

40TH ANNUAL

CONFERENCE OF
THE ASSOCIATION
FOR JEWISH STUDIES



December 21 - 23, 2008

Grand Hyatt Washington

Washington, DC

AJS
ASSOCIATION FOR
JEWISH STUDIES

ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES

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CONFERENCE PROGRAM CHAIR

Rona Sheramy, *Association for Jewish Studies*
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Association for Jewish Studies is a Constituent Society of
The American Council of Learned Societies.

The Association for Jewish Studies wishes to thank the Center for Jewish History and its constituent organizations—the American Jewish Historical Society, the American Sephardi Federation, the Leo Baeck Institute, the Yeshiva University Museum, and the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research—for providing the AJS with office space at the Center for Jewish History.

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ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES 40TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

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ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES

Goals and Standards

The Association for Jewish Studies (AJS) was founded in 1969 by a small group of scholars seeking a forum for exploring methodological and pedagogical issues in the new field of Jewish Studies. Since its founding, the AJS has grown into the largest learned society and professional organization representing Jewish Studies scholars worldwide. As a constituent organization of the American Council of Learned Societies, the Association for Jewish Studies represents the field in the larger arena of the academic study of the humanities and social sciences in North America. The organization's primary mission is to promote, facilitate, and improve teaching and research in Jewish Studies at colleges, universities, and other institutions of higher learning. Its more than 1700 members are university faculty, graduate students, independent scholars, and museum and related professionals who represent the breadth of Jewish Studies scholarship. The organization's institutional members represent leading North American programs and departments in the field.

The AJS's major programs and projects include an annual scholarly conference, featuring more than 150 sessions; a peer-reviewed scholarly journal, *AJS Review*, published by Cambridge University Press; a biannual magazine, *AJS Perspectives*, that explores methodological and pedagogical issues; Positions in Jewish Studies, the most comprehensive listing of Jewish Studies job opportunities; Resources in Jewish Studies, an online guide to Jewish Studies programs, grant opportunities, professional development resources, electronic research tools, and doctoral theses; and the Jordan Schnitzer Book Awards and Cahnman Foundation Publication Subventions, which recognize outstanding research in the field.

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

In order to maintain a professional and comfortable environment for its members, conference registrants, and staff, the Association requires certain standards of behavior. These standards include, without limitation, courtesy of discourse, respect for the diversity of AJS members and conference attendees, and the ability to conduct AJS business and participate in the AJS conference in a non-threatening, collegial atmosphere. AJS members and conference participants who do not uphold these standards may jeopardize their membership or conference participation. If you have any questions, please speak with an AJS staff person at the conference registration desk; the AJS's Executive Director, Rona Sheramy; the Vice-President for Conference Program, Marsha Rozenblit; or the President of the Association for Jewish Studies, Sara Horowitz.

2008-09 AJS Institutional Members

American Jewish Historical Society
American Jewish University
Arizona State University, Jewish Studies Program
The Center for Cultural Judaism
Columbia University, Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies
Cornell University, Jewish Studies Program
Duke University, Jewish Studies Program
Foundation for Jewish Culture
Georgetown University, Program for Jewish Civilization
Hebrew College
Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion
Indiana University, Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Jewish Studies Program
The Jewish Theological Seminary, The Graduate School
Laura and Alvin Siegal College of Judaic Studies
Northwestern University, The Crown Family Center for Jewish Studies
Old Dominion University, Institute for Jewish Studies
and Interfaith Understanding
Pennsylvania State University, Jewish Studies Program
Reconstructionist Rabbinical College
Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies
Stanford University, Taube Center for Jewish Studies
Trinity College, Jewish Studies Program
The University of Arizona, Arizona Center for Judaic Studies
University of California, Los Angeles, Center for Jewish Studies
University of California, San Diego, Judaic Studies Program
University of Connecticut, Center for Judaic Studies
and Contemporary Jewish Life
University of Denver, Center for Judaic Studies
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Program in
Jewish Culture and Society
University of Massachusetts at Amherst, Judaic & Near Eastern Studies Department
University of Michigan, The Frankel Center for Judaic Studies
University of North Carolina at Asheville, Center for Jewish Studies
University of Oregon, Harold Schnitzer Family Program in Judaic Studies
University of Pittsburgh, Jewish Studies Program
University of Tennessee, The Fern and Manfred Steinfeld Program in Judaic Studies
The University of Texas at Austin, Schusterman Center for Jewish Studies
University of Virginia, Jewish Studies Program
University of Washington, Jewish Studies Program, Jackson School
of International Studies
University of Wisconsin-Madison, Center for Jewish Studies
Vanderbilt University, Program in Jewish Studies
Washington University in St. Louis, Program in Jewish, Islamic,
and Near Eastern Studies
YIVO Institute for Jewish Research
York University, Centre for Jewish Studies

ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES
A Message from the Conference Chair
December 2008

Dear Colleagues,

I am delighted to present the program for the **Fortieth Annual Conference** of the Association for Jewish Studies. This year, the AJS holds its conference in **Washington, DC**. As has been the case over the past four decades, the annual conference is the most visible of the organization's activities. The program reflects a great deal of creative energy and hard work on the part of many people, and I want to thank all participants for what promises to be a series of rich and rewarding sessions and plenary events. As even a cursory perusal of the program will show you, the AJS Annual Conference continues to flourish. This year's conference is particularly significant, as it marks forty years since a small group of Jewish Studies scholars met on the campus of Brandeis University to discuss the state and direction of the field, and went on to establish the AJS. The Program Committee has scheduled many special events to examine the history of the Association and the field. Please see descriptions of these events, and other conference functions, below.

HOTEL, REGISTRATION, BADGES, MEALS

All sessions will be held at the Grand Hyatt Washington in Washington, DC. Floor plans on pages 14–15 of this Program Book show their location and arrangement. The Sessions at a Glance table on pages 16–20 provides a summary of events with their locations and times. If you have not as yet registered for the conference, you may do so on-site in Washington, DC at the Conference Registration Desk located in the Independence Foyer (*you may pay by cash or check*). Materials will also be available if you wish to renew or take out a new AJS membership for 2008–2009. Badges and kosher meal confirmations will be sent to U.S. and Canadian addresses for those who have registered and paid all fees by the **November 14 deadline**. Attendees coming from outside North America: please pick up your badges, meal confirmations, and program books at the AJS Registration Desk. Badge covers will be available on-site. Please remember that conference badges must be worn at all times for admission to the sessions and the Book Exhibit. Security personnel at the entrance to the Exhibit and elsewhere in the hotel will be checking badges and will only admit those who have registered for the conference.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The **Annual AJS Business Meeting** will take place on **Sunday, December 21 at 9:00 AM** in Constitution A. All AJS members are invited to attend.

WELCOME RECEPTION AND ANNUAL GALA BANQUET

We thank the various Jewish Studies programs, departments, institutions, and foundations that have generously co-sponsored the Annual Gala Banquet on **Sunday, December 21 at 6:45 PM** in the Constitution Ballroom (see page 119 for a list of banquet sponsors). Please join us at **6:15 PM** in the **Independence Foyer** for the **Welcome Reception** preceding the banquet.

PLENARY PANEL

This year the Program Committee has arranged for a very exciting plenary panel that is open to all conference participants and the wider Washington, DC community. On **Sunday, December 21 at 8:00 PM** in the Constitution Ballroom, immediately following the Gala Banquet, we will celebrate forty years of the AJS with the plenary, **Reflections at Forty: Past Presidents on the Founding of the AJS and the Field of Jewish Studies**. This panel will feature past AJS presidents: Judith Baskin, *Chair* (University of Oregon), David Berger (Yeshiva University), Robert Chazan (New York University), Jane Gerber (The Graduate Center, CUNY), Lawrence Schiffman (New York University), Robert Seltzer (Hunter College, CUNY), and Ruth Wisse (Harvard University). Topics will include debates at the conception of the AJS, changes in the field over the past forty years, and new directions in Jewish Studies. The panelists will share prepared remarks, respond to each other's comments, and take questions from the audience.

FILM FESTIVAL

Thanks to the sponsorship of the Joseph and Rebecca Meyerhoff Center for Jewish Studies at the University of Maryland, the AJS conference will feature its second **film festival**, running from Sunday, December 21 through Tuesday, December 23. Films of interest to Jewish Studies scholars and teachers will be screened continuously in the **Conference Theatre**. A list of these films can be found on pages 63–64 of the program book. The festival will feature two special evening screenings: on Sunday, December 21, at 9:30 PM, *The Hebrew Lesson* (directed by David Ofek, Elinor Kowarsky, and Ron Rotem; 2006) and on Monday, December 22, at 9:30 PM, *Being Jewish in France* (directed by Yves Jeuland; 2007). A special thanks to Professor Bernard Cooperman for organizing the series.

POSTER SESSION

The AJS is pleased to present a Poster Session on Monday, December 22 in the **Independence Ballroom** (in the Book Exhibit Hall). The poster session will feature multimedia presentations by scholars across the field of Jewish Studies. On December 22, posters will be on display from 8:30 AM–6:30 PM; scholars will be available to answer questions and discuss their research during the formal Poster Session hours of 10:30 AM–12:30 PM (a **coffee reception** sponsored by the **Center for Jewish History** will be held from 10:30 AM–11:15 AM as part of the Poster Session).

BOOK EXHIBIT AND AJS 40th ANNUAL CONFERENCE EXHIBIT

The AJS welcomes representatives of leading publishers of Jewish Studies scholarship; major foundations supporting Jewish Studies research; and archives and research centers, who will be exhibiting at the AJS Annual Conference. Peruse the latest books in the field, purchase texts at significant discounts, and learn about fellowship, grant, and research opportunities for students and scholars. You will also enjoy an exhibit of **AJS founding documents and photographs** in the Book Exhibit Hall, marking the 40th anniversary of the first AJS meeting. The **Center for Jewish History** will sponsor two coffee breaks in the Book Exhibit Hall: Monday, December 22 from 10:30 AM–11:15 AM and from 4:00 PM–4:30 PM.

SCHOLARS FROM EASTERN EUROPE

The AJS wishes to again welcome the participation of several scholars from Eastern Europe at its Annual Conference, as part of the AJS's initiative to support and cooperate with Jewish Studies programs in Eastern Europe. The AJS gratefully acknowledges the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Poland, the Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republic of Hungary, YIVO, and a friend of the AJS for underwriting the costs associated with the Travel Grant Program.

CAUCUSES, MEETINGS, AND RECEPTIONS

The AJS conference provides the opportunity for several caucuses, colloquia, and groups to meet. These special events include the **Works in Progress Group in Modern Jewish Studies** on Tuesday, December 23 at 1:45 PM; the **Directors of Jewish Studies** meeting on Monday, December 22 at 8:30 AM; the annual **AJS Women's Caucus Breakfast** on Monday, December 22 at 7:00 AM; the **Sephardi/Mizrahi Caucus Lunch** on Monday, December 22 at 1:00 PM; and the **American Academy for Jewish Research** session, "Judaism or Judaisms? The Post-Modern Challenge," on Monday, December 22 at 11:15 AM. The **Center for Jewish History** will also be sponsoring two coffee breaks on Monday, December 22: from 10:45 AM–11:15 AM, and from 4:00 PM–4:30 PM in the Book Exhibit. For a list of other receptions open to all AJS members, see the listing of daily program events.

EVENTS FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS AND EARLY CAREER SCHOLARS

All graduate students are warmly invited to a **Graduate Student Reception** held by the AJS in their honor on **Monday, December 22 at 9:30 PM** in Farragut Square. This event will provide graduate students the opportunity to meet informally and to speak with AJS administrative staff and board members. Recipients of **AJS Graduate Student Travel Grants** will also be introduced and honored at this gathering. Graduate students and early career scholars are also encouraged to attend two special sessions of particular interest to those entering the academic profession: on Monday, December 22, at 1:00 PM, a lunchtime meeting on **Pedagogy and Jewish Studies** will discuss ways in which the AJS can support

its members' work as teachers; and on Tuesday, December 23, at 8:30 AM, the session **Mediating Jewish Studies to Nonacademic Audiences** will explore the challenges and opportunities of writing for and teaching general audiences.

INTERVIEWS

The AJS has set aside rooms where institutions may conduct job interviews in comfortable surroundings. AJS policy prohibits the use of private guest rooms for interviews and offers confidential scheduling of interviewing facilities. Pre-reservation with the AJS office is required.

SERVICES

The **Bulfinch** and **Latrobe** meeting rooms have been set aside at 4:00 PM on Sunday, 7:00 AM and 4:00 PM on Monday, and 7:00 AM on Tuesday to accommodate conference participants who wish to organize egalitarian and traditional religious services, respectively.

HANUKAH CANDLELIGHTING

Those who wish to light Hanukah candles on Sunday and Monday evenings may do so in the Zephyr restaurant (Lobby Level) at 6:30 PM (please bring your own candles and menorah). An attendant will remain in the room until 8:30 PM to make sure all hotel fire regulations are adhered to. Candles may not be lit in guest rooms.

CHILDCARE

The Parents Childcare Co-op has made arrangements for affordable childcare in the hotel during conference meeting hours. Pre-registration is required. For further information, please contact Andrea Lieber at lieber@dickinson.edu. The children's program is funded by a grant from the Center for Cultural Judaism (www.culturaljudaism.org). Please note: the Parents Childcare Co-op is an independent initiative and is not sponsored by nor affiliated with the Association for Jewish Studies. The Association for Jewish Studies assumes no liability for the use of these services.

A PERSONAL NOTE

I would like to extend my warmest welcome to you, the members of the AJS and participants in this year's program. As always, I am delighted to see long-standing friends and colleagues—veterans of the AJS conferences—and take particular pleasure in welcoming new members and those attending the conference for the first time. The organization, and particularly this 40th Annual Conference, reflects the best of your efforts. The conference provides us with a way to keep up with our own and related fields in Jewish Studies, a function that is particularly important for an interdisciplinary organization such as ours. The formal sessions, as well as the informal discussions with colleagues and friends, nourish our scholarly work and energize our teaching. I would like to express a special thanks to Sara Horowitz, President of the AJS, for her support, and to Rona Sheramy, Executive Director of the AJS, for her dedicated and invaluable attention to all aspects of the program. I also thank Kristen Loveland, AJS Grants and Program Coordinator; Karin Kugel, AJS Webmaster and Program Book Designer; and Aviva Androphy, AJS Program Assistant, for their hard work and attention to detail. I am grateful to Paula Hyman for her good judgment and help in adjudicating the Graduate Student Travel Grants. I thank the division heads for the close attention they have given this year's proposals, the members of the program committee for their wise counsel on the shaping of the program, and other volunteers who have shared their time and expertise. Enjoy the conference. Please feel free to contact me with suggestions for next year's program.

Sincerely,
Marsha Rozenblit
Vice President for Program

CONFERENCE INFORMATION

CONFERENCE FACILITIES

Grand Hyatt Washington, 1000 H Street NW, Washington, DC 20001

Phone: (202) 582-1234 | Reservations: (800) 233-1234

www.grandwashington.hyatt.com

CHILDCARE

The Parents Childcare Co-op has made arrangements with Corporate Kids Events to provide affordable childcare during conference meeting hours.

Pre-registration is required.

The children's program is funded by a grant from the Center for Cultural Judaism.

Contact **Andrea Lieber** at (717) 245-1482 or lieber@dickinson.edu to register.

Please note: the Parents Childcare Co-op is an independent initiative and is not sponsored by nor affiliated with the Association for Jewish Studies.

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VISITING WASHINGTON, DC

The AJS website has extensive information about visiting Washington, DC, including transportation to and from the airport, cultural sites and activities, and kosher and vegetarian restaurants near the hotel.

Please see www.ajsnet.org/wdc.html for details.

NEXT YEAR:

THE 41ST ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE
ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES
December 20 22, 2009 at the
Century Plaza Hyatt Regency, Los Angeles

Thank you to the

2008 PROGRAM COMMITTEE

- Marsha L. Rozenblit**, University of Maryland, *Chair*
Christine Hayes, Yale University
Judith Hauptman, Jewish Theological Seminary
Gershon Hundert, McGill University
Paula Hyman, Yale University
Shaul Kelner, Vanderbilt University
Eric Lawee, York University
- Pamela S. Nadell**, American University
Shira Kohn, New York University, *Student Representative*
Sara R. Horowitz, York University, *ex-officio*
Rona Sheramy, Association for Jewish Studies, *ex-officio*

2008 DIVISION COORDINATORS

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| Bible and the History of Biblical Interpretation
Hindy Najman
<i>University of Toronto</i> | Modern Jewish Thought and Theology
Ken Koltun-Fromm
<i>Haverford College</i> | Israel Studies
S. Ilan Troen
<i>Brandeis University</i> |
| Talmud, Midrash, and Rabbinics
Azzan Yadin
<i>Rutgers University</i> | Jewish History and Culture in Late Antiquity
Seth Schwartz
<i>Jewish Theological Seminary</i> | Holocaust Studies
Jack Kugelmann
<i>University of Florida</i> |
| Yiddish Literature
Kathryn Hellerstein
<i>University of Pennsylvania</i> | Medieval and Early Modern Jewish History, Literature, and Culture
David Berger
<i>Yeshiva University</i> | Jews and the Arts
Carol Zemel
<i>York University</i> |
| Modern Jewish Literature
Wendy Zierler
<i>HUC-JIR</i> | Sephardi/Mizrahi Studies
Norman Stillman
<i>University of Oklahoma</i> | Social Sciences, Anthropology, and Folklore
Shaul Kelner
<i>Vanderbilt University</i> |
| Modern Hebrew Literature
Barbara Mann
<i>Jewish Theological Seminary</i> | Modern Jewish History in Europe, Asia, Israel, and Other Communities
Derek Penlar
<i>University of Toronto</i> | Gender Studies
Chava Weissler
<i>Lehigh University</i> |
| Medieval Jewish Philosophy
Daniel Frank
<i>Purdue University</i> | Modern Jewish History in the Americas
Beth Wenger
<i>University of Pennsylvania</i> | Linguistics, Semiotics, and Philology
Benjamin Hary
<i>Emory University</i> |
| Jewish Mysticism
Lawrence Fine
<i>Mount Holyoke College</i> | | Interdisciplinary and Other
Andrea Most
<i>University of Toronto</i> |

*The Association for Jewish Studies is pleased
to announce the recipients of the*

2008 JORDAN SCHNITZER
BOOK AWARD PROGRAM

In the Category of Gender Studies:
ELISHEVA BAUMGARTEN
*Mothers and Children: Jewish Family Life
in Medieval Europe*
(Princeton University Press)

In the Category of Philosophy and Jewish Thought:
MARTIN KAVKA
Jewish Messianism and the History of Philosophy
(Cambridge University Press)

Please join the AJS for a reception in the authors' honor
on Sunday, December 21, at 9:30 pm
in Farragut Square.

Information and application procedures for the 2009
competition will be available on the
AJS website (www.ajsnet.org) in February of 2009.

Support for this program has been generously provided by the
JORDAN SCHNITZER FAMILY FOUNDATION OF
PORTLAND, OREGON.

*The Association for Jewish Studies
welcomes the recipients of the*

**2008 EASTERN EUROPEAN SCHOLAR
TRAVEL GRANTS**

RUDOLF KLEIN

(Szent Istvan University)

“Creating a ‘Moorish Cathedral’:

The Construction of the Great Synagogue in Budapest, 1854-59”

PAVEL LION

(Russian State University of Humanities)

“The New Russian Jewish Studies”

IGOR TUROV

(National University – Kievo Mogilyanska Akademiya)

“Attitude of the Founders of Hasidism to Gentiles”

MARZENA ZAWANOWSKA

(Maria Curie – Skłodowska University/University of Warsaw)

“The Holy Writ and Its Authorship in Medieval Karaite
Commentaries on the Pentateuch”

*The Eastern European Travel Grant Program has been made possible
through the generous support of:*

A FRIEND OF THE AJS

**THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF HUNGARY**

THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF POLAND

THE YIVO INSTITUTE FOR JEWISH RESEARCH

*The Association for Jewish Studies
is pleased to announce the recipients of the*

**2008 CAHNMAN PUBLICATION
SUBVENTION GRANTS**

IN SUPPORT OF FIRST BOOKS

MARA H. BENJAMIN

(St. Olaf College)

Rosenzweig's Bible: Reinventing Scripture for Jewish Modernity

To be published by Cambridge University Press

REBECCA KOBRIN

(Columbia University)

Jewish Bialystok and Its Diaspora: Between Exile and Empire

To be published by Indiana University Press

JAMES LOEFFLER

(University of Virginia)

*The Most Musical Nation: Jews, Culture, and Modernity
in the Late Russian Empire*

To be published by Yale University Press

AVINOAM PATT

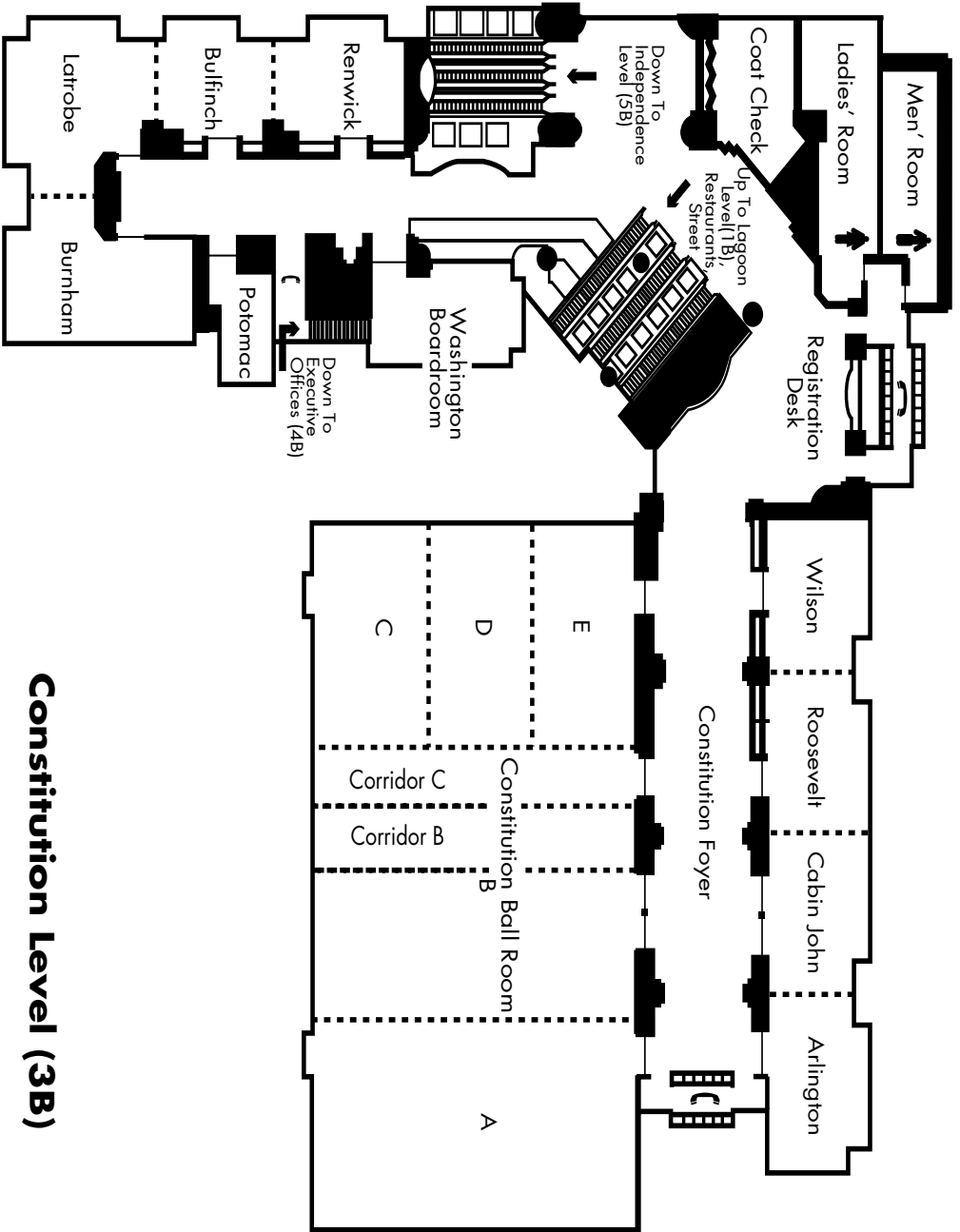
(University of Hartford)

*Finding Home and Homeland: Jewish Youth and Zionism
in the Aftermath of the Holocaust*

To be published by Wayne State University Press

*Support for these grants has been generously provided by
The Cahnman Foundation of New York.*

GRAND HYATT WASHINGTON
CONSTITUTION LEVEL

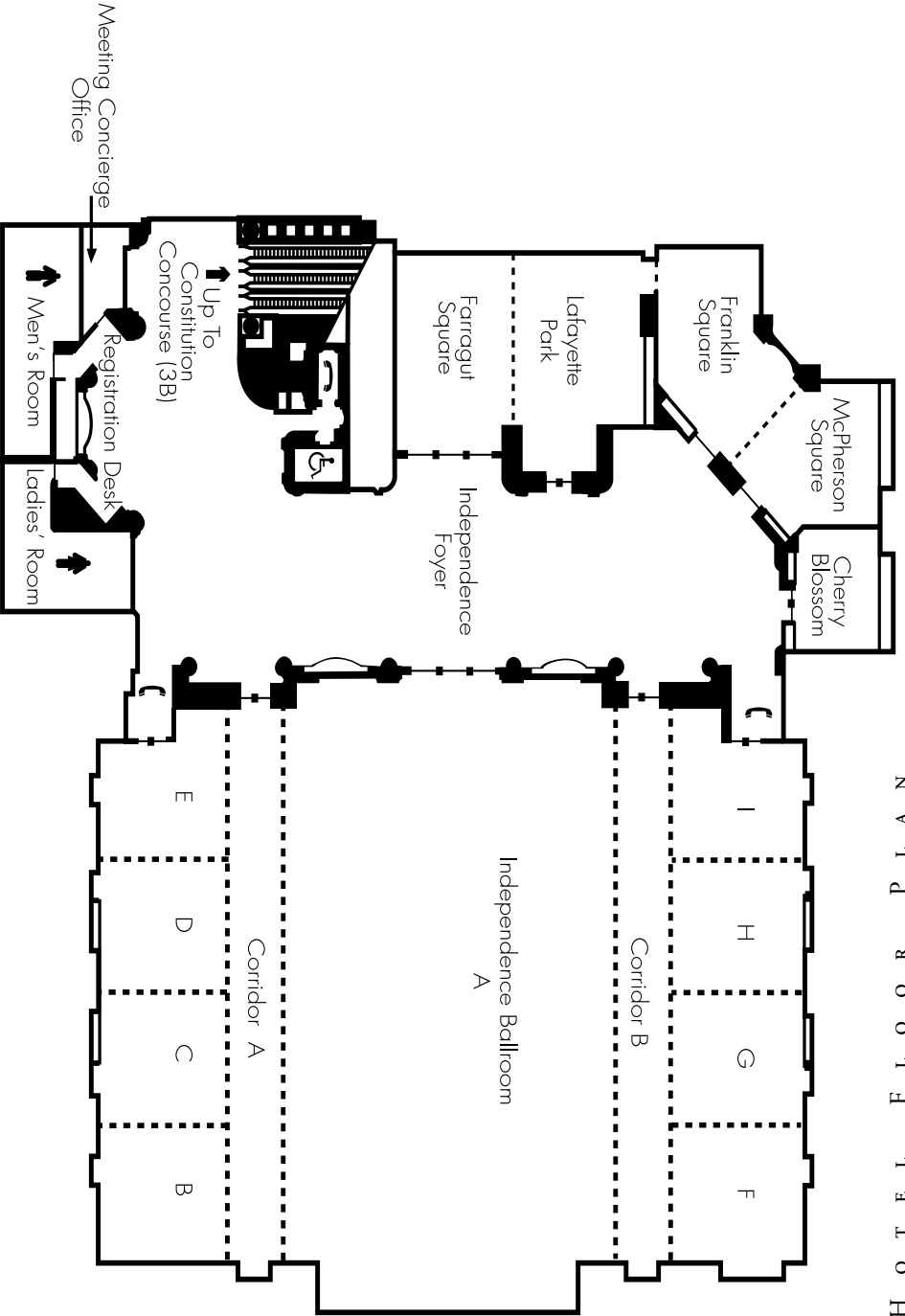


Constitution Level (3B)

H O T E L F L O O R P L A N

Please note: Penn Quarter A and B, and Conference Theatre are located on the Lagoon Level (1B).

GRAND HYATT WASHINGTON
INDEPENDENCE LEVEL



Independence Level (5B)

ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES 40TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Grand Hyatt Washington, December 21–23, 2008

SUNDAY MORNING	<i>MEETING ROOM</i>	SUNDAY 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM	SUNDAY 11:15 AM - 1:00 PM	SUNDAY LUNCHTIME 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
8:30 AM – 9:30 AM McPherson/ Franklin Square GENERAL BREAKFAST	<i>Constitution A</i>	1.1 American Responses to Nazism in the 1930s	2.1 Shedding New Light on Jewish Continuity	McPherson/ Franklin Square GENERAL LUNCH
	<i>Constitution B</i>	1.2 NEH Planning Grants: Two Current Jewish American History Projects	2.2 Biblical Interpretation and Gender Studies	
	<i>Constitution C</i>	1.3 The Jewish Writings of Michael Chabon	2.3 A Jew and Philosopher: A Hans Jonas Retrospective	
9:00 AM Constitution A AJS ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING	<i>Constitution E</i>	1.4 Jewish Responses to Modern Bible Criticism	2.4 Hybrid Languages: Theology, Poetry, & Liturgy	
	<i>Penn Quarter A</i>	1.5 Patronage, Trust, & Agency: Networks of European Jewry	2.5 <i>The Melting Pot:</i> Reconsidering Israel Zangwill's Play	
	<i>Penn Quarter B</i>	1.6 Rethinking the "Other": Problems in Post-Modern Jewish Thought	2.6 Creating Culture/ Creations of Culture	
10:30 AM Farragut Square AJS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING	<i>Independence G</i>	1.7 Embodying & Writing the State	2.7 Visual Culture after the Holocaust	
	<i>Independence I</i>	1.8 Gender, Prayer, & Spirituality	2.8 Issues in Jewish Demography	
	<i>Renwick</i>	1.9 New Studies in the Redaction of Rabbinic Texts	2.9 Readings in Modern German Jewish Literature	
	<i>Burnham</i>	1.10 Jewish Writers in Eastern Europe during & after the Holocaust	2.10 Art, Ethnicity, & Nationality in Israel	
	<i>Lafayette</i>	1.11 Regional & Organizational Perspectives of American Jewry	2.11 Varieties of Rabbinic Literature	
	<i>Roosevelt</i>	1.12 Solomon Schechter and the Creation of Conservative Judaism	2.12 <i>Ha-Shomer ha-Tzair</i> in Europe after the Holocaust	
	<i>Wilson</i>	1.13 Self and Other in the Formation of Jewish Identity	2.13 War in Eastern Europe	
	<i>Cabin John</i>	1.14 Israel in the First Decade of Independence	2.14 Interreligious Hostility	
	<i>Arlington</i>	1.15 Liturgy and Music	2.15 Caribbean Havens: Jewish Refugee Experiences	

S E S S I O N S A T A G L A N C E

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21 – MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2008

MEETING ROOM	SUNDAY 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM	SUNDAY 4:15 PM - 6:15 PM	SUNDAY EVENING/ MONDAY MORNING
<i>Constitution C</i>	3.1 Jewish Wanderings, Wandering Jews		6:15 PM - 6:45 PM Independence Foyer WELCOME RECEPTION
<i>Constitution E/ Independence F</i>	3.2 Jewish & Christian Learning (<i>Constitution E</i>)	4.1 Israel-Diaspora Relations: Evolving Definitions (<i>Independence F</i>)	
<i>Penn Quarter A</i>	3.3 Rabbinic Redactors & Their Readers	4.2 Multilingualism & Jewish Cultures	6:15 PM - 7:00 PM Independence H MARSHALL SKLARE AWARD RECEPTION
<i>Penn Quarter B</i>	3.4 Interrogating the Study of Contemporary American Jewish Identity	4.3 Responses to Jewish Communal Discontinuity	
<i>Independence G</i>	3.5 The Visual Culture of Jewish Weddings	4.4 Marshall Sklare Memorial Lecture	6:45 PM - 8:00 PM Constitution Ballroom GALA BANQUET
<i>Independence I</i>	3.6 Sacred Space, Temple, and Priestly Traditions	4.5 Teaching American Jewish Studies	8:00 PM - 9:00 PM Constitution Ballroom PLENARY PANEL <i>AJS Past Presidents</i>
<i>Renwick</i>	3.7 Identity Politics & Jewish Studies	4.6 Rethinking Jewish Ethics	
<i>Burnham</i>	3.8 Anne Frank, Her Diary, & Their Mediations	4.7 Yiddish Folk Culture & Early Modern Ashkenazic Society	9:30 PM - 11:00 PM Conference Theatre FILM SCREENING: <i>The Hebrew Lesson</i>
<i>Lafayette</i>	3.9 Sephardi/Mizrahi Women & Family	4.8 Defining the "Other": The Arab Minority in a Jewish State	9:30 PM - 10:30 PM Farragut Square JORDAN SCHNITZER BOOK AWARDS RECEPTION
<i>Roosevelt</i>	3.10 Jewish Historians in the Public Sphere	4.9 Cross-Culturing & History in Hebrew Literature	
<i>Wilson</i>	3.11 Issues in Hebrew Linguistics	4.10 Reading the Medievals: Case Studies in Reception History	Monday Morning 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM Farragut Square GENERAL BREAKFAST
<i>Cabin John</i>	3.12 Women's Leadership in the Yishuv	4.11 Studies in Early Kabbalah	
<i>Arlington</i>	3.13 Aspects of Medieval Jewish Thought	4.12 The Dead Sea Scrolls and Ancient Judaism	Monday Morning 7:00 AM - 8:30 AM McPherson/ Franklin Square WOMEN'S CAUCUS BREAKFAST

MEETING ROOM	MONDAY 8:30 AM - 10:30 AM	MONDAY 10:30 AM - 11:15 AM	MONDAY 11:15 AM - 1:00 PM	MONDAY LUNCHTIME 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM
<i>Constitution A</i>	5.1 Directors of Jewish Studies: Teaching Israel Studies	<i>Book Exhibit Coffee Break</i> <i>Independence Ballroom</i> <i>Sponsored by the Center for Jewish History</i>	7.1 Judaism or Judaisms? The Post-Modern Challenge	Independence F AAJR FELLOWS LUNCH
<i>Constitution B</i>	5.2 Rabbinic Gender & the Body		7.2 The Jewish Soldier: Visions of Home and Homeland	
<i>Constitution C</i>	5.3 A Fearful Asymmetry? Interpreting the Bible		7.3 Maimonides in Modern Jewish Thought	
<i>Constitution E</i>	5.4 Jews & New Media I: Social Software		7.4 Jews & New Media II: Archives and the Cultural Marketplace	
<i>Penn Quarter A</i>	5.5 Jews & American Capitalism		7.5 The Changing Landscape of Jewish Diaspora Travel to Israel	
<i>Penn Quarter B</i>	5.6 Politics & Social Relations in Roman Judaea	MONDAY 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM	7.6 Freud, Gender, Jewishness	Independence H SEPHARDI/ MIZRAHI CAUCUS LUNCH
<i>Independence G</i>	5.7 Outside the Ashkenazic/ Sephardic Divide	7.7 Contemporary Perspectives on Ukrainian Nationalism & the Holocaust in Ukraine		
<i>Independence I</i>	5.8 Understanding Contemporary Iranian Jewry	<i>6.1 Poster Session</i> <i>Independence Ballroom</i>	7.8 Latin American Jewish Studies: Exploring Ashkenazic & Sephardic Jewish Identities	McPherson/ Franklin Square GENERAL LUNCH
<i>Renwick</i>	5.9 Latin America & the Holocaust		7.9 Hellenistic Jewish Interpretations & Narratives	
<i>Burnham</i>	5.10 The New Russian Jewish Studies		7.10 Linguistic Distinctiveness in Modern Jewish Communities	
<i>Lafayette</i>	5.11 Concepts of Ethnicity & Home in Modern Jewish Literature		7.11 Polish-Jewish Encounters with the Holocaust	
<i>Roosevelt</i>	5.12 Studies in Mystical Experience and Identity		7.12 Rabbinics & the Christian World: Dialogue and Debate	
<i>Wilson</i>	5.13 Israeli Writers in Dialogue with Religion	7.13 Reading Gender in Hebrew Literature	Farragut Square PEDAGOGY AND JEWISH STUDIES	
<i>Cabin John</i>	5.14 The Need to Tell: The Impact of the Holocaust	7.14 New Perspectives on Orthodoxy		
<i>Arlington</i>	5.15 The History of Medieval Jewish Philosophy according to Hermann Cohen	7.15 Early Modern Messianism(s): Context, Confluence, & Discourse		

MEETING ROOM	MONDAY 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM	MONDAY 4:00 PM - 4:30 PM	MONDAY 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM	MONDAY EVENING/ TUESDAY MORNING
<i>Constitution A</i>	8.1 Jewish Studies, Jewish Money, & the Future of an Academic Field	<i>Coffee Break in Exhibit Hall</i> <i>Independence Ballroom</i> <i>Sponsored by the Center for Jewish History</i>	9.1 Politicized Academe: Reactions to Toaff's <i>Le Pasque di Sangue</i>	6:30 PM - 7:30 PM EARLY EVENING RECEPTIONS 9:30 PM - 10:30 PM LATE EVENING RECEPTIONS For a list of Monday evening receptions open to all conference registrants, see p. 51.
<i>Constitution B</i>	8.2 Maimonides & Spinoza on the Practical Philosophicality of Scripture		9.2 The (Im)Possibilities of Jewish Secularism	
<i>Constitution C</i>	8.3 Marx & the Jewish Question: New Perspectives		9.3 Biblical Narrative, Law, & History	
<i>Constitution E</i>	8.4 Yiddish Prose		9.4 Many Faces of Jewish Nostalgia	
<i>Penn Quarter A</i>	8.5 Popular Purity Practices in Late Antiquity		9.5 New Sources & Perspectives on Early Jewish Mysticism	7:30 PM McPherson/ Franklin Square GENERAL DINNER
<i>Penn Quarter B</i>	8.6 The Bavli & Its History		9.6 Antisemitism on American Campuses	
<i>Independence G</i>	8.7 Modernity & Modernism in Jewish Art		9.7 (Modern American) Visual Judaism	9:30 PM Conference Theatre FILM SCREENING: <i>Being Jewish in France (Part I)</i>
<i>Independence I</i>	8.8 Black-Jewish Relations: Multiple Perspectives & the State of the Field			
<i>Renwick</i>	8.9 Sixteenth-Century Kabbalah & Its Aftermath	<i>Division Meetings</i> <i>(See p. 62 for room assignments.)</i>	9.9 The Gender of Jewish Modernity	Tuesday Morning 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM McPherson/ Franklin Square GENERAL BREAKFAST
<i>Burnham</i>	8.10 German Jewish Culture: Beyond the Canon		9.10 New Configurations of Jewish Cultural Nationalism	
<i>Lafayette</i>	8.11 The Israel Attachments of American Jews		9.11 Rabbis & Their Cultural Context(s)	
<i>Roosevelt</i>	8.12 Central European Zionism & the Dialectics of Nationalism		9.12 Jews and the Modern City	
<i>Wilson</i>	8.13 Varieties of Crypto-Jewish Experience		9.13 Insults through the Ages	Tuesday Morning 7:00 AM - 8:30 AM Farragut Square DIVISION CHAIR AND PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING
<i>Cabin John</i>	8.14 Jewish Immigrant Authorship		9.14 The Use of Biblical Sources	
<i>Arlington</i>	8.15 Intertexts: Primo Levi & Dante		9.15 Jewish Community & Society in Later Ottoman Times	

<i>MEETING ROOM</i>	TUESDAY 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM	TUESDAY 10:45 AM - 12:45 PM	TUESDAY LUNCHTIME 12:45 PM – 1:45 PM	TUESDAY 1:45 PM - 3:45 PM
<i>Constitution A</i>	10.1 Jewish & Environmental Thought	11.1 Political Theology in Recent Jewish Thought	McPherson/ Franklin Square GENERAL LUNCH	
<i>Constitution B</i>	10.2 Gender & Sexuality in Contemporary Literature	11.2 Yiddish Poetry & Prose		
<i>Constitution C</i>	10.3 Case Studies in the Modernization of Russian Jews, 1881-1914	11.3 New Directions in Dead Sea Scrolls Scholarship		
<i>Constitution E</i>	10.4 Mediating Jewish Studies to Nonacademic Audiences	11.4 New Feminist Approaches to the Study of Judaism	1:00 PM – 3:00 PM Farragut Square AJS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING	12.1 Minorities in Israel: Is Jewish Law Still Relevant?
<i>Penn Quarter A</i>	10.5 Jewish Art(s) & the Aesthetics of Rupture/Repair	11.5 Jews & the American Nation		12.2 Topics in Holocaust Studies: History, Philosophy
<i>Penn Quarter B</i>	10.6 Ethnography of Jewish Ritual	11.6 Conversion, Anxiety, & the Rhetoric of Marginality		12.3 Family and Life Cycle in Medieval & Early Modern Times
<i>Independence G</i>	10.7 New Approaches to Jewish Culture in Latin America	11.7 Emergent Jewish Communities & Their Participants		12.4 Studies in Hasidism & Modern/Contemporary Jewish Mysticism
<i>Independence I</i>	10.8 Normalizing Emergency: The State of Israel	11.8 Jews as Co-Creators of Modern Western Theater		12.5 Medieval Rabbinic Leadership & Thought
<i>Renwick</i>	10.9 Explorations in the Society & Culture of Italian Jewry	11.9 Social Ethics & Material Performances	12.6 Jewish Philanthropy & Social Welfare	
<i>Burnham</i>	10.10 Death & Acculturation in Jewish Late Antiquity	11.10 Gender, Family, Children, & the Holocaust	12.7 Hebrew, English, & Contemporary Jewish/Israeli Identity in America	
<i>Lafayette</i>	10.11 Contemporary Transnationalism	11.11 Drink, Sex, & Humor among Eastern European Jews	12.8 From the Other Shore: Americanization	
<i>Roosevelt</i>	10.12 Centralization, Identity, & Redaction	11.12 Politics, Culture, & Ideology in Israel	12.9 Jewish Theology	
<i>Wilson</i>	10.13 Two Publishing Controversies	11.13 Women's Death in Israeli Literature	12.10 European Jewish Political Thought	
<i>Cabin John</i>	10.14 Violent Halakhah	11.14 Jews and Shifting Identities in France and Algeria	12.11 Works in Progress Group in Modern Jewish Studies	
<i>Arlington</i>	10.15 A Seminar: Maimonides on Creation	11.15 Rabbinic Terms and Their History	12.12 Holiness, Purity, and the Temple	

ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES 40TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Grand Hyatt Washington Washington, DC

December 21–23, 2008

Sunday, December 21, 2008

GENERAL BREAKFAST <i>(Note: By pre-paid reservation only)</i>	8:30 AM – 9:30 AM	<i>McPherson/Franklin Square</i>
REGISTRATION	8:30 AM – 6:00 PM	<i>Independence Foyer</i>
AJS BUSINESS MEETING	9:00 AM – 9:30 AM	<i>Constitution A</i>
AJS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING	10:30 AM – 2:00 PM	<i>Farragut Square</i>
BOOK EXHIBIT <i>(List of Exhibitors, p. 65)</i>	1:00 PM – 6:30 PM	<i>Independence Ballroom</i>
FILM SCREENINGS <i>(List of Films, pp. 63 - 64)</i>	9:30 AM – 6:30 PM	<i>Conference Theatre</i>

Session 1, Sunday, December 21, 2008

9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

1.1

Constitution A

AMERICAN RESPONSES TO NAZISM IN THE 1930s: NEW RESEARCH ON ANTISEMITISM, ISOLATIONISM, AND THE JEWISH REFUGEE PROBLEM

Sponsored by the David S. Wyman Institute for Holocaust Studies

Chair: Racelle Weiman (Temple University)

American Elites and the German Jewish Refugee Crisis

Laurel Leff (Northeastern University)

Antisemitism in the America First Movement

June Melby Benowitz (University of South Florida, Sarasota-Manatee)

American Jewry and Illegal Immigration to Palestine, 1938–1940

Rafael Medoff (The David Wyman Institute for Holocaust Studies)

1.2

Constitution B

NEH PLANNING GRANTS: TWO CURRENT JEWISH AMERICAN HISTORY PROJECTS

Chair: David Martz (National Endowment for the Humanities)

Discussants: Gabriel Goldstein (Yeshiva University Museum)

Joanne Jacobson (Yeshiva College)

Marsha Kinder (University of Southern California)

1.3

Constitution C

THE JEWISH WRITINGS OF MICHAEL CHABON

Chair: Helene Meyers (Southwestern University)

Discussants: Alan L. Berger (Florida Atlantic University)

Alisa Braun (University of California, Davis)

Ranen Omer-Sherman (University of Miami)

1.4

*Constitution E***JEWISH RESPONSES TO MODERN BIBLE CRITICISM: REJECTION, RESISTANCE, ACCOMMODATION***Chair:* Christian Wiese (University of Sussex)*Discussants:* Frederick E. Greenspahn (Florida Atlantic University)
Jay Harris (Harvard University)
Alan T. Levenson (University of Oklahoma)

1.5

*Penn Quarter A***PATRONAGE, TRUST, AND AGENCY: NETWORKS OF EUROPEAN JEWRY***Chair and Respondent:* Matthias B. Lehmann (Indiana University)**Livornese Hebrew Printing, Patronage, and Jewish Intellectual Networks in the Eighteenth Century**

Francesca Bregoli (University of Oxford)

Jewish Commercial Networks in Central Europe: Trade, Trust, and Bankruptcy

Cornelia Aust (University of Pennsylvania)

Jewish Political Networks and the Pogroms of 1881–82: Identifying Agents, Objects, Motivations

François Guesnet (University College London)

1.6

*Penn Quarter B***RETHINKING THE “OTHER”: PROBLEMS IN POST-MODERN JEWISH THOUGHT, POLITICS, AND THE MEDIA***Chair:* Janice Fernheimer (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute)**Is the “Other” Absolute? Two Conflicting Postwar French-Jewish Thinkers: Levinas and R. Leon Ashkenazi (Manitou)**

Susan A. Handelman (Bar-Ilan University)

From the “Other” to Politics: A New Reading of the Priority of the “Other” in Levinas

Jacob E. Meskin (Hebrew College)

The Media and the Construction of the “Other” in the Arab–Israeli Conflict

Richard Landes (Boston University)

1.7

*Independence G***EMBODYING AND WRITING THE STATE: WOMEN AND ZIONISM IN ARGENTINA, ISRAEL, AND THE UNITED STATES***Chair:* Mark A. Raider (University of Cincinnati)**Hebrew Queen Esther: Nationalizing the Female Body**

Hizky Shoham (Bar-Ilan University/Yale University)

American Housewives in the Promised Land: Two 1950s Memoirs of Life in Israel

Emily Alice Katz (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Electing “Miss Sefaradi”: Sephardic Jewish Women, Zionism, and Ethnic National Identities in Argentina, 1935–1960

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

1.8

*Independence I***GENDER, PRAYER, AND SPIRITUALITY***Chair:* Melissa Klapper (Rowan University)**A Spirited Chavruta: Spirituality and Gender in a Beit Midrash in Jerusalem**

Deidre Butler (Carleton University)

In the Key of Female: Music and Gender in the Modern and Contemporary American Cantorate and Jewish Worship Culture

Marsha Dubrow (The Graduate Center, CUNY)

The Religious Education of Women in Satmar Communities

Ilan Haim Fuchs (Bar-Ilan University)

1.9

*Renwick***NEW STUDIES IN THE REDACTION OF RABBINIC TEXTS***Chair and Respondent:* Serguei Dolgopolskii (University of Kansas, Lawrence)**Forced Interpretations as Evidence for Redactional Ideology: The Portrayal of Rabban Gamaliel II in the Yerushalmi**

Richard Hidary (Yeshiva University)

From Synagogue to Literature: What We Can Learn from the Redactions of *Midrash Vayosha*

Rachel Mikva (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Reciting the Shema: Redactional History and the Ascendancy of the House of Hillel

Binyamin Katzoff (Bar-Ilan University)

1.10

*Burnham***JEWISH WRITERS IN EASTERN EUROPE DURING AND AFTER THE HOLOCAUST***Chair and Respondent:* Joanna B. Michlic (Lehigh University)**Jewish-Russian Holocaust Poetry in Official Soviet Venues: 1944–1946 (Ehrenburg, Antokolsky, Ozerov)**

Maxim D. D. Shroyer (Boston College)

“Shhh! I am talking now”: The Function of Holocaust Narratives in Hanna Krall’s Literary Reportages

Dorota Glowacka (University of King’s College)

Imre Kertesz’s Fatelessness: Film and Novel

Catherine Portuges (University of Massachusetts, Amherst)

1.11

*Lafayette***REGIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL PERSPECTIVES OF AMERICAN JEWRY***Chair:* Ira Sheskin (University of Miami)**A Preliminary Survey of Jewish Organizations in the United States**

Paul Burstein (University of Washington)

Complicated Assimilations: Experiences of Difference among Mid-Twentieth-Century Southern Jews

Dina Pinsky (Arcadia University)

Western Jews, Ethnic Identity, and the Japanese American Other, 1900–1942

Ellen Eisenberg (Willamette University)

1.12

*Roosevelt***SOLOMON SCHECHTER AND THE CREATION OF CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM***Chair:* Jonathan Krasner (HUC-JIR)**Creating Centrist Judaism in England: Schechter’s Influence on Morris Joseph**

Matthew LaGrone (University of Delaware)

Solomon Schechter and America: Mutual Influences

David B. Starr (Hebrew College)

Solomon Schechter’s Disciples and the Creation of Conservative Judaism

Michael Cohen (Tulane University)

1.13

*Wilson***SELF AND OTHER IN THE FORMATION OF JEWISH IDENTITY***Chair and Respondent:* Moshe Rosman (Bar-Ilan University)**Directionality and Mutability: The Place of the Hebrew Language in Medieval and Early Modern Jewish–Christian Discourse and Polemic**

Daniel Stein Kokin (Yale University)

Kabbalah and Haskalah: A Dialectic Revisited

Sharon H. Flatto (Brooklyn College, CUNY)

The Egyptian Language in Rabbinic Literature

Rivka Kern Ulmer (Bucknell University)

1.14

*Cabin John***ISRAEL IN THE FIRST DECADE OF INDEPENDENCE: DEFINING CITIZEN RIGHTS IN A NEW STATE***Chair:* Carsten Schapkow (University of Oklahoma)**The 1948 Generation and Postwar Reconstruction**

Moshe Naor (Tulane University)

The Right to Travel Abroad during Israel's First Decade: Between State and Citizen

Orit Rozin (Tel Aviv University)

1.15

*Arlington***LITURGY AND MUSIC***Chair:* Steven Fine (Yeshiva University)**Credal Expression in the Shabbat-Evening Amidah**

Debra Reed Blank (Jewish Theological Seminary)

The Function of Music in Creating a Coherent Liturgical Experience: Kabbalat Shabbat and Friday Ma'ariv

Boaz Tarsi (Jewish Theological Seminary)

The Music of Friday Night Service in Sephardi/Mizrahi Traditions

Mark Kligman (HUC-JIR)

Session 2, Sunday, December 21, 2008**11:15 AM – 1:00 PM**

2.1

*Constitution A***SHEDDING NEW LIGHT ON JEWISH CONTINUITY: INTERMARRIAGE AND IDENTITY FROM THE TALMUD TO MODERNITY***Chair:* Riv-Ellen Prell (University of Minnesota)**Acculturation and Intermarriage: The Case of Fourth-Century Mahoza**

Yaakov Elman (Yeshiva University)

Disappearing Acts? Intermarried Men and the Jewish Community

Keren R. McGinity (University of Michigan)

Gendered Identity Differences among Young Adult Children of Intermarriage

Rachel Rockenmacher (Independent Scholar)

2.2

*Constitution B***BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION AND GENDER STUDIES***Chair:* Diana Lipton (King's College London)**Feminist Interpretation of the Hebrew Bible: Theory, History, Scholarship**

Esther Fuchs (University of Arizona)

The Place of Women in Priestly Nationalism

Rachel Sharon Havrelock (University of Illinois, Chicago)

Genealogy, Gynecology, and Gender: The Priestly Writer's Portrait of a Woman

Elizabeth Goldstein (University of California, San Diego)

Ruth and Inner-Biblical Allusion: The Case of I Samuel 25

Yitzhak Berger (Hunter College, CUNY)

2.3

*Constitution C***A JEW AND PHILOSOPHER: A HANS JONAS RETROSPECTIVE***Chair:* Zachary J. Braiterman (Syracuse University)*Discussants:*

Leora F. Batnitzky (Princeton University)

David J. Biale (University of California, Davis)

Hava Tirosh-Samuelson (Arizona State University)

Christian Wiese (University of Sussex)

Michael E. J. Zank (Boston University)

2.4

*Constitution E***HYBRID LANGUAGES: THEOLOGY, POETRY, AND LITURGY IN LIBERAL PRAYERBOOKS***Chair:* Alan Mintz (Jewish Theological Seminary)**Close Encounters of the Metaphoric Kind: Gender and Theology in *Siddur Mishkan Tefilah***

Rachel R. Adler (HUC-JIR)

Sneaking into the Prayerbook: The Boundaries between Poetry and Prayer

Maera Shreiber (University of Utah)

Judging Liberal Liturgy: The Last Taboo?

Catherine Madsen (National Yiddish Book Center)

2.5

*Penn Quarter A***THE MELTING POT: RECONSIDERING ISRAEL ZANGWILL'S PLAY AT ITS CENTENNIAL***Chair:* Edna Nahshon (Jewish Theological Seminary)***The Melting Pot, The Cockpit, and The Principle of Nationalities: Zangwill's Theater of War and Peace***

Meri-Jane Rochelson (Florida International University)

The Arrival of the "Superman"? Reconsidering the Racial Content of Israel Zangwill's***Melting Pot One Hundred Years Later***

Aviva Taubenfeld (Purchase College, SUNY)

"A Wild Creature": Zangwill's Revolutionary Daughter

Susan David Bernstein (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

Respondent: Todd M. Endelman (University of Michigan)

2.6

*Penn Quarter B***CREATING CULTURE/CREATIONS OF CULTURE: NORTH AMERICAN JEWRY IN MEDIA, MUSIC, ADVERTISING, AND ART***Chair:* Judith F. Rosen (The Graduate Center, CUNY)**The Pesach Rubenstein Murder Trial: Jews and Mass Media in Nineteenth-Century America**

Edward Portnoy (Rutgers University)

The Spaces and Places of American Jewish Advertising

Kerri P. Steinberg (Otis College of Art and Design)

The "Cult of Synthesis" Embellished: Jewish GIs and Their Art in World War II

Daniel M. Bronstein (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Cultural "Work": Singing, Dancing, Acting, Reading "far a shenerer beserer velt"

Ester Reiter (York University)

2.7

*Independence G***VISUAL CULTURE AFTER THE HOLOCAUST: JEWISH EXPERIENCE THROUGH THE PERPETRATORS' LENS***Chair:* David A. Brenner (Rice University)**The (Photographically Illustrated) Book of the Dead: On German *Friedhofsbücher***

Daniel H. Magilow (University of Tennessee, Knoxville)

Cinema and the Traumatized Tourist: Jewish Experience and Memory in *KZ* and *And Along Came Tourists*

Brad Prager (University of Missouri, Columbia)

Baroque and Beyond: Rethinking the Aesthetics of Fascism in Luchino Visconti's *The Damned*

Jennie Hirsh (Maryland Institute College of Art)

Respondent: Darcy Buerkle (Smith College)

2.8

*Independence I***ISSUES IN JEWISH DEMOGRAPHY***Chair:* Jonathon Ament (United Jewish Communities)**Sixty Years of World Jewish Demography: Change and Continuity**

Sergio DellaPergola (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Jewish Identity among Young Adults in Europe and North America

Benjamin Phillips (Brandeis University)

Four Questions about American Jewish Demography

Ira Sheskin (University of Miami)

Interfaith Couples: Rabbinic Wedding Officiation and Subsequent Jewish Engagement

Bruce A. Phillips (HUC-JIR)

2.9

*Renwick***READINGS IN MODERN GERMAN JEWISH LITERATURE***Chair:* Jonathan M. Hess (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill)**(Re)Visions of *Wilhelm Meister: Bildung in the Life and Work of Karl Emil Franzos***

Leo W. Riegert Jr. (Kenyon College)

In My Flesh Shall I See God: Franz Kafka's "In der Strafkolonie," the Alphabet, the Covenant, and Isaac Luria's *Tikkun Olam*

Ruth Christa Anita Callahan (Glendale Community College)

Infants/Schlemiels: The Figure of Infancy in the Fiction of Franz Kafka and the Poetry of Paul Celan

Menachem Feuer (D'Youville College)

2.10

*Burnham***ART, ETHNICITY, AND NATIONALITY IN ISRAEL***Chair:* Alan Benjamin (Pennsylvania State University)**Israeli Choreography of Social Hierarchy: Ashkenazi Jews, Mizrahi Jews, and Arabs**

Dina Roginsky (University of Toronto)

Russian-Language Israeli Literature: An Introduction

Anna P. Ronell (Wellesley College)

Sing Us a *Mawal*: The Politics of Culture-Brokering Palestinian–Israeli Musicians in Israel

Galeet Dardashti (University of Texas at Austin)

Were the Burecas Kosher? The Attitude to Religion and Religious People in Israeli Cinema in the 1970s

Avi Picard (New York University)

2.11

*Lafayette***VARIETIES OF RABBINIC LITERATURE***Chair:* Dvora E. Weisberg (HUC-JIR)**Remapping Midrash Halakhah**

Azzan Yadin (Rutgers University)

"Flying in Air" and "Torah Bodies": A New Interpretation of *M. Hagigah* 1:8

Nehemia Polen (Hebrew College)

Sowing Flax and Trapping Deer: Narratives of Literary Origin in the Babylonian Talmud

Henry Abramson (Touro College South)

Respondent: Richard L. Kalmin (Jewish Theological Seminary)

2.12

*Roosevelt***HA-SHOMER HA-TZAIR IN EUROPE AFTER THE HOLOCAUST: SHAPING COLLECTIVE MEMORY, MOLDING A COMMON FUTURE***Chair and Respondent:* David Engel (New York University)**The Struggle of *Ha-Shomer ha-Tzair* for Shaping the Memory of the Holocaust**

Eli Alexander Tzur (Academic College Seminar Ha-Kibbutzim)

“Broken Youth” into Pioneers: *Ha-Shomer ha-Tzair* in Europe after the Holocaust

Avinoaam Jacob Patt (University of Hartford)

***Ha-Shomer ha-Tzair* after the Holocaust: Comradeship vs. Ideology**

Aviva Halamish (The Open University of Israel)

2.13

*Wilson***WAR IN EASTERN EUROPE AND THE INSIDER/OUTSIDER PROBLEM***Chair:* Jeffrey Haus (Kalamazoo College)**The Cultural Question among Russian Zionists on the Eve of the Balfour Declaration**

Brian J. Horowitz (Tulane University)

Krig in Shpanyen: The Civil War Correspondence of S. L. Schneiderman

Jack Kugelmass (University of Florida)

2.14

*Cabin John***INTERRELIGIOUS HOSTILITY IN MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN TIMES***Chair:* Naomi Grunhaus (Yeshiva University)**“When ropes he pulls, with rubbish he’s full”: Anti-Christian Curses in the Medieval and Early Modern Period**

Yaacov Deutsch (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

The New Polemical Arguments of an Inquisition Prisoner: The Case of Isaac de Castro Tartas

Miriam Bodian (Touro College)

The Jewish Badge in Renaissance Italy: The Iconic O, the Yellow Hat, and the Paradoxes of Distinctive Sign Legislation

Flora Cassen (University of Vermont)

Distinctions without Much Difference? Ritual Murder, Blood Libel, and the Need to Classify

Emily Rose (Johns Hopkins University)

2.15

*Arlington***CARIBBEAN HAVENS: JEWISH REFUGEE EXPERIENCES IN JAMAICA, TRINIDAD, AND THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC***Chair:* Judith Laikin Elkin (University of Michigan)**Last-Ditch Haven: Jamaica’s Role in the Re-Rescuing of Jews from the Holocaust**

Paul R. Bartrop (Bialik College)

The Jewish Refugee Settlement in the Dominican Republic: Sosúa, 1940–1945

Marion Kaplan (New York University)

Jews to Trinidad: An Unintended Haven

Alisa Siegel (Canadian Broadcasting Corporation)

Respondent: Judah Cohen (Indiana University)**GENERAL LUNCH****1:00 PM – 2:00 PM***McPherson/Franklin Square**(Note: By pre-paid reservation only)*

Session 3, Sunday, December 21, 2008

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

3.1

*Constitution C***JEWISH WANDERINGS, WANDERING JEWS***Chair:* Judith Page (University of Florida)**The Transformation of Elijah from Zealous Prophet to the Archetype of the Wandering Jew**

Rachel Adelman (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Shelley's Esemplastic Wandering Jew

Edan Dekel (Williams College)

Hans Christian Andersen's Ahasverus: In the Skin of a Jew

David Gantt Gurley (Harvard University)

The Eternal Odessit: Wanderings in and out of Old Odessa, The Jewish City of Sin

Jarrod Tanny (Ohio University)

3.2

*Constitution E***JEWISH AND CHRISTIAN LEARNING DURING THE HIGH MIDDLE AGES: PARALLELS AND POINTS OF CONTACT***Chair:* Martin I. Lockshin (York University)**The Process of Reading in Twelfth-Century Jewish and Christian Biblical Exegesis**

Michael A. Signer (University of Notre Dame)

Tosafists, Cathedral Masters, and Their Critics

Ephraim Kanarfogel (Yeshiva University)

Jewish Knowledge of Christianity in the Twelfth and Thirteenth Centuries

Daniel J. Lasker (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

Echoes of the Eve/Mary Dichotomy in the Zohar

Sharon Koren (HUC-JIR)

3.3

*Penn Quarter A***RABBINIC REDACTORS AND THEIR READERS***Chair:* Judith R. Baskin (University of Oregon)**Confusing the Heavenly and Human Fathers: Rabbinic Power and Powerlessness in BT Massekhet Ta'anit**

Julia Watts Belser (Missouri State University)

In Front of the Text: Reading Self in Rabbinic Literature

Serguei Dolgopolskii (University of Kansas, Lawrence)

Literary Structure and Thematic Coherence in a Chapter of Bavli

Devora Steinmetz (Independent Scholar)

Jacob ibn Habib's Critique of Medieval Intellectual Culture: A View of the *Ein Yaakov* through the Lens of the Talmud

Marjorie S. Lehman (Jewish Theological Seminary)

3.4

*Penn Quarter B***INTERROGATING THE STUDY OF CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN JEWISH IDENTITY: AN EXPLORATION OF MODELS, METAPHORS, AND METHODS***Chair:* Charles Kadushin (Brandeis University)**An Existentialist Approach to Jewish Identity**

Stuart Charme (Rutgers University)

Jungle Gyms and China Shops: Durability and Fragility in Jewish Identity Formation

Tali Hyman (HUC-JIR)

Between Me and the Deep Blue Sea: Identity Formation in a Time of Liquid (Post)Modernity

Bethamie Horowitz (New York University)

Gendering Jewish Studies in the Study of Identity

Debra Renee Kaufman (Northeastern University)

3.5

*Independence G***THE VISUAL CULTURE OF JEWISH WEDDINGS: A RING, A DOCUMENT, AND A FEW NICE PICTURES***Chair:* Carol Zemel (York University)**“Italian” Jewish Marriage Rings from Central Europe**

Vivian B. Mann (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Transformations of the Ketubah or, the Gallery of Failed Marriages

Jeffrey A. Shandler (Rutgers University)

Between Sacredness and Feminism: Male–Female Union in the Artwork of Nechama Golan

Edna Nahshon (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Respondent: Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett (New York University)

3.6

*Independence I***SACRED SPACE, TEMPLE, AND PRIESTLY TRADITIONS***Chair:* Judith H. Newman (Emmanuel College)**Reopening the Gates of Ezekiel’s Temple**

Steven P. Weitzman (Indiana University)

Conflicting Models of Jewish Sacred Space: A Neo-Structuralist Analysis

Seth Kunin (Durham University)

“And they shall observe all of its form”: Text and Place in Ezekiel 40–48

Adriane Leveen (HUC-JIR)

The Blasphemer Episode in Leviticus 24: Echoes of an Anti-Solomon Polemic?

Mark Leuchter (Temple University)

3.7

*Renwick***IDENTITY POLITICS AND JEWISH STUDIES***Chair:* Sara R. Horowitz (York University)*Discussants:* Deborah Dash Moore (University of Michigan)

Jeffrey Peck (Baruch College, CUNY)

Moshe Rosman (Bar-Ilan University)

3.8

*Burnham***ANNE FRANK, HER DIARY, AND THEIR MEDIATIONS***Chair:* Daniel Belasco (The Jewish Museum)**“I still believe”: Anne Frank in American Passover Haggadot**

Liora Gubkin (California State University, Bakersfield)

Sounding a Young Girl: Musical Representations of Anne Frank

Judah Cohen (Indiana University)

Educating (with) Anne Frank

Ilana Abramovitch (Borough of Manhattan Community College, CUNY)

Remembering Anne Frank: Icon of Tolerance and Target of Anti-Semitism

Brigitte Sion (New York University)

3.9

*Lafayette***SEPHARDI/MIZRAHI WOMEN AND FAMILY***Chair:* Matt Goldish (Ohio State University)**Dreams of My Mother: Gender, Family, Love, and Mystical Self-Fashioning in Luis de Carvajal’s Spiritual Autobiography (Mexico, 1592–1596)**

Ronnie Perelis (Brandeis University)

Mizrahi Jews as Women? What Gender Studies Can Teach Us about Jews of the Middle East, North Africa, and Central Asia

Alanna E. Cooper (University of Michigan)

Moroccan Judeo-Spanish Women’s Songs: Mysticism, Identity, and the Dynamics of Power

Vanessa Paloma (Hadassah Brandeis Institute)

The Western Sephardic Family as Reflected in *Thesovro Dos Dinim*, by Menasseh ben Israel, Amsterdam, 1647

Julia R. Lieberman (St. Louis University)

3.10

*Roosevelt***WEST AND EAST: JEWISH HISTORIANS IN THE PUBLIC SPHERE***Chair:* David N. Myers (University of California, Los Angeles)**Setting the Record Straight: Polish Jewish Historians and Local History in Interwar Poland**

Natalia Aleksiu (Touro College)

“As brave with his pen as a Maccabee with his sword”: Graetz and the Embrace of Subjectivity in Jewish Historical Writing

Jeffrey C. Blutinger (California State University, Long Beach)

Locating German Jewish Cultures between the Province, the Nation, and the Diaspora

Nils Roemer (University of Texas at Dallas)

Respondent: Michael Brenner (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München)

3.11

*Wilson***ISSUES IN HEBREW LINGUISTICS***Chair:* Benjamin H. Hary (Emory University)**Back for the Future, Forward for the Past: The Metaphoric Structuring of Hebrew Time Adverbials and Its Cultural Implications**

Zelda K. Newman (Lehman College, CUNY)

The Potential of Informal Education in the Acquisition of Hebrew and Beyond: Hebrew-Speaking Summer Camps

Avital Feuer (University of Maryland)

3.12

*Cabin John***WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP IN THE YISHUV***Chair:* Aviva Halamish (The Open University of Israel)**Women's Leadership in the Struggle for Suffrage in the Yishuv**

Margalit Shilo (Bar-Ilan University)

Breaking through Traditionalism: Religious-Zionist Female Leadership during the Mandate Period

Lilach Rosenberg-Friedman (Bar-Ilan University)

Daring, Devotion, Vision: Ada Fishman (Maymon) and Cohorts Defy Gender Boundaries

Bat-Sheva Margalit Stern (Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies/The Open University of Israel)

3.13

*Arlington***ASPECTS OF MEDIEVAL JEWISH THOUGHT***Chair:* James Arthur Diamond (University of Waterloo)**Maimonides and the Medieval Islamic Understanding of *Phronesis***

Steven Harvey (Bar-Ilan University)

Maimonides' Theory of Law in His Introduction to His Commentary on the Mishnah

Lawrence J. Kaplan (McGill University)

Was Judah Alfakhar Really an Anti-Maimonidean?

Jacob Adler (University of Arkansas)

“Since when does our soul exist?” The Jewish Philosopher Sa'd ibn Mansur ibn Kammūna (d. 1284) on the Pre-Eternity of the Human Soul

Lukas Muehlethaler (Yale University)

Session 4, Sunday, December 21, 2008

4:15 PM – 6:15 PM

4.1

*Independence F***ISRAEL–DIASPORA RELATIONS: EVOLVING DEFINITIONS***Chair and Respondent:* Allan M. Arkush (Binghamton University)**Diaspora Rebellions: U.S. Jews React to the “Who Is a Jew” Debate in Israel**

Marianne R. Sanua (Florida Atlantic University)

Turning Points and Critical Decisions in Israel’s Tortuous Pursuit of Expediting a Convergence of Mutual Interests with the Jewish Diaspora

Natan Aridan (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

On Defining the Special Relationship between Israel and Diaspora Jewry

Mervin F. Verbit (Touro College/Brooklyn College, CUNY)

4.2

*Penn Quarter A***MULTILINGUALISM AND JEWISH CULTURES: CASES IN NORTH AFRICA AND LATIN AMERICA***Chair and Respondent:* Alan Astro (Trinity University)**Cultural and Linguistic Multiplicities in the Writing of Marcel Bénabou**

Dinah Assouline Stillman (University of Oklahoma)

Writing in Ladino: Language Revival and National Identity in Contemporary Argentina

Monique R. Balbuena (University of Oregon)

Shame and Honor, or Yiddish in Argentina

Lois Barr (Lake Forest College)

The Mother Tongue of the Jews of Egypt: Insights from Paula Jacques and Jacques Hassoun

Aimée Israel-Pelletier (University of Texas at Arlington)

4.3

*Penn Quarter B***RESPONSES TO JEWISH COMMUNAL DISCONTINUITY***Sponsored by the Center for Jewish History Fellowships Program**Chair:* Hasia R. Diner (New York University)**From Legal Autonomy to Municipal Integration in Hamburg, 1750–1780**

David Horowitz (Columbia University)

Family Ties: Converts and Community in Imperial Russia

Ellie Schainker (University of Pennsylvania)

La Nação: Community and Blood in the Atlantic World

Hilit Surowitz (University of Florida)

Respondent: Elisheva Carlebach (Columbia University)

4.4

*Independence G***MARSHALL SKLARE MEMORIAL LECTURE***Sponsored by the Association for the Social Scientific Study of Jewry**Chair:* Harriet Hartman (Rowan University)**Smart Jews**

Paul Ritterband (Haifa University)

Respondents: Amitai Etzioni (George Washington University)

Bethamie Horowitz (New York University)

4.5

*Independence I***TEACHING AMERICAN JEWISH STUDIES***Chair:* Noam F. Pianko (University of Washington)*Discussants:* Joyce Antler (Brandeis University)

Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett (New York University)

Jeffrey A. Shandler (Rutgers University)

Shelly Tenenbaum (Clark University)

4.6

*Renwick***RETHINKING JEWISH ETHICS***Chair:* Yudit K. Greenberg (Rollins College)**“These and those are the words of the living God”: A Critical Consideration for Contemporary Jewish Ethics**

Nina Redl (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Rosenzweig: On the Question of Being and the Commandment of Love

Daniel Brandes (University of King’s College)

The Movement from Ethics to Social Life and Politics in Levinas’s Thought, and Why Decency Obscures Obligation

Marc A. Cohen (Seattle University)

Rhetoric of Modern Jewish Ethics: A Methodological Proposal

Jonathan Crane (University of Toronto)

The Logic of Science vs. the Theory of Creation: The “Judgment of Contradiction” in Hermann Cohen’s *Logic of Origin*

Hartwig Wiedebach (University of Zurich)

4.7

*Burnham***YIDDISH FOLK CULTURE AND EARLY MODERN ASHKENAZIC SOCIETY***Chair and Respondent:* James Loeffler (University of Virginia)**Yiddish Wedding Folk Songs of Ashkenazi Jews: Function, Ethnography, Sociology, Texts, and Music**

Lyudmila Sholokhova (YIVO Institute for Jewish Reserach)

Yom-tov Spilman: A Nineteenth-Century Hasidic Klezmer between Tradition and Modernity

Joel E. Rubin (University of Virginia)

An Early Ashkenazic Folk Dance: Toward a History of the Sher

Walter Zev Feldman (Bar-Ilan University)

Jewish Folk Style in Wall Paintings of Eastern European Wooden Synagogues

Eugeny Kotlyar (Kharkiv State Academy of Design and Arts)

4.8

*Lafayette***DEFINING THE “OTHER”: THE ARAB MINORITY IN A JEWISH STATE***Chair:* Ilan Troen (Brandeis University)**Contested Outlooks of Israeli Jews and Arabs: Arab Responses to the “100 Terms in Zionism”**

Yitzhak Nissan Reiter (University of Minnesota)

Discrimination vs. Permissible Preferential Treatment in University of Haifa’s Dormitories, or, When Cicero Met Adalah in the Cafeteria

Nahshon Perez (University of California, Los Angeles)

Peacemaker Identity in America, Israel, and the Arab World: Social Capital or Social Stigma?

Ned Lazarus (American University)

The Problematic Ethnic and Sexual Discourses of Eytan Fox’s *The Bubble*

Jonathan C. Friedman (West Chester University)

4.9

*Roosevelt***CROSS-CULTURING AND HISTORY IN HEBREW LITERATURE***Chair:* Zohar Shavit (Tel Aviv University)**A Modern Man: Jesus in A. A. Kabak's *Bemishol Hatsar***

Melissa Weininger (University of Chicago)

Hearts and Bodies East and West: American Hebraists' Encounters with Eretz Israel

Stephen Katz (Indiana University)

"Two years before the Shoah it had no name": Literary Responses to the Holocaust, 1942–1945

Neta Stahl (Johns Hopkins University)

Speaking of Allegory: A. B. Yehoshua's *The Lover* and Walter Benjamin in *Ursprung des deutschen Trauerspiels*

Roberta Sabbath (University of Nevada, Las Vegas)

Amichai's Venice

Murray Baumgarten (University of California, Santa Cruz)

4.10

*Wilson***READING THE MEDIEVALS: CASE STUDIES IN RECEPTION HISTORY***Chair:* Miriam Bodian (Touro College)**Scripturalization of Rashi's Torah Commentary in Late Medieval and Early Modern Times**

Eric Lawee (York University)

Leon Modena as Reader and as Read

Yaacob Dweck (Princeton University)

A New Guide? The "Modern Maimonides" Motif in the Maskilic Reception of Spinoza

Daniel B. Schwartz (George Washington University)

Who Asks the Question? Rashi's Constructed and Constructing Readers

Devorah Schoenfeld (St. Mary's College of Maryland)

Respondent: Adam B. Shear (University of Pittsburgh)

4.11

*Cabin Johnson***STUDIES IN EARLY KABBALAH, ABRAHAM ABULAFIA, AND THE ZOHAR****Abraham Abulafia and the Cruciform Covenant**

Robert Sagerman (New York University)

"The superiority of man over the animal is nothing": Wisdom, Mysticism, and Ethics in the Writings of Jacob ben Sheshet of Gerona

Yechiel Shalom Goldberg (California State University, Long Beach)

The House in the Center of All: Divinity as Dwelling Place in Sefer ha-Zohar

Ellen Haskell (University of North Carolina at Greensboro)

The Snake and the *Ayalta*: A Sabbatian Reworking of a Zoharic Myth

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

4.12

*Arlington***THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS AND ANCIENT JUDAISM***Chair:* Moshe J. Bernstein (Yeshiva University)**Reading Polemic: The Temple Scroll and Rabbinic Accounts of the Display of the Temple Sancta to Festival Pilgrims**

Steven D. Fraade (Yale University)

A New Suggestion for the Reconstruction of 4Q370 and Its Implications for the Blessing of the Divine Name in the *Birkat ha-Mazon*

Alex Jassen (University of Minnesota)

Laws of Kosher Food in the Dead Sea Scrolls

Lawrence H. Schiffman (New York University)

Apocalyptic Literature, Ideas, and Movements: The Book of Jubilees and the Variety of Judaism in Antiquity

Todd Hanneken (St. Mary's University)

Sunday, December 21, 2008 Evening Program

MARSHALL SKLARE 6:15 PM – 7:00 PM *Independence H*

AWARD RECEPTION

Sponsored by the Association for the Social Scientific Study of Jewry; the Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies, Columbia University; the Center for Jewish Studies, The Graduate Center, CUNY; and the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Haifa University. Open to all conference registrants.

WELCOME RECEPTION 6:15 PM – 6:45 PM *Independence Foyer*

GALA BANQUET 6:45 PM *Constitution Ballroom*

(Note: By pre-paid reservation only)

Remarks: Sara Horowitz, AJS President (York University)

Sponsored by:

American University, Jewish Studies Program
Colgate University, Jewish Studies Program
Columbia University, Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies
The George Washington University, Judaic Studies Program
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The Johns Hopkins University, Leonard and Helen R. Stulman Jewish Studies Program
Kean University, Jewish Studies Program
Lehigh University, Philip and Muriel Berman Center for Jewish Studies
New York University, Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies
The Posen Foundation
Reconstructionist Rabbinical College
Stony Brook University, Program in Judaic Studies
United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies
University of Maryland, Joseph and Rebecca Meyerhoff Center for Jewish Studies
University of Pennsylvania, Jewish Studies Program
University of Virginia, Jewish Studies Program
Yeshiva University

PLENARY SESSION 8:00 PM *Constitution Ballroom*

Introduction: Marsha Rozenblit, Vice-President for Program (University of Maryland)

REFLECTIONS AT FORTY:

PAST PRESIDENTS ON THE FOUNDING OF THE AJS AND THE FIELD OF JEWISH STUDIES

Moderator: Judith Baskin (University of Oregon)

Discussants: David Berger (Yeshiva University), Robert Chazan (New York University), Jane Gerber (The Graduate Center, CUNY), Lawrence Schiffman (New York University), Robert Seltzer (Hunter College, CUNY), and Ruth Wisse (Harvard University)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21 – MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2008

FILM **9:30 PM** *Conference Theatre*
THE HEBREW LESSON
Hebrew, 2006
Directed by David Ofek, Elinor Kowarsky, and Ron Rotem
*Presented by the Joseph and Rebecca Meyerhoff Center for Jewish Studies,
University of Maryland, College Park.*

RECEPTION FOR **9:30 PM** *Farragut Square*
JORDAN SCHNITZER BOOK AWARDS
*In honor of the 2008 Jordan Schnitzer Book Award recipients. Sponsored by the Jordan Schnitzer Family
Foundation and the Association for Jewish Studies. Open to all conference registrants.*

Monday, December 22, 2008

GENERAL BREAKFAST **7:30 AM – 8:30 AM** *Farragut Square*
(Note: By pre-paid reservation only)

WOMEN'S CAUCUS BREAKFAST **7:00 AM – 8:30 AM** *McPherson/Franklin Square*
(Note: By pre-paid reservation only)

AJS REVIEW **7:00 AM – 8:30 AM** *Cherry Blossom*
EDITORIAL BOARD MEETING

REGISTRATION **8:30 AM – 6:00 PM** *Independence Foyer*

BOOK EXHIBIT **9:00 AM – 6:30 PM** *Independence Ballroom*

FILM SCREENINGS **8:30 AM – 6:30 PM** *Conference Theatre*

Session 5, Monday, December 22, 2008 **8:30 AM – 10:30 AM**

5.1 *Constitution A*

DIRECTORS OF JEWISH STUDIES: TEACHING ISRAEL STUDIES

Chair: Arnold Dashefsky (University of Connecticut at Storrs)

Discussants: Pamela S. Nadell (American University)

Derek J. Penslar (University of Toronto)

Ilan Troen (Brandeis University)

5.2 *Constitution B*

RABBINIC GENDER AND THE BODY

Chair: Judith Hauptman (Jewish Theological Seminary)

“Candle in the womb”: Discourse of the Body in Leviticus Rabbah

Tammy J. Jacobowitz (University of Pennsylvania)

Patriarchal Stewardship: Women and Gender Relations in Avot de Rabbi Natan A and B

Natalie C. Polzer (University of Louisville)

Rabbinic Masculinity and the Gender of the “Other”

Cynthia M. Baker (Bates College)

Respondent: Evyatar Marienberg (Jewish Theological Seminary)

5.3

*Constitution C***A FEARFUL ASYMMETRY? INTERPRETING THE BIBLE IN JEWISH SOURCES***Chair:* Hindy Najman (University of Toronto)**Appreciating the Intuitive and Counter-Intuitive in Midrashic Theology**

Michael A. Fishbane (University of Chicago)

What's in a Name? The Biblical Background of a Talmudic Martyrdom

Diana Lipton (King's College London)

The Medieval Discovery of Biblical Narrative

Meira R. Polliack (Tel Aviv University)

Resolving a Conundrum: Pinning Down Maimonides' Elusive Construal of the Maxim that "Scripture does not leave the hands of its *Peshat*"

Mordechai Z. Cohen (Yeshiva University)

5.4

*Constitution E***JEWES AND NEW MEDIA I: SOCIAL SOFTWARE***Sponsored by the Working Group on Jews, Religion, and Media, Center for Religion and Media, New York University**Chair:* Ilana Abramovitch (Borough of Manhattan Community College, CUNY)*Discussants:*

Marcy Brink-Danan (Brown University)

Nathaniel Deutsch (Swarthmore College)

Janice Fernheimer (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute)

Edward Portnoy (Rutgers University)

Brigitte Sion (New York University)

Chava Weissler (Lehigh University)

5.5

*Penn Quarter A***JEWES AND AMERICAN CAPITALISM: NEW THEORETICAL AND METHODOLOGICAL APPROACHES***Chair:* Hasia R. Diner (New York University)**Name-Changing and the Paradoxes of American Jewish Economic Life**

Kirsten L. Fermaglich (Michigan State University)

Worshipping the Golden Calf: Rabbinical Anxieties over Affluence in Postwar America

Rachel Kranson (New York University)

A Tale of Two "Irving's": Irving Howe, Irving Kristol, and the Role of the Intellectual in American Jewish Discourse in the Postwar Years

Ronnie Grinberg (Northwestern University)

The Rise and Fall of the House of Jarmulovsky: Banking and Real Estate Speculation in Gilded-Age New York

Rebecca Kobrin (Columbia University)

5.6

*Penn Quarter B***POLITICS AND SOCIAL RELATIONS IN ROMAN JUDAEA***Chair:* Robert G. Goldenberg (Stony Brook University, SUNY)**Charity and Social Justice in Early Rabbinic Literature**

Gregg Gardner (Princeton University)

Josephus' Republic: How Josephus Reconceptualized Law as Politics

David Flatto (Harvard University)

Playing Roman: Jewish Identity and Roman Games in the Augustan Era

Loren R. Spielman (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Jews and the Roman Culture of Benefaction

Seth Schwartz (Jewish Theological Seminary)

5.7

*Independence G***OUTSIDE THE ASHKENAZIC/SEPHARDIC DIVIDE: ITALIAN JEWISH STUDIES IN ITALY AND BEYOND***Sponsored by the Centro Primo Levi**Chair:* Francesco Spagnolo (Judah L. Magnes Museum)*Discussants:*

Murray Baumgarten (University of California, Santa Cruz)

Francesca Bregoli (University of Oxford)

Gadi Luzzatto Voghera (University of Padua/Boston University)

David Malkiel (Bar-Ilan University)

Mauro Perani (University of Bologna/European Association for Jewish Studies)

5.8

*Independence I***UNDERSTANDING CONTEMPORARY IRANIAN JEWRY***Chair:* Norman A. Stillman (University of Oklahoma)**The Culture Heroes: The Role of Iranian Jews in the Preservation, Proliferation, and Development of Persian Music**

Houman Sarshar (Center for Iranian Jewish Oral History)

Dhimma Status Revisited

Judith L. Goldstein (Vassar College)

Bridging Cultures: Being Iranian–Jewish, Becoming Iranian–Jewish–American

Leah R. Baer (Independent Scholar)

5.9

*Renwick***LATIN AMERICA AND THE HOLOCAUST***Chair:* Alejandro Meter (University of San Diego)**“Didn’t all the Nazis go to Argentina?” Latin American Studies and the Holocaust**

Edna Aizenberg (Marymount Manhattan College)

Memories of Villa Clara (1902-1947): Silencing the Past

Judith Freidenberg (University of Maryland)

The Holocaust and the Dirty War: Figures of Jewish Memory in Argentina

Estelle Tarica (University of California, Berkeley)

Remembering the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising at the Obelisco: Rabbi Marshall T. Meyer and the Reshaping of the Memory of the Shoah in Argentina

Daniel Fainstein (Universidad Hebraica, Mexico City)

5.10

*Burnham***THE NEW RUSSIAN JEWISH STUDIES***Chair and Respondent:* Anna Shternshis (University of Toronto)*Discussants:*

Olga Gershenson (University of Massachusetts, Amherst)

Pavel Lion (Russian State University of Humanities)

Alexander Militarev (Santa Fe Institute)

David Shneer (University of Colorado, Boulder)

5.11

*Lafayette***CONCEPTS OF ETHNICITY AND HOME IN MODERN JEWISH LITERATURE***Chair:* Ezra Cappell (University of Texas at El Paso)**Claudia Roden’s *The Book of Jewish Food: An Odyssey from Samarkand to New York* as a Work of Modern Jewish Literature**

Jo-Anne Berelowitz (San Diego State University)

Starring Judy S. Blume as Herself: American Jewish Children’s Author

Joellyn Zollman (San Diego State University) and Jonathan Krasner (HUC-JIR)

What Means Switch? Jewishness in Gish Jen’s *Mona in the Promised Land*

Caroline Margaret Rody (University of Virginia)

From Chabon and Landau to Krakow and Birobidzhan: Constructing Post-Postmodern, Global Homesites

S. I. Salamensky (University of California, Los Angeles)

5.12

*Roosevelt***STUDIES IN MYSTICAL EXPERIENCE AND IDENTITY***Chair:* Shaul Magid (Indiana University)**Kabbalah and Meditation**

Pinchas Giller (American Jewish University)

On a Purported Copy of the Cosmographic Diagrams of R. Hayim Vital

Menachem Emanuel Kallus (Haifa University)

Attitude of the Founders of Hasidism to Gentiles

Igor Victor Turov (National University, Kiev) Mogilyanska Akademiya)

5.13

*Wilson***STRUGGLE, SOLACE, SUPPLICATION, SALVATION: ISRAELI WRITERS IN DIALOGUE WITH RELIGION***Chair:* Barbara Mann (Jewish Theological Seminary)**Wrestling with Angels and Fathers in Haim Be'er's Confessional Prose**

Hannah Simone Pressman (New York University/University of Washington)

"I am the holy virgin": The Use of Christian Personae in the Works of Leah Goldberg, Yonah Wallach, and Anna Herman

Adriana X. Jacobs (Princeton University)

The Destruction of the Redemptive Narrative: The Ekphrastic Poetry of Tuvia Rübner

Shahar Bram (University of Haifa)

"God changes, prayers are here to stay": Poetry and Prayer in the Late Works of Yehuda Amichai

Vered Shemtov (Stanford University)

5.14

*Cabin John***THE NEED TO TELL: THE IMPACT OF THE HOLOCAUST ON TESTIMONY, EDUCATION, AND MEMOIR***Chair:* Rakhmiel Peltz (Drexel University)**The Suicidal Message: Jean Améry's Testimony as Translation**

Dan Leshem (Emory University)

Writing the Holocaust for Children in American Yiddish Children's Magazines (1939–1950)

Naomi Kadar (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Memoir as Testimony: Post-Holocaust Accounts of Jewish Life in Pre-Holocaust Eastern Europe

Beatrice Lang Caplan (Johns Hopkins University)

The Secret Life of Forgiveness: Re-Reading Holocaust Survivor Memoirs

Dennis B. Klein (Kean University)

5.15

*Arlington***THE HISTORY OF MEDIEVAL JEWISH PHILOSOPHY ACCORDING TO HERMANN COHEN***Chair:* Michael E. J. Zank (Boston University)**Pre-Maimonidean Jewish Philosophy according to Hermann Cohen**

Aaron Hughes (University of Calgary)

The Nearness of Divine Distance: Cohen's Approximation of Maimonides' Proximity

James Arthur Diamond (University of Waterloo)

Maimonides among the Prophets: Hermann Cohen and Making the Old New Again

Robert Erlewine (Illinois Wesleyan University)

Beyond the Law into the Law?

Dana Hollander (McMaster University)

BOOK EXHIBIT COFFEE RECEPTION 10:30 AM – 11:15 AM

Independence Ballroom

Sponsored by the Center for Jewish History

Session 6.1, Monday, December 22, 2008

10:30 AM – 12:30 PM

6.1

Independence Ballroom

POSTER SESSION

Mechanisms for Producing Jewish Identity in Community Contexts

Matthew Boxer (University of Wisconsin/Brandeis University)

Friedrich Bergammer: Poet in Exile

Gudrun Brokoph (St. Lawrence University)

Reading Rabbinical Calendar Texts against the Grain of Qumran: Revising the History of

Calendar Practice in the Second Temple Period

Ron H. Feldman (Sonoma State University)

Attitudes and Dilemmas in the Research of Jewish Forced Labor during the Holocaust:

The Case of the “Radom Transport”

Idit Gil (The Open University of Israel)

Birds of Passage/Harbingers of Change: Jewish Peddlers in Nineteenth- and Early

Twentieth-Century Rural America

Michael Hoberman (Massachusetts Historical Society)

The Rothschilds: Gendered Stereotypes in the Frankfurt am Main *Memorbuch*

Tzvia Koren-Loeb (Duisburg-Essen University)

***Sefer Yetzirah*—Birth and Transformation of a Text: Sa’adiah Gaon, Dunash, and Donnolo**

Piergabriele Mancuso (Boston University)

Sa’adiah Ga’on and Maimonides on the Logic and Limits of Legal Inference

Aviram Ravitsky (Harvard University)

Hungarians Are the Jews: New Perspectives on Jewish Assimilation in Europe

Maria Rethelyi (University of Chicago)

Freemason and Jew: Fresh Light on the Lessing–Mendelssohn Friendship

Bruce Rosenstock (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

From Hell to Hope: A Comparison of Jewish Survivor Reception in the United States and Australia

Suzanne Dorothy Rutland (University of Sydney)

The Convert Community of the Granada Kingdom after the 1492 Expulsion

Raquel Sanz-Barrio (École des hautes études en sciences sociales)

Ahron Marcus: Portrait of a Zionist Hasid

Joshua Shanes (College of Charleston)

Is Religion “What You Are” or “What’s in Your Heart”? Competing Definitions of Religion in Intermarried Couples

Jennifer Thompson (Emory University)

Session 7, Monday, December 22, 2008

11:15 AM – 1:00 PM

7.1

*Constitution A***JUDAISM OR JUDAISMS: THE POST-MODERN CHALLENGE***Sponsored by the American Academy for Jewish Research**Chair:* Todd M. Endelman (University of Michigan)**Is Jewish History Really Jewish? The Boundaries of Minority History**

David J. Biale (University of California, Davis)

Texts as Cultural Anchors: Talmud, *Piyyut*, *Hekhalot*

Ephraim Kanarfogel (Yeshiva University)

Judaisms, American Style: Diversity, Institutions, and Legitimacy Transformed

Calvin Goldscheider (Brown University)

Respondent: Paula E. Hyman (Yale University)

7.2

*Constitution B***THE JEWISH SOLDIER: VISIONS OF HOME AND HOMELAND***Chair:* Pamela S. Nadell (American University)**The German Jewish Soldier: From Participant to Victim**

Derek J. Penslar (University of Toronto)

“I will be your home”: Refugee GIs and Their European Brides

Robin E. Judd (Ohio State University)

A Home Away from Home: Soldiers’ Welfare Huts and Jewish “Homes” in the World War I American Military

Jessica Cooperman (Muhlenberg College)

Respondent: Marsha L. Rozenblit (University of Maryland)

7.3

*Constitution C***MAIMONIDES IN MODERN JEWISH THOUGHT***Chair:* Aaron Hughes (University of Calgary)**Did the Gaon of Vilna Denounce Maimonides? A Reconsideration of Philosophy and Hermeneutics in Jewish History**

Eliyahu Stern (University of California, Berkeley)

A Copernican Turn to Scripture: Hermann Cohen between Maimonides and Spinoza

Daniel H. Weiss (University of Virginia)

Yeshayahu Leibowitz and Maimonides: A Critical Examination

Naftali Rothenberg (Van Leer Jerusalem Institute)

7.4

*Constitution E***JEWES AND NEW MEDIA II: ARCHIVES AND THE CULTURAL MARKETPLACE***Sponsored by the Working Group on Jews, Religion, and Media, Center for Religion and Media, New York University**Chair:* Andrea Lieber (Dickinson College)*Discussants:*

Ari Davidow (Jewish Women’s Archive)

Ayala Fader (Fordham University)

Samuel Heilman (Queens College, CUNY)

Emily Alice Katz (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Elkanah Shmotkin (Jewish Educational Media)

Francesco Spagnolo (Judah L. Magnes Museum)

7.5

*Penn Quarter A***THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE OF JEWISH DIASPORA TRAVEL TO ISRAEL***Chair:* Theodore Sasson (Brandeis University/Middlebury College)**Taglit-Birthright Israel: A New Form of Educational Tourism**

Leonard Saxe (Brandeis University)

The Emergence of Jewish Alternative Tourism

Caryn Aviv (University of Denver)

Encounter with the Inner Other: Themes of Transition in “Traditional” Group Israel Travel

Shirah Hecht (Independent Scholar)

Respondent: Steven Martin Cohen (HUC-JIR/S3K Synagogue Studies Institute)

7.6

*Penn Quarter B***FREUD, GENDER, JEWISHNESS***Chair and Respondent:* Matti Bunzl (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign)**Freud’s “Jewish” Narrative**

Anne Golomb Hoffman (Fordham University)

Transgressing Identity: Jews and Queers in Freudian Perspective

David Ross Fryer (Temple University)

Of Snips and Puppy Dog Tails: Freud’s Sublimation of *Judentum*

Jay Geller (Vanderbilt University)

7.7

*Independence G***CONTEMPORARY PERSPECTIVES ON UKRAINIAN NATIONALISM AND THE HOLOCAUST IN UKRAINE***Sponsored by the Ukrainian Jewish Encounter Initiative**Chair:* Alti Berthe Rodal (Ukrainian Jewish Encounter Initiative)**Contemporary Reinterpretation of the OUN’s Antisemitic Discourse**

Marco Carynnyk (Independent Scholar)

Recent Debates in Ukraine over Nationalist Involvement in the Holocaust

John-Paul Himka (University of Alberta)

Memorialization of the Jewish Tragedy at Babi Yar: Historical and Current Perspectives

Aleksandr Burakovskiy (Independent Scholar)

Ukrainian Imagination and the Holocaust as Expressed in Ukrainian Literature under Soviet Censorship

Yohanan Petrovsky-Shtern (Northwestern University)

Respondent: Henry Abramson (Touro College South)

7.8

*Independence I***LATIN AMERICAN JEWISH STUDIES: EXPLORING ASHKENAZIC AND SEPHARDIC JEWISH IDENTITIES THROUGH LATIN AMERICAN NARRATIVE, THEATER, AND FILM***Sponsored by the Latin American Jewish Studies Association**Chair:* Edna Aizenberg (Marymount Manhattan College)**“The New Wave”: Moving Away from Jewish Stereotypes in Argentine Films**

Nora Glickman (Queens College/The Graduate Center, CUNY)

Yiddishe Mammes in Argentine Theater

Sandra Messinger Cypess (University of Maryland)

Gazing into the Broken Mirror: Mexican Jewish Women Negotiate Identity and Politics in Print and Film Versions of Rosa Nissan’s Work

Kenya Carmen Dworkin y Mendez (Carnegie Mellon University)

Respondent: Monique R. Balbuena (University of Oregon)

7.9

HELLENISTIC JEWISH INTERPRETATIONS AND NARRATIVES

Chair: Jed Wyrick (California State University, Chico)

“Joseph and Aseneth”: A Very Early Jewish-Hellenistic Romance

René Bloch (University of Bern)

At the Beginning: The Septuagint as a Jewish Bible Translation

Leonard J. Greenspoon (Creighton University)

The Death of Moses according to Josephus

Louis H. Feldman (Yeshiva University)

The Election of Israel in the Wisdom of Ben Sira

Greg Schmidt Goering (University of Virginia)

Renwick

7.10

LINGUISTIC DISTINCTIVENESS IN MODERN JEWISH COMMUNITIES

Chair: Sarah Bunin Benor (HUC-JIR)

Discussants:

Marion J. Aptroot (Heinrich Heine Universität)

Paul D. Glasser (YIVO Institute for Jewish Research)

Benjamin H. Hary (Emory University)

George Jochowitz (College of Staten Island)

Norman A. Stillman (University of Oklahoma)

Burnham

7.11

POLISH–JEWISH ENCOUNTERS WITH THE HOLOCAUST: DIARIES, DOCUMENTATION, REFLECTIONS, AND RECOLLECTIONS

Chair: Berel Lang (Wesleyan University)

Yizkor Books as Sources of Information about Polish–Jewish Relations

Michlean L. Amir (U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum) and

Rosemary Horowitz (Appalachian State University)

The Jewish Presence in the Warsaw Uprising

Anna Borejsza-Wysocka (U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum)

Warsaw Polish Writers Encountering the Holocaust

Rachel Feldhay Brenner (University of Wisconsin–Madison)

Biography of a Holocaust Image

Dan Porat (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Lafayette

7.12

RABBINICS AND THE CHRISTIAN WORLD: DIALOGUE AND DEBATE

Chair and Respondent: Kris H. Lindbeck (Florida Atlantic University)

A Note on Jewish and Christian Mediators

Boris Ostrer (Jewish Theological Seminary)

The *Rasbi* Stories: Monastic Traditions and Their Jewish Analogies

Michal Bar-Asher Siegal (Yale University)

The Wayward Disciple: On Gehazi, Jesus, and the Birth of Christianity

Amram Tropper (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

Roosevelt

7.13

READING GENDER IN HEBREW LITERATURE

Chair: Neta Stahl (Johns Hopkins University)

Toward a New History of Women’s Poetry in Hebrew

Miryam Segal (Harvard Divinity School/Indiana University)

“Ahot” and the Role of Masculinity in Agnon’s Early Writing

Philip A. Hollander (Tulane University)

“Lights in the dark”: Prostitution in Hebrew Literature

Ilana Szobel (Brandeis University)

Wilson

7.14

Cabin John

NEW PERSPECTIVES ON ORTHODOXY

Chair: Shuly Rubin Schwartz (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Gedolim on Public-Affairs Issues: The Netziv, Rav Hutner, and Rabbi Soloveitchik on Antisemitism, the Holocaust, the Jewish Community—and Da-As Torah

Jerome A. Chanes (Brandeis University)

Being Heard: Yiddish Performances at Hasidic Girls' Schools, Integration and Insularity

Ester-Basya Vaisman (Harvard University)

“When Orthodoxy was not as chic as it is today”: The Jewish Forum and American Modern Orthodoxy

Ira Robinson (Concordia University) and Maxine Jacobson (Independent Scholar)

A Good Bais Yaakov Girl: Judaism, Feminism, and the Creation of Orthodox Girl Culture

Leslie Ginsparg (Touro College/New York University)

7.15

Arlington

EARLY MODERN MESSIANISM(S): CONTEXT, CONFLUENCE, AND DISCOURSE

Chair and Respondent: Elisheva Carlebach (Columbia University)

Topsy-Turvy World's End: The Lost Tribes in Apocalyptic Scenarios from Sixteenth-Century Germany

Rebekka Voss (Harvard University)

The Religio-Political Jew: Post-Sabbatian Political Thought in Daniel Levi de Barrios and Abraham Pereyra

Anne Oravetz Albert (University of Pennsylvania)

Messianism and Exile in the Works of Rabbi Jonathan Eibeschütz

Pawel Maciejko (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

GENERAL LUNCH

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

McPherson/Franklin Square

(Note: By pre-paid reservation only)

AAJR LUNCH

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Independence F

For the Fellows of the American Academy for Jewish Research

SEPHARDI/MIZRAHI

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Independence H

CAUCUS LUNCH

(Note: By pre-paid reservation only)

LUNCHTIME MEETING

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Farragut Square

PEDAGOGY AND JEWISH STUDIES

(Note: This meeting does not include lunch.)

Chair: Shelly Tenenbaum (Clark University)

Commentators: Justin Cammy (Smith College), Benjamin Hary (Emory University), Kenneth Waltzer (Michigan State University)

An informal discussion of how the AJS can support its members' work as teachers.

Session 8, Monday, December 22, 2008

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

8.1

*Constitution A***JEWISH STUDIES, JEWISH MONEY, AND THE FUTURE OF AN ACADEMIC FIELD: REFLECTIONS BY SCHOLARS AND DONORS***Sponsored by* Sh'ma: A Journal of Social Responsibility*Chair:* Steven J. Zipperstein (Stanford University)

Discussants: Lisa D. Grant (HUC-JIR)
 Paul Zakrzewski (Foundation for Jewish Culture)
 Julian A. Levinson (University of Michigan)
 Yael H. Zerubavel (Rutgers University)

8.2

*Constitution B***MAIMONIDES AND SPINOZA ON THE PRACTICAL PHILOSOPHICALITY OF SCRIPTURE***Chair:* Alan Lawrence Udoff (Saint Frances College)**Maimonides and Spinoza on Secondary Causes in the Bible**

Joshua Parens (University of Dallas)

Torah as Political Philosophy: Maimonides and Spinoza on *Huqqim*

Edward Halper (University of Georgia)

Spinoza's Critique of Maimonides: The Meaning of Political Freedom

Steven Frankel (Xavier University)

Respondent: Hillel Fradkin (Hudson Institute)

8.3

*Constitution C***MARX AND THE JEWISH QUESTION: NEW PERSPECTIVES***Chair:* Daniel H. Magilow (University of Tennessee, Knoxville)**Marx on the Jewish Questions: Reflections on Its Place in Jewish Intellectual History**

Eugene Sheppard (Brandeis University)

Reading Marx through Spinoza

Julie Klein (Villanova University)

Getting Real with "Real Jews": Performative Strategies in Marx's "On the Jewish Question"

Sven-Erik Rose (Miami University)

Herz's *Old New Land*: Between Utopia and Socialism

Eran Kaplan (Princeton University)

8.4

*Constitution E***YIDDISH PROSE***Chair and Respondent:* Michael Wenthe (American University)**Hope and Fear: Y. L. Peretz in 1905–1906**

Michael C. Steinlauf (Gratz College)

Intertextual Relationships in Hasidic and Maskilic Narratives of Sea Travel, 1815–1825

Ken Frieden (Syracuse University)

Some Texts on Shabbetai Tsvi in Old Yiddish Literature (Seventeenth–Eighteenth Century)

Jean Baumgarten (Centre national de la recherche scientifique)

8.5

*Penn Quarter A***POPULAR PURITY PRACTICES IN LATE ANTIQUITY***Chair:* Samuel Secunda (Yale University)**Water, Women, and Worship: "Jewish-Christian" Perspectives on Ablution**

Annette Yoshiko Reed (University of Pennsylvania)

***Ballei Kerian* and Popular Religion of Jewish Palestine in Late Antiquity**

Reuven Kiperwasser (Bar-Ilan University)

Stepped Pools, Ritual Bathing, and Domestic Life among the Jews of Roman Galilee

Stuart S. Miller (University of Connecticut at Storrs)

Respondent: Charlotte Fonrobert (Stanford University)

8.6

*Penn Quarter B***THE BAVLI AND ITS HISTORY***Chair:* David Brodsky (Reconstructionist Rabbinical College)**Meta-Systemic Concerns as Indicators of Late-Stage Stammaitic Compositions: The Case of *bErwin* 95–96**

Jay Rovner (Jewish Theological Seminary)

The Bavli as Classical Literature: The Argument from Rhetorical Forms

Barry S. Wimpfheimer (Northwestern University)

The Bavli's Redaction of Traditions about the Destruction of the Temple

Kris H. Lindbeck (Florida Atlantic University)

The *Proto-Talmud* and the *Stam*: The Two Voices of the Talmud

Ari Bergmann (Columbia University)

8.7

*Independence G***MODERNITY AND MODERNISM IN JEWISH ART***Chair:* Maya Balakirsky-Katz (Touro College)***A Winter's Day in the Jewish Neighborhood*: Artistic Representations of Jewish Life in Nineteenth-Century Amsterdam**

Saskia Coenen Snyder (University of South Carolina)

Creating a "Moorish Cathedral": The Construction of the Great Synagogue in Budapest, 1854–1859

Rudolf Klein (Szent István University, Budapest)

The "Death" of Expressionism and Its "Rebirth" as a Jewish Form: Notions of Jewish Art in Weimar Germany

Celka Straughn (Harvard University)

8.8

*Independence I***BLACK-JEWISH RELATIONS: MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES AND THE STATE OF THE FIELD***Chair:* Eric L. Goldstein (Emory University)*Discussants:*

Cheryl Greenberg (Trinity College)

Daniel Itzkovitz (Stonehill College)

Jonathan Karp (Binghamton University, SUNY)

Jonathan S. Skolnik (University of Massachusetts, Amherst)

8.9

*Renwick***SIXTEENTH-CENTURY KABBALAH AND ITS AFTERMATH***Chair:* Joel Hecker (Reconstructionist Rabbinical College)***Tikkun Leil Shavuot* of R. Joseph Karo and the Epistle of Solomon ha-Levi Elkabetz**

Mor Altshuler (Independent Scholar)

Rabbi Moses Cordovero's *Sefer Gerushin*: Contemplation, Devotion, and the Negotiation of Landscapes

Zohar Raviv (University of Michigan)

Identity, Reincarnation, and Rebirth in the Writings of R. Hayyim Vital

Eitan P. Fishbane (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Spiritual Friendship in Jewish Mystical Tradition: The Bet El Contracts

Lawrence B. Fine (Mount Holyoke College)

8.10

*Burnham***GERMAN JEWISH CULTURE: BEYOND THE CANON***Chair:* Leslie Morris (University of Minnesota)**Germans, Jews, and the Novel: Reading Romance in Nineteenth-Century Germany**

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

Hugo Bettauer's Erotic Revolution

June Hwang (University of Rochester)

Self-Hatred and Self-Help: Theodor Lessing as a Popular Psychologist

Paul Reitter (Ohio State University)

German Jewish "Cultural Studies"? Reflections on Kafka's Kitsch and Middlebrow "Yeckische" Culture

David A. Brenner (Rice University)

8.11

*Lafayette***THE ISRAEL ATTACHMENTS OF AMERICAN JEWS: ENGAGING THE DEBATE***Chair:* Laurence Kotler-Berkowitz (United Jewish Communities)**Assessing the Assessment: Critical Weaknesses in "American Jewish Attachment to Israel: An Assessment of the 'Distancing' Hypothesis"**

Jonathon Ament (United Jewish Communities)

The Distancing Hypothesis Reassessed: Israel Attachments in Local Community Studies

Arnold Dashefsky (University of Connecticut at Storrs)

Distancing from Israel: The Impact of Inter-marriage among Non-Orthodox Jews

Steven Martin Cohen (HUC-JIR/S3K Synagogue Studies Institute)

Respondents: Charles Kadushin (Brandeis University)

Theodore Sasson (Brandeis University/Middlebury College)

8.12

*Roosevelt***CENTRAL EUROPEAN ZIONISM AND THE DIALECTICS OF NATIONALISM***Chair:* Michael Berkowitz (University College, London)**The Voyage of a Metaphor: "Jewish Normalization" and the Dialectics of Zionism**

Arie Dubnov (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

From "West" to "East" and Back Again: The Reverse Course of Hans Kohn's Nationalism

Adi Gordon (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

From Prague to Berlin: Robert Weltsch and the Dialectics of Nationalism

Stefan Vogt (New York University)

Jacob and Esau in the Emancipation Era: The Central European Jewish Intelligentsia and the Dilemmas of the European Nation State

Malachi Hacohen (Duke University)

Respondent: Derek J. Penslar (University of Toronto)

8.13

*Wilson***VARIETIES OF CRYPTO-JEWISH EXPERIENCE***Chair and Respondent:* L. Scott Lerner (Franklin & Marshall College)**Lexicography, New Christians, and Jewishness in Seventeenth-Century Spain: The Case of****Sebastián de Covarrubias Horozco**

Jacques Lezra (New York University)

Comparing Crypto-Jewish Narratives

Dalia Kandiyoti (College of Staten Island, CUNY)

Crypto-Jew, "Real American": George Allen, the Lumbroso Clan, and the Remaking of U.S. Identities

Jonathan Freedman (University of Michigan)

8.14

Cabin John

JEWISH IMMIGRANT AUTHORSHIP

Chair: Yael Feldman (New York University)

Concealing the Immigrant Past: The Construction of Amichai's Israeli Self

Nili R.S. Gold (University of Pennsylvania)

The Unconscious Yiddish Theater of the Immigrant Author

Shirli Sela-Levavi (Rutgers University)

Somnambulist Song: The Feminine Language of Diaspora and the Exile of the *Shkhhina* in Agnon's *Ido and Enam*

Nitsa Kann (Dickinson College)

Entangled Roots: Helena Janeczek's *Lessons in Darkness*

Federica K. Clementi (University of South Carolina)

8.15

Arlington

INTERTEXTS: PRIMO LEVI AND DANTE

Chair: Marty Plax (Cleveland State University)

Dante and Primo Levi: The Black Hole at the Core of *If This Is a Man*

Sharon Portnoff (Connecticut College)

Submerged and the Saved: Primo Levi, Dante, and the Jewish Presence in the Italian Canon

Gabrielle Elissa Popoff (University of Kentucky)

Asymmetry and Life: A Levian Reading of *Paradiso* III–V

Jessica Otey (University of Virginia)

Respondent: Risa Sodi (Yale University)

BOOK EXHIBIT

4:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Independence Ballroom

COFFEE RECEPTION

Sponsored by the Center for Jewish History

DIVISION MEETINGS

4:00 PM – 4:30 PM

See p. 62 for locations.

An opportunity to meet with Division Chairs to discuss themes for the 2009 annual meeting.

Session 9, Monday, December 22, 2008

4:30 PM – 6:30 PM

9.1

Constitution A

POLITICIZED ACADEME: THE REACTIONS TO ARIEL TOAFF'S

***LE PASQUE DI SANGUE* AND OTHER TREATMENTS OF THE BLOOD LIBEL**

Chair: Bernard D. Cooperman (University of Maryland)

Discussants:

Marina Caffiero (University of Rome)

Gadi Luzzatto Voghera (University of Padua/Boston University)

Piergabriele Mancuso (Boston University)

Micaela Procaccia (Direzione generale per i beni archivistici)

Magda Teter (Wesleyan University)

9.2

Constitution B

THE (IM)POSSIBILITIES OF JEWISH SECULARISM

Sponsored by the Posen Foundation

Chair and Respondent: Jonathan Sarna (Brandeis University)

The Jewish Enlightenment Bible as a Secularizing Project

David J. Biale (University of California, Davis)

Lost in Migration: Leibush Lehrer's Ambivalent Secularism

Nancy Sinkoff (Rutgers University)

Jewish Secularism, Ethnicity, and Nationalism in Israel: The Traditionalist Critique

Yaakov Yadgar (Bar-Ilan University)

9.3

Constitution C

BIBLICAL NARRATIVE, LAW, AND HISTORY: INTERRELATIONSHIPS AND METHODS

Sponsored by the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, and the Jewish Studies Program, University of Pennsylvania

Chair: David Glatt-Gilad (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

Neo-Babylonian Perspectives on the Prophetic Summons to Trial

Shalom Holtz (Yeshiva University)

Ritualizations in Narrative Endings in Genesis

Susan Zeelander (University of Pennsylvania)

Legal Fiction: Torah Law in the Book of Ruth

Adele Berlin (University of Maryland)

History Writing in Israel and Judah during the Monarchic Period and Some Mesopotamian Analogues

Mordechai Cogan (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

9.4

Constitution E

MANY FACES OF JEWISH NOSTALGIA: INTERDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVE

Chair: Jeffrey A. Shandler (Rutgers University)

Notebook of an Absent Native Land: Moyshe Kulbak's *Rayzn*, *Meshiekh ben Efrayim*, and the Poetics of Nostalgia

Marc Caplan (Johns Hopkins University)

The Ethnography of Nostalgia: On Comparing Eva Hoffman and Saidiya Hartman

Ato Quayson (University of Toronto)

Between Shtetl and the Red Hammer: Nostalgia in Contemporary Russian Yiddish Music

Anna Shternshis (University of Toronto)

The Yearning for Nostalgia

Olga Gershenson (University of Massachusetts, Amherst)

9.5

Penn Quarter A

NEW SOURCES AND PERSPECTIVES ON EARLY JEWISH MYSTICISM

Chair: Rebecca M. Lesses (Ithaca College)

New *Hekhalot* Fragments from the Cairo Genizah

Gideon Bohak (Tel Aviv University)

***Hekhalot* Literature as a "Byzantine" Literature**

Ra'anana Shaul Boustan (University of California, Los Angeles)

***Piyyut* and *Hekhalot*: New Sources and Their Implication for the History of Early Jewish Mysticism**

Michael D. Swartz (Ohio State University)

9.6

Penn Quarter B

ANTISEMITISM ON AMERICAN UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES

Chair: Eunice G. Pollack (University of North Texas)

Discussants:

Peter J. Haas (Case Western Reserve University)

Kenneth L. Marcus (Baruch College of Public Affairs, CUNY)

Stephen H. Norwood (University of Oklahoma)

Tammi Rossman-Benjamin (University of California, Santa Cruz)

9.7

*Independence G***(MODERN AMERICAN) VISUAL JUDAISM AND VERNACULAR CULTURE***Chair:* Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett (New York University)**Visual Judaism: A Methodological Investigation**

Kenneth Koltun-Fromm (Haverford College)

Through My Father's Eyes or Seeing Jewish

Laura S. Levitt (Temple University)

Jewish Theology in the Society of Spectacle

Zachary J. Braiterman (Syracuse University)

9.9

*Renwick***THE GENDER OF JEWISH MODERNITY***Chair:* Maera Shreiber (University of Utah)**Lads in Distress: Engendering Modern Masculinity in Hebrew Autobiography**

Tamar S. Hess (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Muscular Anxiety: Reforming Jewish Masculinity after the Great War

Robert J. Adler Peckerar (University of California, Berkeley)

A Woman's Place in Modernity: Masculine and Feminine Space in Hebrew and Yiddish Short Fiction

Allison Schachter (Vanderbilt University)

9.10

*Burnham***NEW CONFIGURATIONS OF JEWISH CULTURAL NATIONALISM***Chair and Respondent:* Samuel D. Kassow (Trinity College)**Mediterranean Zionists *avant la Lettre***

Steven Bowman (University of Cincinnati)

Rereading *Altneuland*: Theodor Herzl and Cultural Zionism

Jess Olson (Yeshiva University)

Between Politics and Culture: Diaspora Nationalism in Revolutionary Russia

Joshua M. Karlip (Yeshiva University)

German Jewry between Assimilation and the "Conscious Pariah": Moses Hess, Moritz Goldstein, and Hannah Arendt

Y. Michal Bodemann (University of Toronto)

9.11

*Lafayette***RABBIS AND THEIR CULTURAL CONTEXT(S)***Chair:* Herbert Basser (Queen's University)**An Iranian Hell in the Babylonian Talmud**

Samuel Secunda (Yale University)

***Reishit ha-Bekhorah*: Firstborn Inheritance from Mesopotamia to the Mishnah**

Jonathan S. Milgram (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Torah in *Triclinia*: the Architecture and Iconography of Banquet Halls in Rabbinic Practice and Imagination

Gil Klein (Franklin & Marshall College)

"For the Lord your God moves in the midst of your camp": Concentration and Diffusion of the Divine in Qumran and Rabbinic Ritual

Yehuda Septimus (New York University)

9.12

*Roosevelt***JEWES AND THE MODERN CITY: VIEWS FROM EUROPE AND THE UNITED STATES***Chair:* Deborah Dash Moore (University of Michigan)**Jewish Space in the City and the Civil War of Italian Unification**

L. Scott Lerner (Franklin & Marshall College)

From the Shtetl to the City: Orthodox Jewish Life in Antwerp

Veerle Vanden Daelen (University of Antwerp)

Between the Scheunenviertel and the Romanisches Café: Berlin as an Enclave of Hebrew and Yiddish Modernism

Shachar M. Pinsker (University of Michigan)

The Politics of Moving: Jews and the American City

Lila Berman (Pennsylvania State University)

9.13

*Wilson***INSULTS THROUGH THE AGES***Chair:* Charlotte Fonrobert (Stanford University)**The Little Foxes That Ruin the Vineyards: Shem Tov ibn Shem Tov on the Pernicious Influence of Jewish Philosophy**

Hartley Lachter (Muhlenberg College)

Rabbinic Insults in the Early Modern Period

Matt Goldish (Ohio State University)

Jewish Insults in the Modern Period: On Neo-Orthodox Popes and Jewish Jesuits

Alexander Joskowicz (University of Mississippi)

Respondent: Allan L. Nadler (Drew University)

9.14

*Cabin John***THE USE OF BIBLICAL SOURCES IN MODERN JEWISH THOUGHT***Chair:* Leah Hochman (HUC-JIR)**Martin Buber and the Biblical Prophets of Zionism**

Claire Sufrin (Northeastern University)

Spirit and Power in Buber's Reading of Isaiah

William Plevan (Princeton University)

Partnering with God: Buber's Biblical Hermeneutics and the Abraham Narratives:**A Comparison with Erich Fromm and Leo Strauss**

Jonathan A. Cohen (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

The Allegory of Love and the Revelation of Ethical Alterity

Randy L. Friedman (Binghamton University, SUNY)

9.15

*Arlington***JEWISH COMMUNITY AND SOCIETY IN LATER OTTOMAN TIMES***Chair:* Ronnie Perelis (Brandeis University)**Mapping the Jewish Elite in Eighteenth-Century Istanbul: A Network Approach**

Yehoshua (Shuki) Ecker (Tel Aviv University)

Natural Disasters and Jewish Life in Ottoman Syria

Yaron Ayalon (Princeton University)

Moses Hagiz and the Shelihut from Palestine in the Eighteenth Century

Matthias B. Lehmann (Indiana University)

At-Talmud and As-Sahyuniyya: A Sephardic Jew's Presentation of Judaism in Arabic, and Its Reception in Late Ottoman Palestine

Jonathan Gribetz (Columbia University)

Monday, December 22, 2008 Evening Program

AJS PERSPECTIVES EDITORIAL BOARD MEETING **6:30 PM** *Cherry Blossom*

ASSOCIATION FOR ISRAEL STUDIES RECEPTION **6:30 PM – 7:30 PM** *Independence H*
Sponsored by the Association for Israel Studies. Open to all conference registrants.

AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES AND AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY RECEPTION **6:30 PM – 7:30 PM** *Farragut Square*
Sponsored by the American Jewish Archives and the American Jewish Historical Society. Open to all conference registrants.

EMERGING WRITERS AWARDS RECEPTION **6:30 PM – 7:30 PM** *Independence I*
Honoring recipients of the 2008 Goldberg Prize for Jewish Fiction by Emerging Writers and the 2008 Harry and Tamara Handelsman Prize for Jewish Nonfiction. Sponsored by the Foundation for Jewish Culture and Moment Magazine. Open to all conference registrants.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY, CENTER FOR JEWISH STUDIES RECEPTION **6:30 PM – 7:30 PM** *Independence F*
Honoring Professor Ruth Wisse. Open to all conference registrants.

GENERAL DINNER **7:30 PM** *McPherson/Franklin Square*
(By pre-paid reservation only.)

THE JEWISH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY OF AMERICA RECEPTION **9:30 PM – 10:30 PM** *Independence I*
Sponsored by the Wohl Office of Alumni Affairs of JTS. Open to all conference registrants.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS RECEPTION **9:30 PM – 10:30 PM** *Independence F*
Honoring Hillel J. Kieval and Martin S. Jaffee for their editorial work on AJS Review, and welcoming Elisheva Carlebach and Robert Goldenberg as the journal's new editors. Open to all conference registrants.

GRADUATE STUDENT RECEPTION **9:30 PM – 10:30 PM** *Farragut Square*
Sponsored by the Association for Jewish Studies. Open to all graduate students.

BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY RECEPTION **9:30 PM – 10:30 PM** *Independence H*
Sponsored by Brandeis University Press, Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies, Department of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies, Hadassah-Brandeis Institute, Hornstein Jewish Professional Leadership Program, Mandel Center for Studies in Jewish Education, Schusterman Center for Israel Studies, and Tauber Institute for the Study of European Jewry. Open to all conference registrants.

FILM

9:30 PM

Conference Theatre

BEING JEWISH IN FRANCE

France, 2007, 73 minutes (*Part I, French with English subtitles*)

Directed by Yves Jeuland

*Presented by the Joseph and Rebecca Meyerhoff Center for Jewish Studies,
University of Maryland, College Park.*

Tuesday, December 23, 2008

GENERAL BREAKFAST

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM

McPherson/Franklin Square

(Note: By pre-paid reservation only)

AJS PROGRAM COMMITTEE AND

7:00 AM – 8:30 AM

Farragut Square

DIVISION CHAIRS BREAKFAST MEETING

REGISTRATION

8:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Independence Foyer

BOOK EXHIBIT

8:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Independence Ballroom

FILM SCREENINGS

8:30 AM – 4:00 PM

Conference Theatre

Session 10, Tuesday, December 23, 2008

8:30 AM – 10:30 AM

10.1

Constitution A

JEWISH AND ENVIRONMENTAL THOUGHT

Chair: Hava Tirosh-Samuels (Arizona State University)

Discussants:

Ron H. Feldman (Sonoma State University)

Roger S. Gottlieb (Worcester Polytechnic Institute)

Lawrence Troster (Bard College)

Martin D. Yaffe (University of North Texas)

10.2

Constitution B

GENDER AND SEXUALITY IN CONTEMPORARY JEWISH AMERICAN LITERATURE

Chair: Wendy Ilene Zierler (HUC-JIR)

Constructing Gender on the Planet of the Jews

Sylvia Barack Fishman (Brandeis University)

Fluid Identities and Orientations: Sexuality and Jewishness in Jewish Women's Recent Fiction

Judith M. Lewin (Union College)

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)

Men of the World: Jewish Masculinities in Transit(ion) in Maxim D. Shraye's

Waiting for America: A Story of Emigration

Helena Gurfinkel (Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville)

10.3

*Constitution C***CASE STUDIES IN THE MODERNIZATION OF RUSSIAN JEWS, 1881–1914***Chair:* Elissa Bemporad (New School University)**From Haskalah to Science in the Youthful Odyssey of Waldemar Haffkine**

Evelyn Ackerman (Lehman College, CUNY)

From Haskalah to “Historism” in the Secular Judaism of Simon Dubnow

Robert M. Seltzer (Hunter College, CUNY)

Distinctive Models: Letters as a Key to Russian-Jewish Aspirations in the Early 1900s

Alice Nakhimovsky (Colgate University)

Yiddish Letters, Emigration, and Modernization at the Turn of the Century

Roberta Newman (YIVO Institute of Jewish Research)

10.4

*Constitution E***MEDIATING JEWISH STUDIES TO NONACADEMIC AUDIENCES***Chair:* James S. Diamond (Princeton University)*Discussants:*

Hasia R. Diner (New York University)

Robert J. Eisen (George Washington University)

Carol Huppig (The Jewish Publication Society)

Allan L. Nadler (Drew University)

Jonathan Sarna (Brandeis University)

10.5

*Penn Quarter A***JEWISH ART(S) AND THE AESTHETICS OF RUPTURE AND REPAIR: PAINTING, ARCHITECTURE, AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION***Chair and Respondent:* Matthew Baigell (Rutgers University)**Terribilità in Jewish: Fragmentary Renaissances in Modern Jewish Art and Thought**

Asher D. Biemann (University of Virginia)

Jewish Architects after Auschwitz: Louis I. Kahn and Peter Eisenman Confront the Holocaust

Gavriel Rosenfeld (Fairfield University)

Jewish Space and Historic Preservation in Postwar Central Europe

Michael Meng (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)

10.6

*Penn Quarter B***ETHNOGRAPHY OF JEWISH RITUAL***Chair and Respondent:* Simon Josef Bronner (Pennsylvania State University)**The Rise of Tu B'Shevat as a “Jewish Arbor and Ecology Day”: Balancing Themes of Land of Israel, Modern Israeli State, Ecology, and Mysticism**

Seth Ward (University of Wyoming)

The Traditional Commitment Ceremony

Vanessa L. Ochs (University of Virginia)

Rethinking Ritual Theory in Anthropology and Jewish Studies: Levinas, Geertz, and the Problem of Meaning

Don Seeman (Emory University)

The Discourse about the Wedding Ritual: Hierarchies of Gender, Knowledge, and Authority

Irit Koren (Rutgers University)

10.7

*Independence G***NEW APPROACHES TO JEWISH CULTURE IN LATIN AMERICA***Chair:* Estelle Tarica (University of California, Berkeley)**Was the “Lost” Embrace Really Ever Lost? Israeli–Argentinean Relations in Four Contemporary Novels**

Amalia Ran (University of Nebraska, Lincoln)

Nation, Religion, and Soccer: Jewish Perspectives from Latin America

Alejandro Meter (University of San Diego)

Keeping the Mystery Alive: Jewish Mysticism and Difference in Alejandro Jodorowsky’s Works

Ariana Huberman (Alfred University)

I Hear, Therefore I Know: Post-Shoah Motifs in Dorfman’s *Death and the Maiden*

Paul B. Miller (Vanderbilt University)

10.8

*Independence I***NORMALIZING EMERGENCY: THE STATE OF ISRAEL AND THE STATE OF EXCEPTION***Chair:* Dana Hollander (McMaster University)**Friedmann’s War: Political Theology and the Israeli Supreme Court**

Nitzan Lebovic (Tel Aviv University)

Normalizing Emergency: Israeli Literature in 1956

Uri Cohen (Columbia University)

Beaufort: Lebanon, Closure, and the Unending State of Emergency

Todd S. Hasak-Lowy (University of Florida)

Respondent: Anson Rabinbach (Princeton University)

10.9

*Renwick***EXPLORATIONS IN THE SOCIETY AND CULTURE OF ITALIAN JEWRY IN THE EARLY MODERN ERA***Chair:* Francesca Bregoli (University of Oxford)**Gendered Paradigms and Gendered Prospects: Italian Jewish Converts in the Early Modern Context**

Stefanie Siegmund (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Hearing Jewish, Writing Italian: Reconsidering the Written Sources of Italian Jewish Music

Francesco Spagnolo (Judah L. Magnes Museum)

Law and Architecture: The Tent Pollution Crisis in Eighteenth-Century Italy

David Malkiel (Bar-Ilan University)

One Woman, Two Husbands, Two States, Three Laws: Making Marriage and Divorce Civil in Revolutionary Italy

Lois Dubin (Smith College)

10.10

*Burnham***DEATH AND ACCULTURATION IN JEWISH LATE ANTIQUITY***Chair:* Jonathan S. Milgram (Jewish Theological Seminary)**Resurrection: Theodicy or Anthropology?**

Reuven Kimelman (Brandeis University)

The Jewish Community of Byzantine Zoor: Inculturation and Jewish Identity in Late Antique Palestine

Steven Fine (Yeshiva University)

10.11

*Lafayette***CONTEMPORARY TRANSNATIONALISM: THE JEWISH DIASPORA AS A PARADIGMATIC CASE***Chair:* Sergio DellaPergola (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)**Israel and Diaspora in an Era of Globalization**

Eliezer Ben Rafael (Tel Aviv University)

Being Transnational: Shifting Centers and Reshaping Identities

Judith Bokser Liwerant (Unam Mexico)

Transnationalism Today: A Challenge to Social Thought

Michel Wieviorka (École des hautes études en sciences sociales)

10.12

*Roosevelt***CENTRALIZATION, IDENTITY, AND REDACTION IN BIBLICAL COMPOSITION***Chair:* Benjamin D. Sommer (Jewish Theological Seminary)**What Is Past Is Prologue: Composing Israelite Identity in Judges 5**

Mark Smith (New York University)

The Flood, the Day of Atonement, and the Priestly Redaction of Genesis 1–11

Robert Kawashima (University of Florida)

Centralization or Separation of Powers? Religion and Politics in Deuteronomy

Baruch Alster (Bar-Ilan University)

Responses to Neo-Assyrian Universalism and the Centralization of Worship in the Time of Hezekiah

Shawn Zelig Aster (Yeshiva University)

10.13

*Wilson***TWO PUBLISHING CONTROVERSIES AND OBSTACLES ON THE ROAD TO A POSTWAR JEWISH POLITICAL REVIVAL***Chair and Respondent:* Michael C. Steinlauf (Gratz College)**Jewish History Confronts Communist Politics: A Publishing Controversy in Poland in 1968**

Karen Auerbach (U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum)

The Polish Fear of Fear Itself? A Critical Assessment of the Reception of Jan T. Gross's Work

Jessie Labov (Ohio State University)

10.14

*Cabin John***VIOLENT HALAKHAH***Chair:* Devora Steinmetz (Independent Scholar)**Shechem the Hivvite or Shechem the Snake? How Are Shechem's Actions Judged in Post-Biblical Sources?**

Tzemah Yoreh (American Jewish University)

Killing the Gentile Woman: Violent Rabbinic Traditions on Sexual Relations between Jewish Men and Gentile Women

Laliv Clenman (University of Toronto)

Judaism and Genocide: Destroying Amalek

Harry Fox (University of Toronto)

10.15

*Arlington***A SEMINAR: MAIMONIDES ON CREATION***Chair:* Daniel H. Frank (Purdue University)**Why Maimonides Meant What He Said about Creation**

Kenneth R. Seeskin (Northwestern University)

Maimonides on Creation and the Eternity of the World

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

Respondent: Roslyn Weiss (Lehigh University)

Session 11, Tuesday, December 23, 2008

10:45 AM – 12:45 PM

11.1

*Constitution A***POLITICAL THEOLOGY IN RECENT JEWISH THOUGHT***Chair:* Claire Katz (Texas A&M University)**On the Origins of “Political Theology”: Judaism and Heresy between the Wars**

Benjamin Lazier (Reed College)

Prophetic Politics and the Phenomenology of Hope: Martin Buber, Leo Strauss, and the Theologico-Political Problem

Akiba J. Lerner (Stanford University)

“Thus Paul’s teaching coincides with ours”: Race and Ethnicity in Recent Jewish Political Theology

Gregory Kaplan (Rice University)

11.2

*Constitution B***YIDDISH POETRY AND PROSE***Chair:* Kathryn A. Hellerstein (University of Pennsylvania)**Possessed by the Other: A Gendered View on (Spirit) Possession in Modern Yiddish Literature**

Agnieszka Legutko Olowina (Columbia University)

Poetry of the Incomprehensible: N. B. Minkov’s *At The Edge*

Jordan D. Finkin (University of Oxford)

“*Makes fun toyt*”: The Literary Persona in the Poetry of Glatstein, Leyeles, Minkoff, and Likht in the 1930s

Itay B. Zutra (Jewish Theological Seminary)

Revisiting Wiesel’s *Night* in French and Yiddish

Alan Astro (Trinity University)

11.3

*Constitution C***NEW DIRECTIONS IN DEAD SEA SCROLLS SCHOLARSHIP***Chair:* Steven D. Fraade (Yale University)**The Image of Otherworldly Priesthood at Qumran**

Joseph Angel (Yeshiva University)

The Ritual Performance of the Shiroth at Qumran and the Production of Scripture

Judith H. Newman (Emmanuel College)

The Reworking of the Exodus Story in 4Q422

Ariel Feldman (Haifa University)

Qumran Hebrew: A Survey of Opinions, with a Trial Cut (1QS)

Gary A. Rendsburg (Rutgers University)

11.4

*Constitution E***NEW FEMINIST APPROACHES TO THE STUDY OF JUDAISM***Chair:* Sara R. Horowitz (York University)*Discussants:*

Lesleigh Cushing Stahlberg (Colgate University)

Deborah Glanzberg-Krainin (Temple University)

Liora Gubkin (California State University, Bakersfield)

Leah Hochman (HUC-JIR, Los Angeles)

Laura S. Levitt (Temple University)

Andrea Lieber (Dickinson College)

Randi Rashkover (George Mason University)

11.5

*Penn Quarter A***JEWES AND THE AMERICAN NATION***Chair and Respondent:* Beth S. Wenger (University of Pennsylvania)**“A great man has fallen in Israel”: The Judaization of Abraham Lincoln**

Gary P. Zola (HUC-JIR)

American Rabbis and the First Years of World War II: The View from the Pulpit

Marc Eli Saperstein (Leo Baeck College)

Explaining Judaism to the Nation

Rachel Gordan (Harvard University)

11.6

*Penn Quarter B***CONVERSION, ANXIETY, AND THE RHETORIC OF MARGINALITY BETWEEN
MEDIEVAL RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES***Chair:* David Malkiel (Bar-Ilan University)**Ambiguous Belonging, Shared Sanctity, and Imagined Conversion in Late Antique and
Medieval Jewish Relations with Non-Jews**

Alexandra Cuffel (Macalester College)

**Gedaliyah of Oxford and Yom-Tov of London: Conversion, Madness, and Adolescent Suicide
in the Late Twelfth Century**

Ephraim Shoham (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

Apostasy Imagined: The Rhetoric and Realities of Conversion in Medieval Ashkenaz

Chaviva Levin (Yeshiva College)

11.7

*Independence G***EMERGENT JEWISH COMMUNITIES AND THEIR PARTICIPANTS: A RESEARCH
SEMINAR***Sponsored by* S3K Synagogue Studies Institute*Chair:* Steven Martin Cohen (HUC-JIR/S3K Synagogue Studies Institute)*Discussants:*

Caryn Aviv (University of Denver)

Shirah Hecht (Independent Scholar)

Chava Weissler (Lehigh University)

Respondents:

Elie Kaunfer (Mechon Hadar)

J. Shawn Landres (Jumpstart/Project on Emergent Religious and Social
Entrepreneurship)

11.8

*Independence I***JEWES AS CO-CREATORS OF MODERN WESTERN THEATER***Chair:* Jeanette R. Malkin (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)**Berlin/Vienna: Jewish Actresses in Pre-1933/1938 Theater**

Brigitte Dalinger (University of Vienna)

Crossing Second Avenue: Molly Picon's Mainstreaming of Yiddish Culture

A. Botein-Furrevig (Ocean County College)

**In the Eye of the Yiddish Tempest: New Perspectives on a Polish-Jewish Production of
Shakespeare's *Tempest* in Interwar Poland**

Aviv Livnat (Tel Aviv University)

Respondent: Seth L. Wolitz (University of Texas at Austin)

11.9

*Renwick***SOCIAL ETHICS AND MATERIAL PERFORMANCES***Chair:* Susan Shapiro (University of Massachusetts, Amherst)**Tikkun Olam: Re-Enchanting the Public Sphere While Changing the Subject?**

Yehudah Mirsky (Jewish People Policy Planning Institute)

Towards an Integrated Jewish Social Activism: Perspectives from Arthur Waskow, Michael Lerner, Irving “Yitz” Greenberg, and Jonathan Sacks

Eric Caplan (McGill University)

Materializing New Jewish Ritual: Jews with Jewish Tattoos

Erika Meitner (Virginia Tech)

Judaic Responsibility for the Living and Kosher Certification Today

Aaron Gross (University of California, Santa Barbara)

11.10

*Burnham***GENDER, FAMILY, CHILDREN, AND THE HOLOCAUST***Chair:* Robert Moses Shapiro (Brooklyn College, CUNY)**Helping Hands: American Jewish Women and Child Survivors in the Aftermath of the Holocaust**

Beth B. Cohen (California State University, Northridge)

“A generation in search of stories”: Children of Survivors and the Work of Memory

Arlene J. Stein (Rutgers University)

The Rescue of Children and Youths at Buchenwald

Kenneth Waltzer (Michigan State University)

Surviving Survival: Abba Kovner’s “The Black Angel” and the Poetics of Trauma

Leah Wolfson (College of Charleston) and Ofra Yeglin (Emory University)

11.11

*Lafayette***DRINK, SEX, AND HUMOR AMONG EASTERN EUROPEAN JEWS***Chair:* Joshua Zimmerman (Yeshiva University)**The Demise of the Jewish Tavern Keeper in the Kingdom of Poland**

Glenn Dynner (Sarah Lawrence College)

Sex Guidance for a Nineteenth-Century Traditional Jewish Male: The Case of the Kitzur Shulkhan Arukh

Evyatar Marienberg (Jewish Theological Seminary)

The Jewish Origins of Soviet Underground Humor

Emil Draïtser (Hunter College, CUNY)

11.12

*Roosevelt***POLITICS, CULTURE, AND IDEOLOGY IN ISRAEL***Chair:* Yael H. Zerubavel (Rutgers University)**Between Civic and Ethnic: Israel in Light of the Zionist Utopias**

Yitzhak Conforti (Bar-Ilan University)

Knowing Jerusalem through Disciplinary and Cross-Disciplinary Engagement

Miriam F. Elman (Arizona State University)

Zionism and Post-Zionism in the Teaching of Rabbi Zvi Yehuda Kook and the Origins of Gush Emunim

Motti Inbari (Brandeis University)

“The Despicable Romanticism of ‘Holy War’”: Palestine, 1918

Yael Feldman (New York University)

11.13

*Wilson***WOMEN'S DEATH IN ISRAELI LITERATURE***Chair and Respondent:* Ranen Omer-Sherman (University of Miami)**Death, Femininity and *Gesamtkunstwerk*:** A. B. Yehoshua's *Molcho*

Michal Ben-Horin (University of Florida)

Productive Catastrophes, Creative Displacements: Past and Present Israeli Narratives in Gabriella Avigur-Rotem's *Ancient Red*

Shiri Goren (New York University/Yale University)

Nothing Left to Live For: Women's Suicide in Israeli Literature

Rachel S. Harris (University at Albany, SUNY)

11.14

*Cabin John***JEWES AND SHIFTING IDENTITIES IN FRANCE AND ALGERIA***Chair:* Paula E. Hyman (Yale University)**Jewish, Algerian, French, and Republican: Changing Conceptions of Jewish Identity and Politics during the Algerian War**

Ethan Katz (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

A Drama of Faith and Family: Custody Disputes, Familialism, and Nationalism in Postwar France

Daniella Doron (New York University)

Jewish Immigrants Are Not Immigrants: Autochthony and Jewish Belonging in France

Kimberly Arkin (University of Chicago)

Emancipatory Inclusion and Exclusion in Colonial Algeria: Perceptions and Experience in the Construction of Algerian Jewish Identity

Steven Uran (Centre national de la recherche scientifique)

Respondent: David Weinberg (Wayne State University)

11.15

*Arlington***RABBINIC TERMS AND THEIR HISTORY***Chair:* Reuven Kimelman (Brandeis University)***‘Af-Al Pi Še’en R’aiab La-Davar*: The Hermeneutic, Its Characteristics, and Their Implications**

Michael L. Chernick (HUC-JIR)

Legal Implications in the Mechanics of “Kulah Rabbi . . .”

Herbert Basser (Queen's University)

The “Treyf” Pot: How Utensils Came to Require Kashing

David Brodsky (Reconstructionist Rabbinical College)

GENERAL LUNCH**12:45 PM – 1:45 PM***McPherson/Franklin Square**(Note: By pre-paid reservation only)***AJS BOARD OF****1:00 PM***Farragut Square***DIRECTORS MEETING**

Session 12, Tuesday, December 23, 2008

1:45 PM – 3:45 PM

12.1

*Constitution E***MINORITIES IN ISRAEL: IS JEWISH LAW STILL RELEVANT?***Chair:* Naftali Rothenberg (Van Leer Jerusalem Institute)*Discussants:* Sylvia Barack Fishman (Brandeis University)

Aviad Hacoheh (Van Leer Jerusalem Institute)

Suzanne Last Stone (Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law)

12.2

*Penn Quarter A***TOPICS IN HOLOCAUST STUDIES: HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, AND THEOLOGY***Chair:* Zvi Jonathan Kaplan (Touro College)**Czech–Jewish Relations during World War II: The Role of the Czechoslovak Underground Movements in Shaping the Czechoslovak Exiles' Policy towards the Jews**

Jan Lanicek (University of Southampton)

Emmanuel Levinas and Modern Philosophy's Complicity with the Holocaust

William Henry McDonald (University of Oklahoma)

The Religious Response to Kristallnacht: Ultra-Orthodox Jewish Conceptions

Gershon Greenberg (American University)

Triumph on the Periphery: Political Antisemitism in Rural Northern Germany

George Vascik (Miami University)

12.3

*Penn Quarter B***FAMILY AND LIFE CYCLE IN MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN TIMES***Chair:* Robert Chazan (New York University)**Family in Seventeenth-Century Yiddish Letters: Structure and Sentiment**

Joseph M. Davis (Gratz College)

Children, the Body, and the Synagogue

Tali Berner (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Naked Bodies, Shrouds, and the Care for the Dead in Medieval Ashkenaz

Yechiel Y. Schur (University of Pennsylvania)

12.4

*Independence G***STUDIES IN HASIDISM AND MODERN/CONTEMPORARY JEWISH MYSTICISM***Chair:* Don Seeman (Emory University)**Old Pictures, New Meanings: Visual Kabbalah on the Web and Western Esotericism**

Marla Segol (Skidmore College)

Reconsidering Boundaries: Kabbalah for Non-Jews

Jody Myers (California State University, Northridge)

Touching God: Degrees of *Devekut* in Contemporary Israeli Kabbalah

Aubrey L. Glazer (Jewish Community Center of Harrison)

12.5

*Independence I***MEDIEVAL RABBINIC LEADERSHIP AND THOUGHT***Chair:* Herbert Basser (Queen's University)**Contrasting Leadership Styles: Moses and Abraham Maimonides**

Elisha Russ-Fishbane (Harvard University)

Sex for Clarification: Rabbinic Approaches to Anomalous Legal Situations in Medieval Codes and Commentaries

Tirzah Meacham (University of Toronto)

The Holy Writ and Its Authorship in Medieval Karaite Commentaries on the Pentateuch

Marzena Bogna Zawadowska (Maria Curie-Sklodowska University/University of Warsaw)

12.6

*Renwick***JEWISH PHILANTHROPY AND SOCIAL WELFARE***Chair:* Lee Shai Weissbach (University of Louisville)**The Mentally Ill in Jewish Eastern Europe: Roles, Attitudes, and Care in the Modern Period**

Natan Meir (Portland State University)

Philanthropy, Charity, and the Turn-of-the-Century Immigrant Poor

Erica Simmons (University of Toronto)

12.7

*Burnham***HEBREW, ENGLISH, AND CONTEMPORARY JEWISH/ISRAELI IDENTITY IN AMERICA***Chair:* Ayala Fader (Fordham University)**Ideologies in Action: Hebrew in the Classroom**

Sharon Avni (New York University)

Nativizing the Jew: *Ivrit* Phonology and the Construction of the Authentic Israeli in the Diaspora

Shlomy Kattan (University of California, Berkeley)

Hebrew in Dialogue: Contemporary Jewish American Writing

Hana Wirth-Nesher (Tel Aviv University)

Respondent: Sarah Bunin Benor (HUC-JIR)

12.8

*Lafayette***FROM THE OTHER SHORE: AMERICANIZATION IN A TRANSNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE***Chair:* Katja Vehlow (University of South Carolina, Columbia)**“Murdered in a fight for the Jewish flag”: The Death of 13-year-old Sadie Dellon and the Images of Irish Americans among Jewish Immigrants in New York City**

Gil Ribak (Efal Seminary)

Differences and Secrets: Two Novels by an American Jewish Surgeon

Sonja Meikel (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

Between Old and Promised Lands: Voices of Russian Jewish Immigrant Authors in America

Victoria Khiterer (Macon State College)

12.9

*Roosevelt***JEWISH THEOLOGY***Chair:* Gregory Kaplan (Rice University)**“Awake, why sleepest thou, O Lord?” Divine Silence and Theological Protest in the Writings of Abraham Joshua Heschel**

Shai Held (Harvard University)

Transcending Time: Elements of Romanticism in the Thought of Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik

Moshe Z. Sokol (Touro College)

The Return of the Messianic: Walter Benjamin Again at the Center

Eric Jacobson (Roehampton University, London)

The Hermeneutics of Divine Love in Jewish Thought: Possibilities and Challenges

Yudit K. Greenberg (Rollins College)

12.10

Wilson

EUROPEAN JEWISH POLITICAL THOUGHT AND THE PROMISE OF AMERICAN DEMOCRACY

Chair: Eugene Sheppard (Brandeis University)

Jewish Autonomy in America: The View from Russia

Simon Rabinovitch (University of Florida)

The Other Old-New Land: Eastern Europe in the Interwar American Jewish Political Imagination

James Loeffler (University of Virginia)

Jewish Nationalism and Collective Identity in a Global Era

Noam F. Pianko (University of Washington)

12.11

Cabin John

WORKS IN PROGRESS GROUP IN MODERN JEWISH STUDIES

Chair: Claire Sufrin (Northeastern University)

12.12

Arlington

HOLINESS, PURITY, AND THE TEMPLE

Chair: Carl S. Ehrlich (York University)

***Miqra' Qodes* and the Structure of Leviticus 23**

Baruch J. Schwartz (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Between Sacred and Secular: The Significance of Sanctuary Pilgrimage in Biblical Israel

Eric Grossman (Frankel Jewish Academy)

Politics and Purity: The High Priest Caiaphas in Historical Context

Adele Reinhartz (University of Ottawa)

Is Holiness Contagious?

Martin I. Lockshin (York University)

DIVISION MEETINGS

**DIVISION MEETINGS ROOM LOCATIONS
MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 4:00 PM – 4:30 PM**

Bible <i>Penn Quarter A</i>	Modern Jewish Thought and Theology <i>Constitution C</i>	Modern Jewish History in the Americas <i>Independence I</i>
Talmud, Midrash, Rabbinics <i>Penn Quarter B</i>	Jewish History in Late Antiquity <i>Penn Quarter A</i>	Israel Studies <i>Lafayette</i>
Yiddish Literature <i>Constitution E</i>	Medieval and Early Modern Jewish History, Literature, and Culture <i>Constitution B</i>	Holocaust Studies <i>Arlington</i>
Modern Jewish Literature <i>Burnham</i>	Sephardi/Mizrahi Studies <i>Wilson</i>	Jews and the Arts <i>Independence G</i>
Modern Hebrew Literature <i>Cabin John</i>	Modern Jewish History in Europe, Asia, Israel, and Other Communities <i>Roosevelt</i>	Social Sciences, Anthropology, and Folklore <i>Lafayette</i>
Medieval Jewish Philosophy <i>Constitution B</i>		Gender Studies <i>Constitution A</i>
Jewish Mysticism <i>Renwick</i>		Linguistics, Semiotics, and Philology <i>Constitution A</i>

AJS 40TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE FILM FESTIVAL

Sponsored by the Joseph and Rebecca Meyerhoff Center for Jewish Studies,
University of Maryland

Organized by Professor Bernard D. Cooperman

All films will be screened in the Conference Theatre (Lagoon Level, 1B)

Refer to Film Festival Program Booklet, available at the Conference Registration Desk and Conference Theatre, for film descriptions and screening schedule.

About Sugar Cane and Homecoming (The Netherlands and Brazil 2008)
Directed by Shaul Kesslassi. 54 minutes. (Portuguese with English subtitles.)

The Affair (Israel 2006) Directed by Assaf Harel. 78 minutes.
(Hebrew and English with English subtitles.)

Almost Peaceful (France 2002) Directed by Michel Deville. 94 minutes.
(French with English subtitles.)

Baghdad Twist (Canada [based on Iraqi archival images] 2007)
Directed by Joe Balass. 30 minutes.

Being Jewish in France (France 2007) Directed by Yves Jeuland.
Part I: 73 minutes. (French with English subtitles.)

Blessed Is the Match: The Life and Death of Hannah Senesh (USA 2008)
Directed by Roberta Grossman. 86 minutes.

Bloodlines (Australia 2008) Directed by Cynthia Connop. 52 minutes.

Children of the Sun (Israel 2007) Directed by Ran Tal. 70 minutes.
(Hebrew with English subtitles.)

Cobwebs (Israel 2008) Directed by Micha Livne. 63 minutes.
(Hebrew with English subtitles.)

Eyes Wide Open (Israel and USA 2008) Directed by Paula Weiman-Kelman.
60 minutes. (English and Hebrew with English subtitles.)

Fence Wall Border (Israel 2006) Directed by Eli Cohen. Part III: 60 minutes.
(English, Hebrew, and Arabic with English subtitles.)

The Hebrew Lesson (Israel 2006) Directed by David Ofek, Elinor Kowarsky, and
Ron Rotem. 123 minutes. (Hebrew, English, Chinese, Russian, and Spanish with
English subtitles.)

AJS 40TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE FILM FESTIVAL

(Continued from previous page)

His Wife's Lover (USA 1931) Directed by Sidney M. Goldin. 80 minutes.
(Yiddish with English subtitles.)

The Holocaust Tourist (U.K. 2005) Directed by Jes Benstock. 10 minutes.

The House on August St. (Israel 2007) Directed by Ayelet Bargur. 63 minutes.
(Hebrew and German with English subtitles.)

Jewboy (Australia and France 2007) Directed by Tony Krawitz. 52 minutes.

The Monster Among Us (USA 2008) Directed by Allen Mondell and
Cynthia Salzman Mondell. 71 minutes.

My Brother's Wedding (USA 2003) Directed by Daniel Akiba. 36 minutes.

Praying with Lior (USA 2007) Directed by Ilana Trachtman. 87 minutes.

To See If I'm Smiling (Israel 2007) Directed by Tamar Yarom. 59 minutes.
(Hebrew with English subtitles.)

A Touch Away (Israel 2007) Directed by Ron Ninio. Eight 38-minute episodes.
(Hebrew and Russian with English subtitles.)

Tree of Life (USA 2008). Directed by Hava Volterra. 76 minutes.
(English, Hebrew, and Italian with English subtitles.)

2 or 3 Things I Know about Him (Germany 2005) Directed by Malte Ludin.
85 minutes. (English and German with English subtitles.)

Wasted (Israel 2007) Directed by Nurit Kedar. 70 minutes.
(Hebrew with English subtitles.)

*The AJS thanks the following distributors for providing films for the Second Annual
AJS Conference Film Festival:*

Eden Films, Tel-Aviv, Israel; First Run Features, New York, NY; Icarus Films,
Brooklyn, NY; Katahdin Foundation, Berkeley CA; Media Projects, Inc., Dallas,
TX; National Center for Jewish Film, Waltham, MA; Ruby Pictures, New York,
NY; Ruth Diskin Films, Jerusalem, Israel; Women Make Movies, New York, NY.

Selections subject to change.

AJS 40TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE EXHIBITORS

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ASSOCIATION BOOK EXHIBIT
BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY PRESS / UNIVERSITY PRESS OF NEW ENGLAND
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BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES
CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
THE CENTER FOR CULTURAL JUDAISM
CENTER FOR JEWISH HISTORY
DAN WYMAN BOOKS
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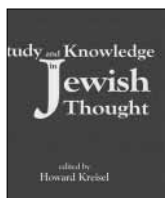
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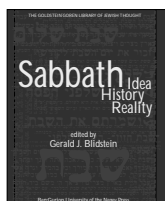


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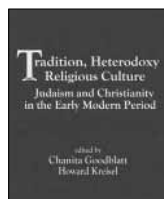


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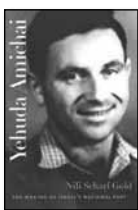
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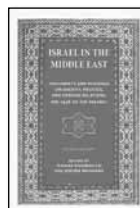


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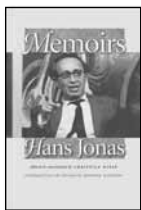
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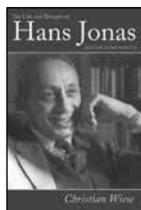


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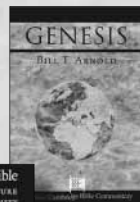
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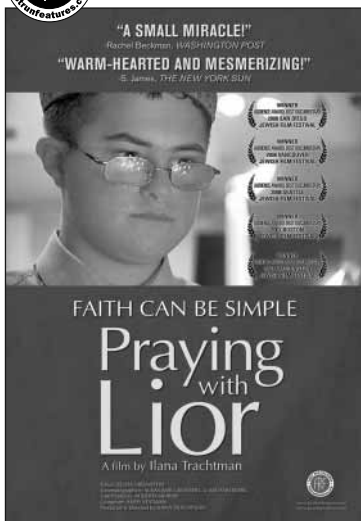
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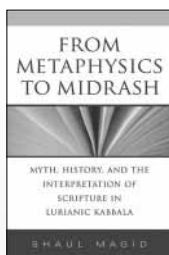
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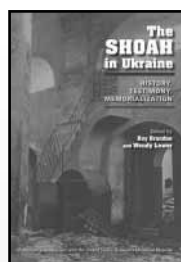


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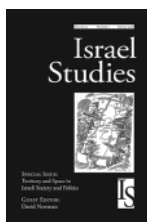
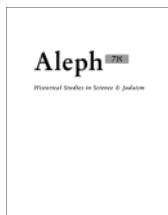


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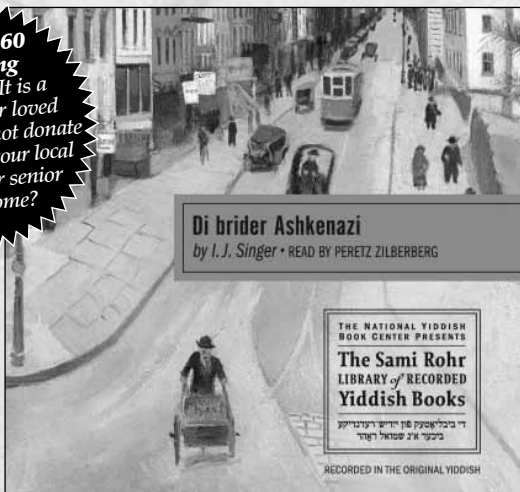
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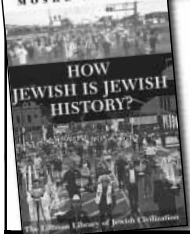
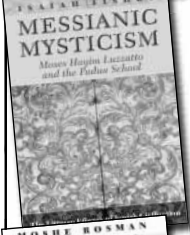
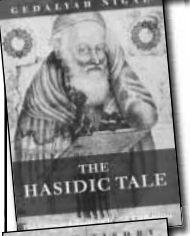
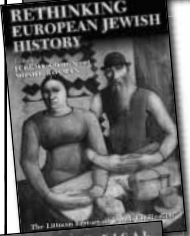
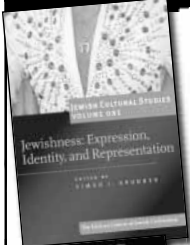
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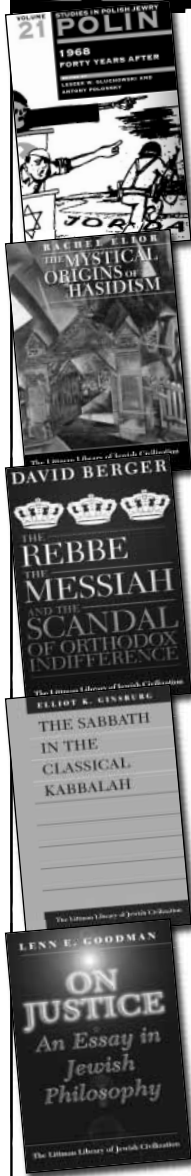
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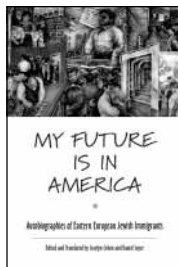
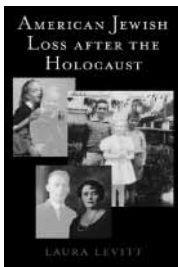
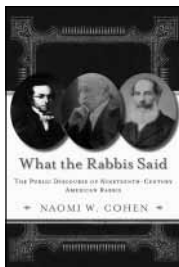
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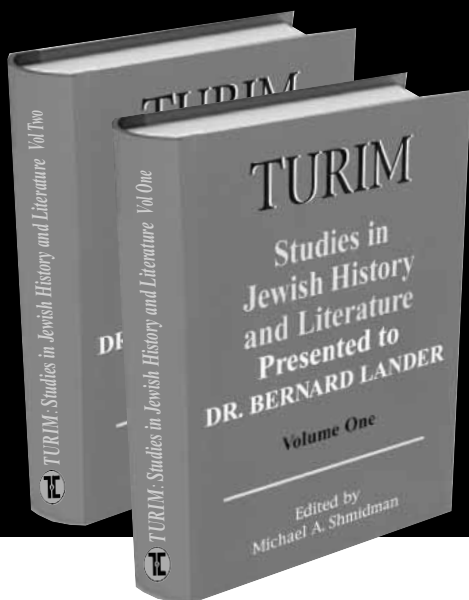

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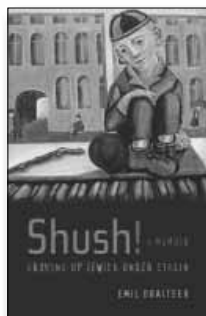
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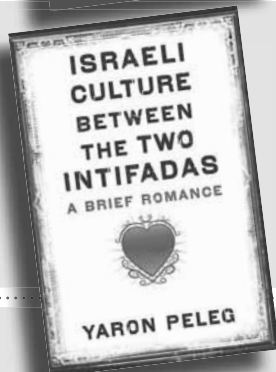
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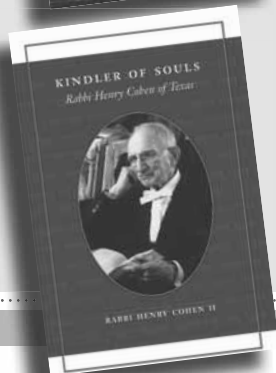
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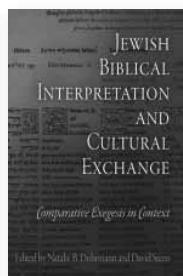
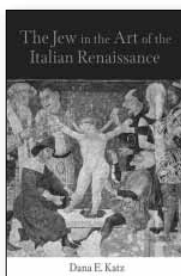
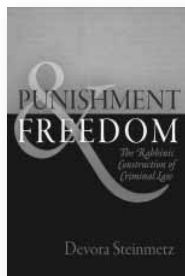
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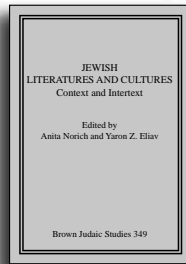
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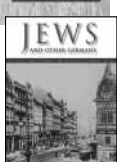
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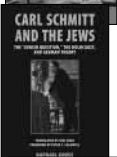
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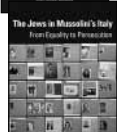
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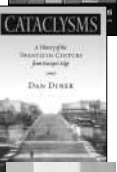


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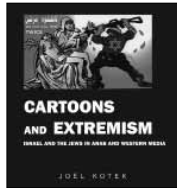
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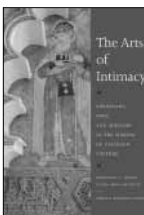
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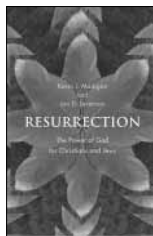
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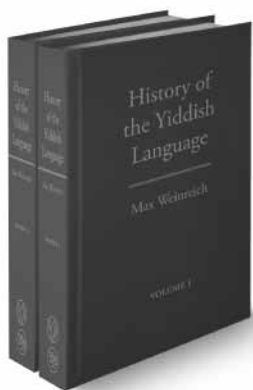


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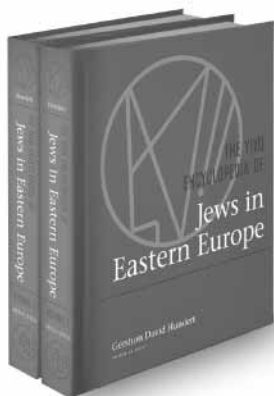
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**The Goldstein-Goren International Center
for Jewish Thought
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\$30,000 Book Award

The Goldstein-Goren International Center for Jewish Thought invites submission for its triennial book award, given for the **most significant original book of Jewish thought or academic scholarship on the subject of Jewish thought** (all periods and genres). Books must be written in Hebrew or in English and have been published during the years 2007-2009.

Applicants for the award should submit **four** copies of their book to the Goldstein-Goren Department of Jewish Thought, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, POB 653, Beer-Sheva 84105, Israel. All books must be received by December 31, 2009.

Editions or translations of texts, edited collections, or anthologies will not be considered.

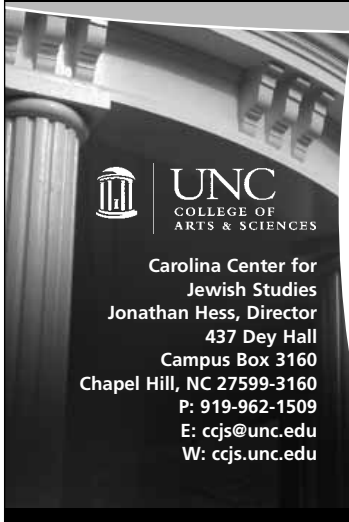
The award will be presented at the 2010 meeting of Ben-Gurion University's Board of Governors in Beer-Sheva, May 2010.

Please visit our internet resource center in Jewish thought:

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The Carolina Center for Jewish Studies, an interdisciplinary academic program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, promotes a deeper understanding of Jewish history, culture and thought through teaching, research and community outreach.

The success of the Center's first five years has inspired an ambitious plan for the future, including expansion of academic programs and public event initiatives. To learn more about the Center, visit ccjs.unc.edu.

The Samuel Rosenthal Center for Judaic Studies and the Program in Judaic Studies

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Offering an interdisciplinary approach to the study of the history, religion, social experience and culture of the Jewish people, the **Program in Judaic Studies** at CWRU exposes students to the complex interaction of forces that create Jewish ethnic identity.

CWRU's powerful learning environment has been further enhanced by the many world-class scholars in Judaic Studies that have taught in residence at the University, including Yom Tov Assis, Isaac Kalimi, Zev Garber, Gideon Shimoni, and David Silberklang. In addition, students have the opportunity to study abroad at The Hebrew University

and other institutions in Israel. Students completing the program receive a Minor in Judaic Studies and have a broad knowledge of the field, along with the tools necessary for continued study of Jewish civilizations in all of its manifestations.

The **Samuel Rosenthal Center** was established in 1996 to broaden the scope of the University's Jewish Studies curriculum and to strengthen interest in Judaic Studies on campus and throughout the local, national, and international communities.

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The Center for Jewish History is home to the American Jewish Historical Society, the American Sephardi Federation, the Leo Baeck Institute, Yeshiva University Museum, and YIVO Institute for Jewish Research. The Center is a venue for research, academic conferences, exhibitions and other cultural and educational events as well as a nexus for scholarly activity and public dialogue. The collections of the five partner organizations constitute one of the most important resources for documentation and exploration of the Jewish experience including scholarship, history, and art.

- The Lilian Goldman Reading Room is staffed by librarians from each partner organization, thus enabling researchers to access all the collections with relative ease.
- The Ackman & Ziff Family Genealogy Institute serves as a clearing-house for researchers seeking information on people and property throughout the Diaspora. Computer terminals and in-house expertise facilitate the searches for all levels of users.
- The web sites of the partners and of the Center, linked to one another, offer digitized images of a growing number of collections to a world wide audience.
- Most of all, the proximity of the partner organizations to each other is unique in Jewish history and the most exciting aspect of the Center. Eastern European Jewry, Sephardic, German-speaking Jewry, and American experience coexist to provide a synergy that was almost unimaginable until now.
- The Lilian Goldman Reading Room, the Ackman & Ziff Family Genealogy Institute, and all exhibitions are now open on Mondays until 7:30 p.m. The Yeshiva University Museum galleries are now free to the public on Mondays from 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

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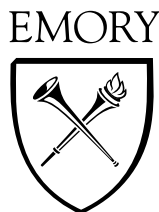
For more information, please see:

www.js.emory.edu/
www.emory.edu/GSOAS/

or write to us at jewishstudies@emory.edu

To meet with an Emory representative during the AJS conference, please contact Marina Rustow, Director of Graduate Studies, at mrustow@emory.edu.

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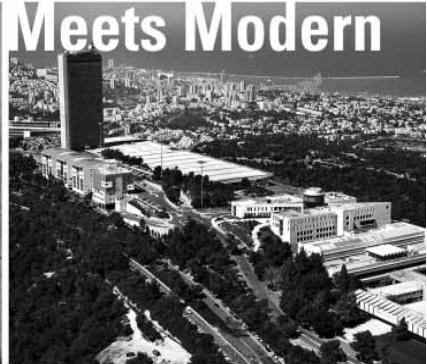
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Leo Baeck Institute Career Development Fellowship

The Leo Baeck Institute is offering a Career Development Award as a personal grant to a scholar or professional in an early career stage, e.g. before gaining tenure in an academic institution or its equivalent, whose proposed work would deal with topics within the Leo Baeck Institute's mission, namely historical or cultural issues of the Jewish experience in German-speaking lands.

The award of up to \$20,000 will cover the period July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010 and, at the discretion of the reviewing board, may be renewed for a second year.

The grant is intended to provide for the cost of obtaining scholarly material (e.g. publications), temporary help in research and production needs, membership in scholarly organizations, travel, computer, copying and communication charges and summer stipend for non-tenured academics.

Applications outlining the nature and scope of the proposed project including a budget should be submitted, in no more than two pages, by March 1, 2009 to Dr. Frank Mecklenburg, Leo Baeck Institute, 15 W. 16th St. New York 10011, NY. A *curriculum vitae*, names of three references, and supporting material (outline of proposed work, draft of chapters, previous publications) should be appended. e-mail submission to fmecklenburg@lbi.cjh.org is encouraged.

Michigan State University's Jewish Studies Program focuses on the two centers of contemporary Jewish life—the United States and Israel. It explores the transformation in Jewish life from Europe to North America and Israel during the past century.

The program works with faculty and departments in four colleges to provide an undergraduate specialization, more than 20 courses in eight departments, and allied academic activities in Jewish civilization. Core and affiliated faculty members explore the history, religion, literature, language, politics, and culture(s) of the Jews. Additional course offerings include freshman and special seminars, short courses, and summer courses taught by visiting scholars.

The program hosts public events which enrich the cultural life of Michigan State University and highlight Jewish life, with emphases on American and Israeli Jewish life and culture; *Yiddishkeit*; the Holocaust; Jewish contributions to film, the arts, music, and literature; the Israeli-Arab-Palestinian conflict; Jewish public affairs; and more. Events include Holocaust Memorial lectures, an Israeli Film Festival, prominent speakers, colloquia, panel presentations, teachers' workshops, exhibits, and more.

The Michael and Elaine Serling and Friends Endowment for Israel Studies supports an endowed faculty position in Israel Studies. Other endowments promote study abroad and programs on and off campus.

For more information, visit meltoncenter.osu.edu



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The B.A. Program in Judaic Studies, earned through the individualized major program in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, introduces students to the culture and civilization of the Jewish people. Courses cover various aspects of the history and literature of the Jews, from biblical times to the present.

Academic Resources and Opportunities at UConn

- Archaeological Dig at Sepphoris, Israel
- Berman Institute – North American Jewish Data Bank and Roper Center for Public Opinion Research for Social Science Research
- Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies
- Holocaust and Human Rights Studies
- Study in Israel – Study in Prague

Other Resources and Opportunities at UConn

- Jewish Student Campus Life – Hillel at UConn
- Morris N. Trachten Kosher Dining Facility

Tuition Assistance and Fellowships are available.

For more information, contact:

Center for Judaic Studies and Contemporary Jewish Life

University of Connecticut
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E-mail: judaicstudies@uconn.edu

Website: www.judaicstudies.uconn.edu

Frankel Institute for Advanced Judaic Studies - University of Michigan

Fellowship Opportunity

Theme for 2010-2011

Jewish Languages



Practices of reading and writing in several languages, inhabiting interlinguistic communities, and translating into and out of various idioms and vernaculars have characterized Jews across centuries. The Frankel Institute's 2010-2011 theme, Jewish Languages, interrogates this history and reputation in order to reconsider myths, fantasies, and anxieties of linguistic multiplicity in Jewish history, culture, and politics. The Frankel Institute invites scholars and artists to consider how the questions and implications of Jewish tongues motivate interdisciplinary approaches to narrative and literary form, biblical and Talmudic studies, gender and sexuality studies, historical and political studies, performance and orality, and visual culture.

Established in 2005, the Frankel Institute for Advanced Judaic Studies at the University of Michigan provides annual fellowships for scholars and artists from around the world to conduct research within an annual research theme. The Frankel Institute offers an intellectually stimulating environment, promotes an atmosphere of openness and encourages constructive criticism. The Institute Fellows engage in interdisciplinary, multilingual work spanning ancient times through the contemporary era. Each year, the Institute develops a research theme that is broad enough to include scholars from various disciplines, working with varying methodologies, expansive in space and time.

The application deadline is October 16, 2009.

For more information and application materials contact
Frankel Institute for Advanced Judaic Studies
(734) 763-9047 or JudaicStudies@umich.edu

<http://www.lsa.umich.edu/judaic>



**Yale University
Program in Judaic Studies
Jacob and Hilda Blaustein
Postdoctoral Fellow 2009-2011**

The Program in Judaic Studies at Yale University is offering a two-year Jacob & Hilda Blaustein postdoctoral fellowship that will begin on July 1, 2009. Candidates for the fellowship must have a Ph.D. in hand by July 1, 2009 and must have received the degree no earlier than 2006. The Program seeks a specialist in Medieval Jewish History/Judaism who will work closely with appropriate members of Yale's faculty.

The Judaic Studies Blaustein Fellow will be expected to be in residence, to conduct research in Yale's library and archival collections, to participate actively in the intellectual life of the university, and to teach three semester courses over two years. The annual stipend will be \$50,000 plus health benefits. Candidates should send a cover letter, CV, project proposal, three letters of recommendation, and a list of proposed courses to:

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The deadline for submission of materials is Monday, February 9, 2009

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Yeshiva University

Learn more about these institutions and organizations on the following pages.



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

JEWISH STUDIES PROGRAM

American University's Jewish Studies Program in the College of Arts and Sciences recognizes that Jews and Judaism constitute a distinct yet integral component of the heritage of Western civilization. Courses span the spectrum of the arts, humanities, and social sciences. A dozen faculty are affiliated with the program. Students may pursue a major or minor in Jewish studies and a minor in Israel studies.

Because Washington, D.C. encompasses one of the largest Jewish communities in the United States and is a center for national Jewish affairs, students in American University's Jewish Studies Program utilize a wide range of Judaic resources outside the campus. In recent years, students have attended conferences at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and the Library of Congress, viewed the exhibit *Personal Landscapes: Contemporary Art from Israel* at the American University Museum in the Katzen Arts Center, and met with leading scholars and artists in Jewish studies. The Jewish Studies Program is further enhanced by American University's Center for Israel Studies.



Washington, D.C. is also a center of Jewish organizational life. Jewish studies students have the opportunity to intern in over 60 Jewish organizations and to gain practical experience in Jewish communal work. In recent years, students have held internships at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, the Anti-Defamation League, Hadassah: Washington Action Office, Embassy of Israel, Israel Project, *Moment Magazine*, and the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington.

This year the program welcomes to our campus Schusterman Teaching Fellow Tatjana Liechtenstein and Schusterman Visiting Scholar in Israel Studies Yoram Peri.

For more information, contact:

Jewish Studies Program
 Pamela S. Nadell, Director
 202-885-2423

American University
 4400 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
 Washington, DC 20016-8042

www.american.edu/jewishstudies

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Anat Guez, Instructor in Hebrew, Modern Hebrew

Rabbi David Levy, Midrash

Jonathan Jacobs, the Richard and Jean Head Professor of Philosophy, Jewish medieval philosophy.

Steven Kepnes, the Murray W. and Mildred K. Finard Professor of Jewish Studies, Jewish philosophy.

Alice Nakhimovsky, Professor of Russian and Jewish Studies, Russian-Jewish literature and everyday life.

Lesleigh Cushing Stahlberg, Assistant Professor of Jewish Studies and Religion, Hebrew Bible; literary afterlife of the Hebrew Bible.

and colleagues in International Relations.



THE INSTITUTE FOR ISRAEL AND JEWISH STUDIES COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

The institute, established in 1950, provides a vibrant and stimulating environment for discussion on campus among students, faculty, alumni, and others. It serves as both a national and an international forum on pressing issues. While engaging with the world beyond Columbia's gates, it ensures that a multiplicity of viewpoints and topics are brought to our students, our graduates, and interested individuals. In addition, the institute improves public awareness of activities related to Israel and Jewish studies, highlighting Columbia's distinguished past, flourishing present, and even more promising future in the field.

Ph.D. and MA Programs

The various disciplines comprising Jewish studies at Columbia University are based in four departments: Jewish history in the Department of History; Hebrew language and literature in the Department of Middle East and Asian Languages and Cultures; Yiddish studies in the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures; and the study of Judaism in the Department of Religion.

PhD candidates must meet the requirements for acceptance to and completion of the graduate degree programs in any one of the four fields in Jewish studies.

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With courses offered in conjunction with Religion, Hebrew, English, Anthropology, Political Science, Classics, History, and Yiddish, the program strives to provide opportunities for interaction between faculty and students in different Departments. In addition, the Judaic Studies Program endeavors to attract visiting scholars and guest speakers to campus, and serves as a resource of scholarship on aspects of Judaica for the greater Washington community.

For more information please visit www.gwu.edu/~judaic

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Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies

The Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies offers programs leading to both the doctoral and the masters degree. The department's primary purpose is to train scholars in the areas of Jewish literature, religion, history and thought who have mastered both a body of knowledge relating specifically to Jewish studies and the canons and practices of a general academic discipline. Courses are offered in biblical studies; post-biblical and Talmudic literature; medieval and modern Hebrew literature; history of the Jews in the ancient, medieval, and modern periods; Jewish Philosophy, religious expression, and mysticism; and related fields.

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S. Tamar Kamionkowski, Ph.D.
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JEWISH STUDIES OPPORTUNITIES

The Museum's Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies provides Jewish Studies scholars with a unique opportunity to study unexplored aspects of the Holocaust, its precursors, and its legacy. Through the Jewish Source Study Initiative, the Museum identifies and collects archival and other Holocaust-related research resources created by Jewish organizations, communities, and individuals during the mid-20th century, and ensures scholarly focus on this vital source of information. More than 6.5 million pages of Jewish-source documentation are currently available in the Museum's archives—with millions more expected, including an extensive collection on Sephardic and Judeo-Spanish history and culture—for scholars with Jewish Studies training and background to explore.

The Museum's Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies promotes Holocaust research and facilitates the training of future generations of scholars of the Holocaust. Under guidance of the Academic Committee of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council, the Center encourages scholarly discourse and debate through

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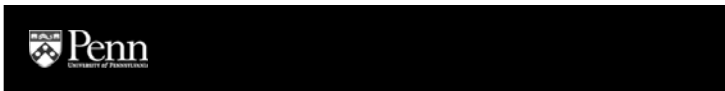
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The Program offers masters and doctoral degrees in Jewish textuality, practice and modern thought through the Department of Religious Studies. Among the faculty are Elizabeth Shanks Alexander (rabbinic literature, gender), Asher Biemann (modern Jewish thought), Greg Goering (Hebrew Bible/Old Testament), Martien Halvorson-Taylor (Hebrew Bible), James Loeffler (modern Jewish history), Peter Ochs (Jewish philosophy and theology), and Vanessa Ochs (ritual and material culture).

Across the university graduate students exploring Jewish and Israeli topics work under the direction of faculty affiliated with the Program. They include Alon Confino (German history, Israeli memory), Gabriel Finder (Holocaust), Jennifer Geddes (Holocaust literature and thought), Jeffrey Grossman (German and Yiddish literature), Phyllis Leffler (public history, Southern Jewish history), Dan Lefkowitz (Israeli culture and anthropology), Jeffrey Olick (memory), Caroline Rody (American Jewish literature), and Joel Rubin (klezmer and American Jewish music).

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For more information contact Professor Asher Biemann, the Program Director, and the Jewish Studies web site:

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