

**PROGRAM IN
JUDAIC
STUDIES**

SPRING 2015



Ronald O. Perelman Institute for Judaic Studies

 **PRINCETON UNIVERSITY**

RONALD O. PERELMAN INSTITUTE FOR
JUDAIC STUDIES



I am delighted to have the opportunity to establish this program, which will shape intellectual concepts in the field, promote interdisciplinary research and scholarship, and perhaps most important, bring Jewish civilization to life for Princeton students

— Ronald O. Perelman

Financier and philanthropist [Ronald O. Perelman](#), well known as an innovative leader and generous supporter of many of the nation's most prominent cultural and educational institutions, gave Princeton University a gift of \$4.7 million in 1995 to create a multidisciplinary institute focusing on Jewish studies. The establishment of the Ronald O. Perelman Institute for Jewish Studies produced the first opportunity for undergraduate students to earn a certificate in Jewish Studies, strengthening

Princeton's long tradition of interdisciplinary studies and broad commitment to Jewish culture. The gift from Mr. Perelman, chairman and chief executive officer of MacAndrews and Forbes Inc., also supports a senior faculty position—the Ronald O. Perelman Professor of Jewish Studies—and a wide variety of academic and scholarly activities that bring together leading scholars to examine Jewish history, religion, literature, thought, society, politics and cultures.

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FACULTY

FACULTY

Leora Batnitzky, *Religion*
Yaacob Dweck, *History*
Jonathan Gribetz, *Near Eastern Studies*
Martha Himmelfarb, *Religion*
William C. Jordan, *History*
Stanley N. Katz, *Woodrow Wilson School*
Lital Levy, *Comparative Literature*
Naphtali Meshel, *Religion*
Esther Schor, *English*
Moulie Vidas, *Religion*

EMERITI FACULTY

Mark R. Cohen, *Near Eastern Studies*
Stanley A. Corngold, *German and Comparative Literature*
John G. Gager, Jr., *Religion*
Peter Schäfer, *Religion*
Froma Zeitlin, *Classics and Comparative Literature*

ASSOCIATED FACULTY

David Bellos, *French and Italian*
Anthony Grafton, *History*
Anna Grinfeld, *Near Eastern Studies*
Jan T. Gross, *History*
Hendrik Hartog, *History*
Wendy Heller, *Music*
Daniel Kurtzer, *Woodrow Wilson School*
AnneMarie Luijendijk, *Religion*
Deborah Nord, *English*
Sarah Pourciau, *German*
Anson G. Rabinbach, *History*
Lawrence Rosen, *Anthropology*



Naphtali Meshel at the Student Expo

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Martha
Himmelfarb



The 2014-15 academic year is off to an excellent start for the Program in Judaic Studies, with lots of good news. First, we are delighted to welcome two new faculty members, Jonathan Gribetz, assistant professor of Israel Studies in the Department of Near Eastern Studies and Program in Judaic Studies, and Anna Grinfeld, lecturer in Hebrew in the Department of Near Eastern Studies.

Next, 2014 has been a truly extraordinary year for publication by JDS junior faculty, with four new books:

Jonathan Marc Gribetz, *Defining Neighbors: Religion, Race, and the Early Zionist-Arab Encounter* (Princeton University Press).

Lital Levy, *Poetic Trespass: Writing between Hebrew and Arabic in Israel/Palestine* (Princeton University Press), winner of the Association for Jewish Studies' 2014 Jordan Schnitzer Book Award in the category Jewish Literature and Linguistics.

Naphtali Meshel, *The "Grammar" of Sacrifice: A Generativist Study of Israelite Sacrificial System in the Priestly Writings* (Oxford University Press).

Moulie Vidas, *Tradition and Formation of the Talmud* (Princeton University Press).

I'd also like to note that Yaacob Dweck's 2011 book, *The Scandal of Kabbalah: Leon Modena, Jewish Mysticism, Early Modern Venice* received honorable mention in the category of Medieval and Early Modern Jewish History of the Association for Jewish Studies' 2014 Jordan Schnitzer Book Awards.

In addition, we can celebrate two new books by senior members of the program:

Leora Batnitzky (co-editor with Ilana Pardes), *The Book of Job: Aesthetics, Ethics, Hermeneutics* (DeGruyter), which publishes papers from a conference held at Princeton in 2012.

AnneMarie Luijendijk, *Forbidden Oracles: The Gospel of the Lots of Mary* (Mohr Siebeck).

Last but not least, Peter Schäfer, emeritus director of JDS, and Michael Meerson have just published the fruits of the Toldot Yeshu project, which has been housed over the years in JDS:

Toledot Yeshu: The Life Story of Jesus (two volumes published by Mohr Siebeck and database).

Finally, as the list of events indicates, it has been another busy fall for JDS. I want to call attention to one event in particular, the colloquium "Rosenzweig, Goitein, and Agnon on the Song of Songs," as an example of the kind of scholarly exchange JDS strives for. The colloquium consisted of a longer paper by Ilana Pardes on Agnon's use of Song of Songs with attention to his relationship to Goitein and the possible impact of Rosenzweig, and shorter discussions of Goitein's and Rosenzweig's treatment of the Song of Songs by two members of the JDS faculty, Jonathan Gribetz (Goitein) and Leora Batnitzky (Rosenzweig). Ilana Pardes taught in the Department of Near Eastern Studies here before departing for Hebrew University. Beyond the papers, which were all excellent, the discussion among the three speakers was extremely enlightening, and several members of the audience contributed to the discussion in significant ways as well.

COURSES

SPRING 2014

America in Judaism

Lance Sussman

Music and European Jewry

Wendy Heller

Holocaust Testimony

Thomas Trezise

Israeli Literature and Film, 1948–present

Alan Mintz

Ancient Judaism: Alexander to Islam

Martha Himmelfarb

Sex in Ancient Judaism and Christianity

Moulie Vidas

Religion and Law

Alexander Kaye

Elementary Hebrew I

Esther Robbins

Elementary Hebrew II

Esther Robbins

Israeli Media: Barometer and Engine of Sociopolitical and Cultural Change

Esther Robbins

FALL 2014

Great Books of the Jewish Tradition

Martha Himmelfarb

Elementary Biblical Hebrew I

Naphtali Meshel

Jerusalem Contested: A City's History from Jewish, Christian and Muslim Perspectives

Jonathan Gribetz

Jewish Thought and Modernity

Yonatan Brafman

Zionism: The Intellectual History of Jewish Nationalism

Jonathan Gribetz

Who Wrote the Bible?

Naphtali Meshel

Stolen Years: Youth under the Nazis

Froma Zeitlin

Elementary Hebrew I

Anna Grinfeld

Elementary Hebrew II

Anna Grinfeld

Israeli Media: Barometer and Engine of Sociopolitical and Cultural Change

Anna Grinfeld

CAROLYN L. DRUCKER '80 MEMORIAL PRIZE

Through the generosity of the Drucker Family, the Program offers an annual prize for best senior thesis related to Judaic Studies.

First prize for 2014:

“Finis Ghetto? Architecture and the Afterlife of the Jewish Quarter in Prague”

Anna Nilles, Art and Archaeology

Second prize:

“In the Tiger’s Lair: The Development of Jewish Student Life at Princeton University”

Abigail Klionsky, History



Anna Nilles (left) and Abby Klionsky with Martha Himmelfarb

CERTIFICATE STUDENTS



Jacob Herskind (left), Abby Klionsky, Martha Himmelfarb, Avi Cohen, and Aaron Applbaum

Congratulations to our 2014 Certificate Students:

Aaron Applbaum, *Woodrow Wilson School*

Avi Cohen, *Politics*

Jackson Dobies, *Classics*

Jacob Herskind, *Near Eastern Studies*

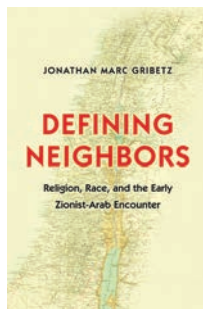
Abigail Klionsky, *Religion*

WELCOME NEW FACULTY

The Program in Judaic Studies is pleased to welcome to our faculty **Jonathan Gribetz**, assistant professor of Israeli Studies, and **Anna Grinfeld**, lecturer in Hebrew.

Jonathan's current research focuses on Palestinian nationalist interpretations of Judaism and Zionism. He teaches about Jewish nationalism, modern Israel, the Arab-Israeli conflict and the history of the city of Jerusalem. His first book, *Defining Neighbors: Religion, Race, and the Early Zionist-Arab Encounter*, was published by Princeton University Press this year.

Before coming to Princeton, Jonathan taught at Rutgers University and held fellowships at the University of Pennsylvania, University of Toronto and Harvard University. He holds a master's in Modern Jewish Studies from Oxford University and a PhD in history from Columbia University.



Anna's interests encompass intellectual history, history of political thought, historiography and the many interfaces between history and literature in Europe, Russia and Israel, in the first half of the 20th century. In parallel to her interest in the migration, reception and "translation" of ideas across linguistic and cultural zones, she is also interested in the theory and practice of literary translation. These complementary interests, she says, come into play and sustain her Modern Hebrew language teaching.

Anna holds a master's degree in history from the Hebrew University and a PhD in Russian Studies from the Université de Paris VIII. She previously taught at Boston University, Tufts University, Harvard University and Wellesley College.



FACULTY UPDATES

Emeritus Professor **Mark Cohen** is finishing a book on Maimonides' Code and taught this fall as a visiting professor at New York University's campus in Abu Dhabi, where gave a seminar on "Jews in the Muslim World in the Middle Ages." He also was invited to give two lectures on the Cairo Geniza at King Saud University in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

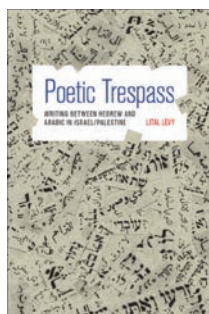
Yaacob Dweck spent 2013-2014 working on a book about Jacob Sasportas and Jewish messianism at the Institute for Advanced Study on a fellowship for assistant professors provided by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. In September he became the Arthur H. Scribner Bicentennial Preceptor.

William Chester Jordan, Dayton-Stockton Professor and chair of the Department of History, was elected president of the Medieval Academy of America for 2014-2015. He also contributed to two collections of essays in honor of Princeton colleagues long associated with the Program in Judaic Studies. For *Envisioning Judaism*, Peter Schäfer's Festschrift, he contributed an article titled "Learning about Jews in the Classroom: A Thirteenth-Century Witness, UCLA Library, Rouse MS 17." For *Jews, Christians and Muslims in Medieval and Early Modern Times: A Festschrift in Honor of Mark R. Cohen*, he contributed an article on "Jew and Serf in Medieval France Revisited."

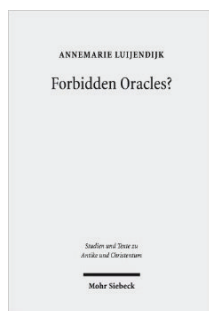
Stan Katz recently became a member of the board of the Center for Jewish History in New York City.

Daniel Kurtzer published several articles in 2014: “Don’t Do It, Mr. Secretary,” *The American Interest*; “Can the Egyptian American Relationship Be ‘Reinvented?’” *The American Interest*; “The U.S. Must Inject Life into a Moribund Peace Process,” *Haaretz.com*; and “Peace in the Mideast Will Come Only with International Help,” *The Washington Post*.

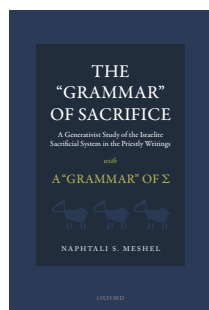
Lital Levy’s book, *Poetic Trespass: Writing between Hebrew and Arabic in Israel/Palestine*, a study of the politics and poetics of Hebrew and Arabic multilingualism and translation in Israeli literature and culture, was published in October 2014. She is currently working on her second book project on the intellectual history of Arabic-speaking Jews in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.



AnneMarie Luijendijk published *Forbidden Oracles: The Gospel of the Lots of Mary* in August 2014. This is an edition of a fifth- or sixth-century Coptic manuscript with oracular answers, inspired by biblical phrases (especially from the Psalms) and earlier “pagan” divinatory phrases. In September she presented a paper at the John Rylands library in Manchester on the oldest known Septuagint fragment and the Jewish community in Egypt. This paper involves a second-century BCE copy of Deuteronomy and its role as a legal document, and also delves into the development of *genizot*.



Naphtali Meshel’s book, *The Grammar of Sacrifice*, was published in 2014, and he presented papers about the applicability of this “grammar” to other ancient Near Eastern and South Asian systems at the University of Chicago and the Society for Biblical Literature annual meeting. He has been named Jonathan Dickinson Bicentennial Preceptor for a term of three years, 2014-2017.



Lawrence Rosen spent the spring semester of 2014 as a fellow of the Stanford Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences. He has two books in press, both of which have discussion of Muslim-Jewish relations in the Arab world: *Drawn From Memory: Moroccan Lives Unremembered* and *The Balance of Justice: Islam and the Rule of Law*. He has also published pieces in the *Literary Review*, *Guardian* and *American Interest*.

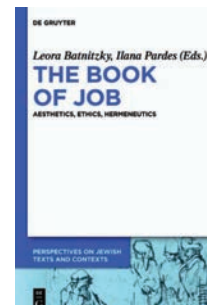
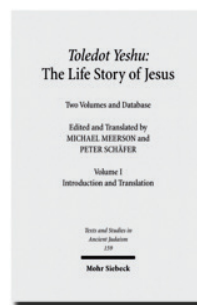
Esther Schor spent her sabbatical as a visiting artist at the American Academy in Rome, and traveling to Berlin, Paris and Central Asia. She delivered a paper on “Zamenhof and the Liberal-Communitarian Debate” (in Esperanto) at the Universal Congress of Esperanto in Buenos Aires, an English version of which will appear in *Language Problems and Language Planning*. She will be in Venice late next spring for a writer’s residency at Ca’ Foscari University in preparation for the 500th anniversary of the Venetian Ghetto. During spring 2015, she will be teaching a new Freshman Seminar called “Job, Suffering and Modernity,” sponsored by the Center for the Study of Religion. Her forthcoming book on the Esperanto movement is to be published by Metropolitan Books in 2015.

Moulie Vidas is spending the year as an Andrew W. Mellon fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study, working on a book provisionally titled “The Emergence of Talmudic Culture: Scholarship and Religion in Late Ancient Palestine.” His first book, *Tradition and the Formation of the Talmud*, was published in 2014 by Princeton University Press.



Also published this year:

Leora Batnitzky (with Ilana Pardes) and Michael Meerson and Peter Schäfer.



2014 EVENTS

ENDOWED LECTURES

“Temporality in 4 Ezra: Between Judaism and Christianity,” Jeannette Krieger and Herman D. Mytelka Memorial Lecture. **Hindy Najman**, Yale University

“The Foreign Mother Tongue,” Kwartler Family Lecture. **Sayed Kashua**, author and journalist

“The Talmud of Today: How a Secular Jew Fell in Love with the Talmud,” Rabbi James S. Diamond Memorial Lecture. **Ruth Calderon**, MK

“The Revival of the Jewish-Christian Debate in Nineteenth Century Europe,” Carolyn L. Drucker Memorial Lecture. **David B. Ruderman**, University of Pennsylvania

“Warsaw House: The Art of Necessary,” Rose and Isaac Ebel Memorial Lecture. **Etgar Keret**, author

“The Taming of Eros in the Western Sephardic Diaspora,” Biderman Lecture. **Yosef Kaplan**, Hebrew University

CONFERENCES

“The Song of Songs: From the Bible to Modern Literature”

“Placing Ancient Texts: The Rhetorical and Ritual Use of Space”

“Rosenzweig, Goitein and Agnon on the Song of Songs”

FRIDAY LUNCH SERIES

“The Gates Cosmology of the Astronomical Book,” **Eshbal Ratson**, Princeton University

“Ancient Globalization and a Coin of the Emperor Nerva,” **Robert Goldenberg**, Stony Brook University (emeritus)

“The Other Grammars,” **Naphtali Meshel**, Princeton University

NEAR EASTERN FILM SERIES

(in Hebrew with English subtitles): *Ponevezh Time*, *Before the Revolution*, *The Wonders*, *Dr. Pomeranz*

LECTURES AND SEMINARS

“School Pictures in Liquid Time: Assimilation, Exclusion, Resistance,” **Marianne Hirsch**, Columbia University

“Enoch, the Astronomical Book, and the Ordering of Knowledge in the Hellenistic Near East,” **Annette Y. Reed**, University of Pennsylvania

“Frozen Time, Liquid Memories (1942-2012),” **Dragan Kujundžić**, University of Florida

“Concentration Camps as Film Set: the Ambivalent Bequest of the Theresienstadt Films 1942-1945,” **Natascha Drubek**, University of Regensburg

“Translating the Song of Songs: English Poetry and Hebrew Sense,” **Robert Alter**, University of California, Berkeley (emeritus)

“Seasoning the Bible — Bibliifying the Time: Cross Examining the Jewish and Christian Liturgical Reading Cycles in Late Antiquity,” **Daniel Stoekl**, EPHE-Sorbonne

“Jewish-Muslim Relations in Print and in Film,” **Mark Cohen** (emeritus) and **Michael Barry**, Princeton University

“Baghdad — Jerusalem: Musical Encounters,” **Yair Dalal**, musician and composer

“The Politeuma: A Normal Kind of Association for ‘Ethnic’ Groups?” **Patrick Sängner**, Institute for Advanced Study

Visualizing Atrocities
The Holocaust on Film
Organized by the Program in Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies

Frozen Time, Liquid Memories
A Film by Dragan Kujundžić
University of Florida
TUESDAY, March 4
4:30 P.M.
100 Jones Hall

Concentration Camp as Film Set
A Lecture by Natascha Drubek
University of Regensburg
THURSDAY, March 6
4:30 P.M.
105 Chancellor Green

2014

PROGRAM IN RUSSIAN, EAST EUROPEAN, AND EURASIAN STUDIES
Sergiy Oshchepkin, Director

For more information contact Kathleen Alton, ksalton@princeton.edu.
Visit REESE on the Web at www.princeton.edu/rees or scan the QR Code.

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

**Baghdad – Jerusalem:
Musical Encounters**

YAIR DALAL



Monday, October 20, 2014
McCormick 101 • 4:30 pm
Open to the Public

Yair Dalal is an award-winning musician, composer, teacher, and peace activist. The musical lecture will take the audience on a journey through the musical tradition of the long-standing Jewish diaspora of Babylonia (today's Iraq). Playing a selection of pieces on the oud (lute) with accompanied elaborations, Yair will demonstrate the self-fertilization of Jewish liturgies and Middle Eastern musical patterns.

Sponsored by the Program in Judaic Studies, Ronald O. Perleman Institute for Judaic Studies, Princeton Seminars for Theological and Regional Studies, Department of Near Eastern Studies, and the Levin Center for the Arts.

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
THE ROSE AND ISAAC EBEL MEMORIAL LECTURE

**Warsaw House:
the Art of Necessary**



Etgar Keret

Hailed as one of Israel's most radical and extraordinary writers, Etgar Keret is internationally acclaimed for his short stories, graphic novels, and scripting. He has received the Book Publishers Association's Platinum Prize, the Chevalier medalion of France's Order of Arts and Letters, Prime Minister's Prize and the Ministry of Culture's Cinema Prize.

Monday, November 10, 2014
4:30pm • East Pyne Auditorium

Sponsored by the Program in Judaic Studies, Ronald O. Perleman Institute for Judaic Studies

**PLACING ANCIENT TEXTS:
THE RHETORICAL AND RITUAL USE OF SPACE**

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Date:
March 23-25
2014

Location:
Fine Hall


Free Registration
<http://religion.princeton.edu/placingtexts>

Participants

Charlotte Fonrobert, Stanford University
Georgia Frank, Colgate University
David Frankfurter, Boston University
Fritz Graf, Ohio State University
Susan Ashbrook Harvey, Brown University
Sarah Iles Johnston, Ohio State University
Gil Klein, Loyola Marymount University
Derek Krueger, University of North Carolina Greensboro
Ophir Milnik-Mannor, Open University of Israel
Rachel Neils, University of Michigan
Philippa Townsend, Ursinus College

Mika Ahuvia, Nicole Brown, Alex Kocak, AnneMarie Luijendijk, Elaine Pagels, Eshbal Ratson, Moulie Vidas, Christian Wildberg, Princeton University

Sponsors: David A. Graham '87 Magna Project in the Humanities Council; Contributor for the Study of Law Antiquity Program in the Ancient World; Center for Judaic Studies, with the support of the Faculty; Temple University; Temple Program in Judaic Studies; Ronald O. Perleman Institute for Judaic Studies; Center for the Study of Religion; and the Department of Religion.



**The Taming of Eros in the
Western Sephardic Diaspora**

YOSEF KAPLAN, Hebrew University


Yosef Kaplan is Bernard Chertok Emeritus Professor of Jewish History at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He is a member of the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities and chairman of its Humanities Section. In 2013 he was awarded the Israel Prize in Jewish History. Among his most recent published books: *Dutch Jews as Perceived by Themselves and by Others, Fine de Siècle – End of Ages: Libraries and Book Collections: The Dutch Intersection, The Jews and the Netherlands in Modern History.*

Tuesday, December 2, 2014
Robertson Hall Bow 2
4:30pm

BIDERMAN LECTURE
Sponsored by the Program in Judaic Studies, Ronald O. Perleman Institute for Judaic Studies

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
THE 36TH ANNUAL CAROLYN L. DRUCKER MEMORIAL LECTURE



DAVID B. RUDERMAN

*The Revival of the
Jewish-Christian Debate in
Nineteenth Century Europe:
The Evangelical Missionary
Alexander McCaul and His
Jewish Interlocutors*

Wednesday
April 2, 2014
4:30pm
McCormick 101


Sponsored by the Department & Program in Near Eastern Studies and the Program in Judaic Studies

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

David B. Ruderman is the Joseph M. Marshall Professor of Modern Jewish History and Ellis Dorooff Director of the Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies at the University of Pennsylvania. Prior to coming to Pennsylvania, he taught at the University of Maryland (1974-81) and at Yale University (1981-94). He is the author of many books and articles including: *The World of a Renaissance Jew* (1981), *Kabbalah, Magic, and Science* (1990), *History of Printing* (1990), *Jewish Thought and Scientific Discovery in Early Modern Europe* (1996, 2004), published also in Italian, Hebrew, and Russian; *Jewish Enlightenment in an English Key: Anglo-Jewish Christianity of Modern Jewish Thought* (2004), *Constructing the Christian-Jewish and the Jewish-Christian Intercultural Dialogue* (2007), and *Early Modern Jewish Self-Culture* (2010). Three of these books, including the last, were national best-sellers in Jewish history. He has also edited or co-edited ten other books and authored two popular textbooks. His most recent book is *How Living Hebrew Book of the Month: Rise the Book of the Covenant of Pin in Hebrew and its Renaissance: Europe will appear in the fall. He is a past president of the American Academy for Jewish Research. The Teaching Company has produced one of his Jewish history courses, which is 14 hours long. In 2010, the National Foundation for Jewish Culture honored him with its lifetime achievement award for his work in Jewish history.*

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
JEANNETTE KRIEGER AND HERMAN D. MYTELKA MEMORIAL LECTURE

HINDY NAJMAN
Yale University



Hindy Najman is Associate Professor of Ancient Judaism at Yale. Her areas of expertise are Second Temple Judaism, Hellenistic Judaism, Hebrew Bible, early Rabbinics and the history of Jewish interpretation. Her primary focus is the history of concepts in ancient Judaism: she has written about interpretive authority and revelation, and is now embarking on a project on the author function in Jewish antiquity.

**Temporality in 4 Ezra:
Between Judaism and Christianity**

MONDAY, MARCH 10
4:30pm
010 East Pyne

SPONSOR: PROGRAM IN JUDAIC STUDIES, RONALD O. PERLEMAN INSTITUTE FOR JUDAIC STUDIES

2015 UPCOMING EVENTS

February 11: "Maimonides and Contemporary Tort Theory," **Yuval Sinai**, Yale University, and **Benjamin Shmueli**, Yale University Law School

February 23, Jeannette Krieger and Herman D. Mytelka Memorial Lecture: "Mixing Musics: The Sacred Songs of Istanbul Jews," **Maureen Jackson**

March 23, Lapidus Lecture: **Pnina Lehav**, Boston University

March 24, Kwartler Family Lecture: **Laura Levitt**, Temple University

April 16: "Relief in Casablanca: Jewish and Non-Jewish Refugees in Morocco, 1940-1945," **Aomar Boum**, University of California, Los Angeles

Hillary Dodyk

While the topic of my thesis, a comparison of medical experimentation in Nazi Germany and the United States, invariably gives rise to hard questions, even harder discussions and the consideration of almost unimaginable crimes against humanity, I feel that exploring and answering the questions of how and why these experiments occurred and how we might prevent further atrocities of this type, is a project someone that someone with a Jewish background approaches from a unique perspective. As a grandchild of Holocaust survivors, I find this project deeply personal, and I look forward to challenging traditional conceptions of medical experimentation in the context of my senior thesis.

I cannot thank the Judaic Studies program enough for their generosity in making possible the primary research for my thesis. A trip of the magnitude on which I embarked—7 cities in 12 days, spanning Germany, the Czech Republic, Poland and Austria—requires considerable support, and the program’s facilitation was invaluable. To be able to do this type of in-depth, independent research is truly an incredible opportunity, and I will never forget the experience.



Headstone at Hadamar Cemetery representing Jewish victims of euthanasia



Memorial at end of railroad in Auschwitz II

Martina Fouquet

This summer I had the opportunity to intern for the Israel Religious Action Center in Jerusalem. My time was spent in gaining understanding of the initiatives of IRAC and then implementing campaigns for their social media presence. I wrote a social media plan, created graphics and helped consolidate the annual report. I also helped create a video promotion project that involved traveling around Israel and interviewing benefactors of IRAC’s initiatives.

As events unfolded over the course of the summer, I became very engaged with the political aspects of Israel. I was able to go to the Knesset twice, attend meetings hosted by MKs, and engage in meaningful conversations with lawyers that dealt with cases concerning governmental policies. I also helped organize a peace rally in Jerusalem. The experience significantly impacted my perspectives of Israel and greatly increased my knowledge of the country.



Martina Fouquet (right) with fellow summer intern Laina Pauker. This photo was used to promote a counter-initiative against offensive stickers suggesting harassment would be minimized if women were more modest.

Ben Goldman

Shanghai is perhaps one of the least likely places you'd expect to experience a narrative of Jewish persecution, flourishing and renewal, but in fact it is such a place, for Shanghai was where thousands of Jews came to escape Nazi persecution and managed to create a thriving community with businesses and schools (a portion of which was nicknamed Little Vienna). This summer I traveled to the remnants of this community to think about how I may include this little-known story in my fiction, and how the stories I come across in Shanghai may relate to my own story of dislocation from Israel to America at the age of ten. The remnants of Jewish Shanghai are solely physical. I visited a compact park and meeting house once frequented by Jews, now used by elderly Shanghainese who hang bird-cages on tree branches and practice Tai Chi, as well as a pewter-colored synagogue turned into a silent monument (where women once prayed on the second floor, there is a small educational wing about the Holocaust meant for Chinese nationals).

The Jewish Refugees Museum adjacent to the old synagogue not only tells the history of this community, but also includes many testimonies of people who lived



*Ohel Moshe Synagogue and
Shanghai Jewish Refugees Museum*

that history. This was the most memorable and moving portion of my journey in soaking in the milieu of Shanghai and thinking of what it might have been like for the people living there seventy years ago. Though Shanghai's Jewish history is extraordinary, its lived experience was one of ordinary struggle to maintain an identity in the diaspora and yet live fully in a new place. There are stories of Jews riding in rickshaws, families sharing Passover seders with their Chinese neighbors, and business collaborations. There are, too, stories of young people questioning their identity and origins, having relationships with non-Jews, going to dances and experiencing a culture very different than their own.

The more I encountered these stories, the more I realized how relevant they are to my own experience as a Jewish person in an extremely diverse environment, and how that has both attenuated and bolstered my Jewish identity. For my creative thesis, I had plans to write separate stories about the Holocaust and living in the Diaspora, but when I went to Shanghai I realized just how interrelated they are, how they have given rise to complicated, sometimes contradictory feelings in my relation to Jewish identity and culture. I hope from this that my stories will flourish.

Yonina Kirsch

This summer, thanks in large part to the generosity of the Kwartler Family Summer Fellowship, I had the opportunity to travel to Israel to work at the Terem Public Clinic in Tel Aviv. There are currently more than 60,000 migrant workers and asylum seekers living in Israel who have limited access to health services, among other basic needs. The Terem Public Clinic, under the umbrella organization Migrant Health, seeks to provide medical care and health education to these populations.

My main responsibilities this summer were to communicate with patients to ensure they understood what the doctor said and what steps they needed to take next. I also scheduled and checked patients in for their appointments, referred them to hospitals, created online medical files and worked with the billing system. My work in reception allowed me to

gain a better understanding of how the clinic worked and what challenges it faces. The language barrier was often an issue, but we always were able to figure things out through a combination of broken Hebrew and English, translators and hand motions.

My experience this summer helped me solidify my interest in medicine and also opened my eyes to issues and challenges facing Israel and its refugee population that I knew very little about. I am immensely grateful for the opportunity I was given and hope to return to the Terem Clinic again in the future.



Yosef Quint

This past summer I interned at the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem. My primary responsibility was as a research assistant for Yossi Klein Halevi, an author and public intellectual who lectures widely and recently finished his third book, *Like Dreamers*. He is in the early stages of his next book, so I helped prepare the draft for submission. I also worked on two new book introductions he is writing. When not writing, Yossi spends much of his time lecturing about the formative role Israeli music plays in the Israeli psyche. I helped research trends in Israeli music and put together lectures.

In addition to my research, I attended many lectures at the Hartman Institute, went on day trips and was able to meet a fascinating group of people. Over the summer, the Hartman Institute hosts over a hundred rabbis, a group of Imams, a group of priests, and Jewish educators and lay leaders from around North America and Israel. I attended daily lectures taught by visiting scholars, as well as sitting in on a



Quint (front, center) with fellow Shalom Hartman Institute interns

philosophy conference that hosted top Jewish studies professors from around the world, including Princeton Professors Leora Batnitzky and Michael Walzer. Interacting with Jewish intellectuals and change-makers was the highlight of my time at the Hartman Institute.

Anna Rubin

On an exploratory research trip for my senior thesis in the Religion Department, I traveled to London for two weeks in the middle of August. I met with ten of London's most prominent interfaith organizations, asking them about their young adult and youth programming and how, in those programs, they respond to national and international conflicts and tensions.

London is an extraordinary city, and the people I met with could not have been friendlier



Lantern-floating ceremony at Shinnyo-en Buddhist temple near London

or more passionate about what they do. On my second-to-last day there, I was lucky enough to meet with Rabbi Natan Levy, the head of Interfaith and Social Action for the Board of Deputies of British Jews, who showcased for me how different the Jewish community is in each nation but how all communities must make a concerted effort to foster positive and productive relationships with their non-Jewish neighbors, a process he is central to for Jewish communities across Britain.

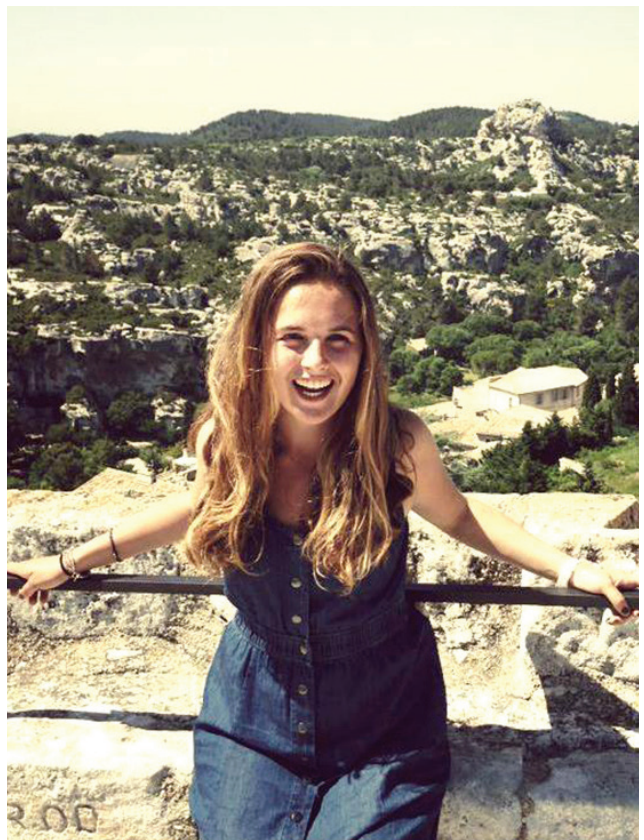
I am thrilled I was able to make this trip and meet with a truly incredible collection of inspiring interfaith activists in the UK, and I want to thank the Judaic Studies program department for making it possible!



Sarina Shrier

This past summer I interned at the Center for Women's Justice (CWJ) in Jerusalem, a social justice organization currently leading the battle to end violations of women's rights in the name of religion. The organization specifically focuses on marriage and divorce, an area of Israeli law that is adjudicated solely by the rabbinic court. This is a problematic area because the system of Judaic law as administered by the Rabbinate denies women their right to fair divorce. To tackle this issue, CWJ employs a legal approach that frames the denial of divorce by a husband, known as the refusal to give a *get*, as a tort, thus allowing the case to enter the civil court.

CWJ also tackles this issue by educating the public about the injustices plaguing Israeli women, and it was in this area that I focused my attention. Coupling my interests with those of CWJ, I worked on the organization's educational database, a growing collection of literature on women, religion and the state. My task was to identify appropriate articles, essays and books for the database, and provide short summaries of their contents. Since I was very interested in the material I was reading, I greatly enjoyed my experience!



Ayelet Wenger

This summer I took a course in Ancient Greek at the University of Arizona, which spanned the material generally covered in the second year of college Ancient Greek. I studied pieces from Lysias, Plato and Homer, thus exposing myself to both Attic and Homeric Greek.

Taking this Greek course has done much to broaden my understanding of and accelerate my studies in Ancient Judaism. Being able to grasp the style of Homer by reading it in the original has helped me understand the literary choices that the Bible was working with, by giving me access to an alternative model from antiquity. This work is also now allowing me to plunge confidently into a course in the Greek of the



Septuagint and New Testament, which is broadening my understanding of biblical interpretation and the history of Jewish communities in the Hellenistic world. It was a wonderful opportunity for me to take a summer course in Greek, and I am very grateful to the Judaic Studies Program for helping to make it possible.



University of Arizona

Ben Wolfson

The Israel Museum runs mostly on volunteer service; we outnumbered the salaried workers 4:1. As a volunteer, I was assigned to the maps department, a veritable closet in the back offices of the museum. Ariel Tishby, head of the department, had just received several thousand maps and assigned me the task of photographing and cataloguing them. He showed me how to use the camera, index the works and find relevant information in the database. Being a more tech-savvy and quantitative person, I immediately saw room for improvement. First, I automated the photography, so that the camera was hooked up wirelessly to my computer, allowing me to focus and shoot remotely. Then I optimized the photo-cataloguing system, saving and naming hundreds of photos at once. Finally, I wrote a script that would save the files in catalogue-synchronized folders. Ariel thanked me profusely: I had cut the time necessary to catalogue maps by four! Ariel was so enthusiastic about my work that he invited me to consult with the museum's technology team. When I showed them the processes I was using, they were quite taken with my implementation. They promised to review it and possibly employ this system.

Then I got to the “exciting stuff.” While photographing and cataloguing with my new system, I had more time to examine the maps (all of Israel pre-1948). The most exotic maps passed through my cataloguing process—hand-written Ottoman



Maps department, Israel Museum

maps, top-secret Irgun maps, British surveillance and monastic works of art with minute sea serpents carefully drawn in the oceans. Of course, there were many other benefits that came with possessing a volunteer pass. Ariel was able to take me directly into the archives and show me Gauguin's tattered sketchbook, Chagall's charcoal studies and Picasso's diary. This opportunity was a *chupar*, a “bonus-gift” in recognition of my work for the museum.



Abraham Berkovitz

Thanks to the generous funding of the Jewish Studies Program, I was able to have an exciting and academically productive summer. JDS funding allowed me to present a paper at the University of St Andrew's

conference on *The Bible and Its Interpreters*. The paper is now being considered for publication in the peer-reviewed conference volume. Additionally, I was able to spend some time combing the vast treasures of the Cambridge Geniza collection.

Yossi Harpez

I used the summer funding from JDS to carry out preliminary data collection in Israel in preparation for more extensive fieldwork that I intend to carry out between March and May 2015. This will form part of a comparative research project on the global demand for dual citizenship, which will include Serbia, Mexico and Israel.

In June I spent two weeks in Israel and met with five Israeli sociologists from Tel-Aviv University and Haifa University. I also interviewed several Israelis who held dual

citizenship and a lawyer who specializes in assisting Israelis obtain French citizenship.

The crucial data collection I carried out in Israel with JDS support has allowed me to define more precisely the questions I am dealing with, as well as to identify the strategic sites in which they can be examined.



Ari Lamm

Generous funding from JDS facilitated my participation this summer in the CUNY Graduate Center's Summer Greek Institute, which provides students with five semesters' worth of experience in Classical Greek reading, writing and literature in the space of ten weeks.

The first six weeks were dedicated to introducing the grammar of Classical Greek, using the textbook by Hansen and Quinn that is standard in many universities and was, in fact, designed originally for the institute. Every day began with a quiz on the previous day's material, followed by several hours of intensive drilling. Lunch was followed by a lecture covering a chapter in the textbook, and class concluded with a lecture on the vocabulary



assigned for the following day. Translation work, as well as verbal and nominal paradigms, were assigned every evening, with an exam on all previous material scheduled every Monday. The final three weeks were dedicated to reading (both prepared and at-sight) Plato and Euripides, followed by an elective reading. For my elective I selected Thucydides, whose writing in many respects represents the heights of Attic prose. These sessions were supplemented by lectures on historical linguistics, papyrology, digital resources in the humanities, and other topics. After ten weeks of grueling work, I was extremely proud to have earned an A in the course.

The institute provided me with unparalleled preparation for taking advanced reading courses in classics. This semester I am taking Post-Classical Greek, and I feel that I have been supplied with the tools—especially syntactic precision—to participate at the highest level. As I proceed with my doctoral studies in the Religions of Mediterranean Antiquity, a serious working knowledge of Greek is absolutely essential, and I am therefore exceedingly grateful to JDS for having facilitated my participation in the Institute this summer.

Daniel May

Due to the generosity of the Program in Judaic Studies, I was able to participate in an intensive beginners Ulpan at the Jewish Community Center in New York City throughout the month of July. Monday to Thursday, for four hours each day, the course brought together a remarkably diverse group of students from around the country. While I had studied Hebrew at the Jewish Day School I attended until sixth grade, it had been many years since I had spoken or read, and the month provided a refresher as well as a foundation upon which to continue my studies. By the end of the month I was reading easily, had learned basic conjugations in the present tense and was able to deliver a presentation on my family's history.

That was the first half of an intensive summer of

Hebrew study, and my goal was to become proficient enough in Hebrew to place out of the beginner's Ulpan at Tel Aviv University, where I continued my studies in August. In Tel Aviv I was able to enter the intermediate Aleph Ulpan, which was affirmation that the intensive work in New York had indeed provided the foundation I was hoping to develop before going to Israel.

As I continue my work at Princeton, with plans to write on Jewish thought, democratic theory and Zionism, I have already found the Hebrew knowledge I gained incredibly useful in my studies (for example, last year I wrote on *Ahad Ha'am*, and it has been very interesting and helpful to be able to return to that work and examine his essays in their original Hebrew). I look forward to continuing my Hebrew study in the coming years, and I thank the Program in Judaic Studies for its support.

Sheera Talpaz

Thanks to the generous award from Princeton's Judaic Studies program, I was able to travel to Morocco to live and study in Rabat during the month of July. I enrolled at Qalam wa-Lawh Arabic Language Center, located in the beautiful Souissi neighborhood, near many of the foreign embassies. While there, I studied Modern Standard Arabic at the upper intermediate and then advanced levels in a four-week program that included weekly lectures led by experts in a variety of fields, ranging in topic from Moroccan family law to religious mysticism.

Although this past July coincided with the comparatively quiet and religious month of Ramadan, I was still able to enjoy my immersion in Arab culture by taking excursions both within Rabat and outside it. In Rabat I visited the ruins of Chellah and the strikingly beautiful Mausoleum of Mohammed V,

among other places. I luckily even happened upon a public concert of Andalusian music in the Kasbah of the Udayas. I was also able to travel outside of Rabat, spending time in the cities of Fez and Meknes. The sites I had the privilege of touring included a historic synagogue in Fez. Unfortunately, because of the violence in Israel and the U.S. State Department warnings about avoiding travel to the region if possible, I decided it was best to put off my research in Israel, though I hope to complete it sometime during this year.



At the Mausoleum of Mohammed V

Charlotte Werbe

This summer, with the gracious support of the Program in Judaic Studies, I had the opportunity to study Yiddish in Vilnius, Lithuania, at the Vilnius Yiddish Institute. This four-week program was particularly beneficial, as it not only gave me the chance to receive instruction in Yiddish language for three hours a day, but also included a cultural program. I am very grateful that I had the chance to take part in this program, as it both gave me the foundation I needed to continue pursuing Yiddish language study and also allowed me to deepen

my understanding of Jewish culture, particularly Jewish history in Vilnius. The cultural program included a lecture series, guided city tours, bus outings, concerts and films.

Thanks to the dedication of the teachers in the Yiddish program, I now share weekly exchanges with one of my teachers as we continue to work on my Yiddish-to-English translation skills. I developed what I'm sure will become life-long relationships with classmates in the program. Owing to the organization of the program and the kindness and knowledge of the instructors and organizers, I can say I have never had a more positive, enriching and professionally rewarding experience.

ALUMNI UPDATES

Aaron Applbaum '14

Aaron is working in Manhattan for a medium-sized multi-strategy hedge fund, focusing on direct investments into private cyber-security, software and cloud companies. The firm looks at bringing private companies to market, leveraging public access to grow these burgeoning businesses. Aaron's work is an interesting combination of venture capital, private equity and traditional hedging.

Rivka Cohen '12

Rivka is currently working as a research assistant at a clinical psychology lab in Mississippi, where she is studying emotion regulation.

Abigail Klionsky '14

Abby moved to Jackson, Mississippi, the day of graduation to accept a two-year fellowship at the Institute of Southern Jewish Life (ISJL), where she interned in summer 2012. She works in the Education Department, which has her traveling to Jewish communities around the south (from northeastern Virginia to southwestern Texas), working with congregations and their religious schools doing programming, writing curriculum, running teacher trainings, giving talks at Shabbat services, and whatever else the communities want ISJL to do. She says she has loved getting to see lots of different models of Jewish communities, and it has been a great way for her to explore the southern half of the country.

Q Miceli '12

Q got married this year and moved to Boulder, Colorado, where her husband Alex's family lives. She works remotely as the Wellness Director for an insurance brokerage based in Maryland, managing corporate wellness programs for group clients. To further her career in corporate wellness, Q is pursuing a second health coaching certification from the Catalyst Coaching Institute.

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*The Program thanks the following
for their years of service:*

Robert Alter, W. Michael Blumenthal,
Talya Fishman, Ivan Marcus,
David Myers, Julie Sandorf
and David Wasserstein

We welcome our newest members:
Mark Smith, Annette Yoshiko Reed
and Kenneth Seeskin



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