AND GENDER IN MODERN HEBREW FICTION
Chair: Rachel S. Harris (University of Albany, SUNY)
"Behind the Fence": The Gendered Spaces of Early Hebrew Modernism
 Efrat Bloom (University of Michigan)
The Ingrown Nail of the National Body: L. A. Arieli's *Yeshimon* as a Parody of the Zionist Masculine Master Narrative
 Oren Segal (University of Michigan)
Animal Imagery and Artistry in S. Yizhar's "Hirbet Hizah"
 Philip A. Hollander (Tulane University)
The Virus of Diaspora in A.B. Yehoshua's *The Liberated Bride (Ha-Kalah Ha-Meshakhreret)*
 Ranen Omer-Sherman (University of Miami)
- 12.7 *Sheraton B, Lower Concourse*
SHIFTING PARAMETERS OF DIASPORIC BELONGING AMONG SEPHARDI AND MIZRAHI JEWS
Chair: Francesco Spagnolo (Judah L. Magnes Museum)
Sephardic Diaspora and the Re-Configuration of "*la Comunidad*": Argentine Jews, 1900-1950
 Adriana Brodsky (St. Mary's College of Maryland)
The New Faces of Ladino in Latin America Today
 Monique R. Balbuena (University of Oregon)
***El Libro Prohibido*: Sacred Text and Crypto-Jewish Self-Invention in Colonial Latin America**
 Ronnie Perelis (New York University)
- 12.8 *Conference Room B, Mezzanine*
NEW PERSPECTIVES ON JEWISH LIFE IN THE LODZ GHETTO
Chair: Goldie Morgentaler (University of Lethbridge)
Looking for Lodz in the Oyneg Shabes/Ringelblum Archive of the Warsaw Ghetto
 Robert M. Shapiro (Brooklyn College, CUNY)
For a Song: The Price of Truth in Yankele Herszkowicz's Lodz Ghetto Repertoire
 Irena Helen Kohn (University of Toronto)
Dictator or Savior? A Reassessment of Mordechai Chaim Rumkowski
 Helene Sinnreich (Youngstown State University)
Respondent: Joanna Beata Michlic (Lehigh University)
- 12.9 *Wentworth, 2nd Floor*
THOUGHT AND RENAISSANCE CULTURE: LEVINAS AND STRAUSS
Chair: David Novak (University of Toronto)
The Allure of the Sage: Levinas, Chouchani, and Judaism's Mission in the Politics of Postwar Europe
 Sarah Hammerschlag (Williams College)
Qualifying the Unqualified Return: Leo Strauss on the Jewish Renaissance
 Asher D. Biemann (University of Virginia)
On the Force of Law: Scholem, Benjamin, Kafka
 Daniel Brandes (University of King's College)

12.10

*Kenora, 2nd Floor***CONFLICTING CLAIMS TO JERUSALEM IN HISTORY***Chair:* Norman A. Stillman (University of Oklahoma)**Anti-Jerusalem Literature in Medieval Islam: A Muslim Response to the Holy City**

Jacob Lassner (Northwestern University)

Messianism, Zionism, and the Dilemma of the Reintroduction of the Sacrifices: The Case of the Temple Institute

Motti Inbari (Brandeis University)

Holy Sites and Impure Rites: Contesting Sacred and Profane in Zionist Palestine

Arieh Bruce Saposnik (Arizona State University)

Respondent: S. Ilan Troen (Brandeis University)

12.11

*Huron, 2nd Floor***WORSHIP, DISSENT, AND OTHER ULTIMATE QUESTIONS IN HESCHEL AND SOLOVEITCHIK***Chair:* Ken Koltun-Fromm (Haverford College)**Loneliness in the Writings of J.B. Soloveitchik: Loneliness as the Foundation of the Inner Dimension of the Subject**

Hanoch Ben Pazi (Bar-Ilan University)

The Skepticism of Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik

Mark I. Dunaevsky (Independent Scholar)

Ultimate Questions, Other Religions, and Idolatry

Jacob J. Ross (Tel-Aviv University)

12.12

*Kent, 2nd Floor***PATRIARCHS AND EXILARCHS***Chair:* Jonathan Schofer (Harvard University)**Is Abandoning Talmudic Biography Justified?**

David Levine (HUC-JIR)

Jewish Civil Jurisdiction and the Dissociation of Judaism and Christianity in the Roman Near East

Joshua Ezra Burns (Yale University)

Standing at the Gate of the Exilarchate

Geoffrey Herman (Jewish Theological Seminary)

12.13

*Simcoe, 2nd Floor***INVESTIGATING THE HISTORIES OF SMALL JEWISH COMMUNITIES: A COMPARATIVE LOOK AT HERITAGE INITIATIVES FROM THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA***Chair:* Lee Shai Weissbach (University of Louisville)*Discussants:* Anna Birnie-Lefcovitch (Ontario Jewish Archives)

Karen Falk (Jewish Museum of Maryland)

Leonard Rogoff (Jewish Heritage Foundation of North Carolina)

Ellen Scheinberg (Ontario Jewish Archives)

12.14

*Elgin, 2nd Floor***FOR PROFIT AND NOT FOR PROFIT: NEW WORK IN AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY***Chair:* Lila Corwin Berman (Pennsylvania State University)**Atlanta's "White Negroes": Jews in the New South Urban Economy, 1915-1954**

Rachel Bergstein (Yale University)

Paupers in Palestine: Social Welfare Ideology in American Zionism

Erica Simmons (University of Toronto)

"Abandon us not in our old age": The American Jewish Old Age Home as Religious**Battleground**

Edna S. Friedberg (United States Holocaust Memorial Museum)

DIVISION MEETINGS ROOM LOCATIONS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 17

4:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Division	Meeting Location
Bible	<i>Kenora</i>
Talmud, Midrash, Rabbinics	<i>Sheraton A</i>
Yiddish Literature	<i>Dominion Ballroom North</i>
Modern Jewish Literature	<i>Wentworth</i>
Modern Hebrew Literature	<i>Simcoe</i>
Medieval Jewish Philosophy	<i>Grand Ballroom East</i>
Jewish Mysticism	<i>Sheraton B</i>
Modern Jewish Thought and Theology	<i>Elgin</i>
Jewish History in Late Antiquity	<i>Kenora</i>
Medieval and Early Modern Jewish History, Literature, and Culture	<i>Huron</i>
Sephardi/Mizrahi Studies	<i>Conference Room B</i>
Modern Jewish History in Europe, Asia, Israel, and Other Communities	<i>Grand Ballroom East</i>
Modern Jewish History in the Americas	<i>Grand Ballroom West</i>
Israel Studies	<i>Dominion Ballroom South</i>
Holocaust Studies	<i>Kent</i>
Jews and the Arts	<i>Sheraton B</i>
Social Sciences, Anthropology, and Folklore	<i>Conference Room C</i>
Gender Studies	<i>Civic Ballroom South</i>
Linguistics, Semiotics, and Philology	<i>Grand Ballroom West</i>

DOCUMENTARY AND FEATURE FILMS
AJS 39th Annual Conference
Film Festival

Presented by the
Joseph and Rebecca Meyerhoff Center for Jewish Studies,
University of Maryland, College Park.
Organized by Bernard D. Cooperman

Location of all film screenings: City Hall, 2nd Floor

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16

9:30–11:00 AM

Storm of Emotions

Israel, 2006, 84 minutes, Hebrew with English subtitles

Directed by: Yael Klopmann

Provided by: Ruth Diskin Films Ltd.

11:15 AM–1:00 PM

Ha-Matzlikim (The Winners)

Israel, 2007, 92 minutes, Hebrew with no subtitles

Directed by: Mikhael Gurevitch

Provided by: Ruth Diskin Films Ltd.

1:00–2:00 PM

The Last Jews of Libya

USA, 2007, 50 minutes, English, Hebrew, Italian and Arabic

Directed by: Vivienne Roumani–Denn

Provided by: The National Center for Jewish Film

2:00–4:00 PM

The Cantor's Son (Dem Khazns Zundl)

USA, 1937, 97 minutes, Yiddish with new English subtitles and restoration by NCJF

Directed by: Ilya Motyleff

Provided by: The National Center for Jewish Film

4:15–6:15 PM

Lonely Man of Faith: The Life and Legacy of Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik

USA 2006, 99 minutes, English

Directed by: Ethan Isenberg

Provided by: Ethan Isenberg

9:30–11:00 PM

Yippee! A Journey to Jewish Joy

USA, 2006, 74 minutes, English

Directed by: Paul Mazursky

Provided by: The National Center for Jewish Film

MONDAY, DECEMBER 17

8:30-10:30 AM *Spell Your Name*

USA 2006, 90 minutes, English with Ukrainian and Russian language testimonies

Directed by: Sergey Bukovsky

Provided by: USC Shoah Foundation Institute for Visual History and Education

11:15 AM-1:00 PM *The Diaries of Yossef Nachmani*

Israel, 2006, 63 minutes, Hebrew with English subtitles

Directed by: Dalia Karpel

Provided by: First Run/Icarus Films

1:00-2:00 PM *Nadia's Friends*

Israel 2006, 60 minutes, Hebrew with English subtitles

Directed by: Chanoch Zeevi

Provided by: Ruth Diskin Films Ltd.

2:00-4:00 PM *From Language to Language*

Israel, 2005, 56 minutes, Hebrew, German with English subtitles

Directed by: Nurith Aviv

Provided by: First Run/Icarus Films

4:30-6:30 PM *Die Stadt ohne Juden (City without Jews)*

Austria, 1924, 80 minutes, German intertitles with simultaneous English translation

Directed by: H.K. Breslauer

Provided by: Filmarchiv/Austria

9:00-11:00 PM *Lies My Father Told Me*

Canada, 1975, 103 minutes, English

Directed by: Jan Kadar

Provided by: ERGO Home Video

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18

8:30-9:45 AM *Silence of the Sirens*

Israel, 2002, 72 minutes, Hebrew with English subtitles

Directed by: Ori Inbar

Provided by: Riki Shelach

9:45-11:00 AM *To Be an Israeli Woman: Regina*

Israel, 2004, 65 minutes, Hebrew with English subtitles

Directed by: Ziva Postec

Provided by: Ruth Diskin Films Ltd.

11:15 AM-12:30 PM *On Hold*

Israel, 2007, 52 minutes, Hebrew, Arabic with English subtitles

Directed by: Rokaya Sabbah

Provided by: Ruth Diskin Films Ltd.

12:45-1:45 PM *Did Herzl Really Say That?*

Israel, 2006, 50 minutes, Hebrew with English subtitles

Directed by: Ido Bahat

Provided by: Ruth Diskin Films Ltd.

