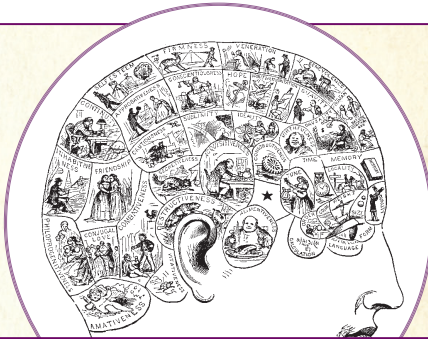


JEW'S BEYOND REASON

KATZ CENTER
PUBLIC PROGRAMS
2015–2016

EXPLORING EMOTION, THE UNCONSCIOUS, AND OTHER DIMENSIONS OF JEWS' INNER LIVES



THE MIND, as the Jewish philosopher Philo of Alexandria recognized two thousand years ago, does not operate by reason alone, but is also guided by powerful appetites and passions.

In every age, from biblical prophecy to Yiddish literature to Freud, Jews have acknowledged this essentially human irrationality in a myriad of ways. This year's research fellows at Penn's Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies are focused on those aspects of internal life that lie beyond reason: emotions and feelings, the unconscious, sensation, imagination, mental illness, magic, and the intellect itself.

The Katz Center presents this first installment of a year-long series of public programs celebrating all things beyond reason. Through partnerships with local host institutions, the center's fellows and colleagues connect with non-academic audiences in a spirit of shared exploration.

Who Needs a Miracle?

Yael Balaban, LEVINSKY COLLEGE

Tuesday, October 13 | 7:30 PM

Congregation M'kor Shalom

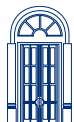
850 E. Evesham Road | Cherry Hill, NJ 08003



FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Shulamith Hareven's novella *The Miracle Hater* is a modern midrash on the story of Exodus. In this beautiful and thought-provoking retelling, Moses's miracles are questioned and criticized, raising ever-relevant questions about leadership and responsibility. Yael Balaban introduces this fascinating story and leads a discussion about divine intervention and human agency, faith and modern Jewish community life.

Yael Balaban received her Ph.D. from the Department of Hebrew Literature at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, and currently teaches at Levinsky College of Education in Israel. Her research examines how sensory experience, including art and music, are represented in literature, and she teaches widely in the field of modern Jewish literature, with a focus on Hebrew fiction.



Herbert D. Katz Center
for Advanced Judaic Studies
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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THE HERBERT D. KATZ CENTER FOR ADVANCED JUDAIC STUDIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA IS A RESEARCH INSTITUTE DEVOTED TO THE STUDY OF JEWISH CIVILIZATION IN ALL ITS FORMS. EACH YEAR THE CENTER INVITES LEADING SCHOLARS FROM EUROPE, ISRAEL, AND THE UNITED STATES TO GATHER IN PHILADELPHIA AND ADVANCE THE STATE OF RESEARCH ON A COMMON THEME.