

*Eleventh Annual
Gruss Colloquium in Judaic Studies*

Modern Jewish Literatures: Language, Identity, Writing



May 3-5, 2005

*(All academic sessions are free and open to the public.
Pre-registration or RSVP are not required)*

TUESDAY, May 3

10:00 am

Logan Hall, Terrace Room, University of Pennsylvania, 249 S. 36th St.

GREETINGS

David B. Ruderman

Director, Center for Advanced Judaic Studies

Rebecca Bushnell

Dean, School of Arts and Sciences

10:15 am

WRITERS AND INTELLECTUALS

Chair: **Alan Filreis**, University of Pennsylvania

Liliane Weissberg, University of Pennsylvania/CAJS

Hannah Arendt and the Politics of Jewish Literature

Gideon Nevo, Ben-Gurion University/CAJS
The Prophetic Mode in Natan Alterman's Journalistic Poetry

Bryan Chettye, University of Southampton, UK/CAJS
Postcolonial Literature and the Holocaust: Beyond the Black-Jewish Imaginary

Respondent:
Arnold Band, University of California, Los Angeles/CAJS

12:15 am **Lunch Break**

1:30 pm

LANGUAGE, CULTURE, REVOLUTION
Chair: **Kevin Platt**, University of Pennsylvania

Scott Lerner, Franklin and Marshall College/CAJS
Proust's Swanns and the Legacy of 1789

Amelia Glaser, Stanford University/CAJS
Revolutionary Eschatology in the Stories of Isaac Babel

Anita Shapira, Tel-Aviv University/CAJS
Revolutionary Russia and the Jews of Palestine: An Unrequited Love

Olga Borovaya, Moscow State University for the Humanities/CAJS
Changing the Discourse: Sephardi Journalism, the Young Turk Revolution, and the Collapse of the Ottoman Empire

Respondent: **Benjamin Nathans**, University of Pennsylvania

4:00 pm **Coffee Break**

4:30 pm

READING YEHUDA AMICHAI
Chair: **Nili Gold**, University of Pennsylvania/CAJS

Reading and discussion of the poem
Rut ha-ketanah [Little Ruth], open to all in attendance,
with interpretative introductions by:

Nili Gold, University of Pennsylvania/CAJS
Sheila Jelen, University of Maryland/CAJS
Alan Mintz, Jewish Theological Seminary of America/CAJS

7:00 pm

Dinner and Evening Program (by invitation)
Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, 420 Walnut Street

Anita Shapira, Tel-Aviv University/CAJS
Coming of Age in the Young State

WEDNESDAY, May 4 **Houston Hall, Ben Franklin Room, University of Pennsylvania, 3417 Spruce St.**

9:00am

LOCATING THE TEXT: PLACE AND JEWISH LITERATURE
Chair: **Gerald Prince**, University of Pennsylvania

Stephan Braese, University of Bremen/CAJS

The Loss of Imperial Context: Kafka's Writings and the Collapse of the Hapsburg Empire

Deborah Starr, Cornell University/CAJS

A Mediterranean Vigor that Never Wanes: Alexandria in the Jewish Literary Imagination

Marc Caplan, CAJS

Sholem Aleichem's Kasrilevke Stories and the Conceptualization of Space

Respondent: **Sidra Ezrahi**, Hebrew University

11:00 am **Coffee Break**

11:30 am **AMERICAN JEWISH NARRATIVES**

Chair: **Beth Wenger**, University of Pennsylvania

Michael Kramer, Bar-Ilan University/CAJS

Melting Plots: Tales of American Assimilation

Alan Rosen, Michlala College, Israel/CAJS

Early Holocaust Writing and American Life

Laurence Roth, Susquehanna University/CAJS

Toward a Kashrut Nation: The World of American Jewish Cookbooks

Respondent: **Arthur Kiron**, University of Pennsylvania/CAJS

1:30 pm **Lunch Break**

3:15 pm **GENDER AND JEWISH IDENTITY**

Chair: **Michele Richman**, University of Pennsylvania

Maurice Samuels, University of Pennsylvania/CAJS

Eugenie Foa and the Invention of French-Jewish Fiction

Kathryn Hellerstein, University of Pennsylvania/CAJS

Women Poets and Women's Poetry: Yiddish, Gender, and Literary Tradition

Respondent:

Lori Lefkowitz, Reconstructionist Rabbinical College/CAJS

5:45 pm **Cocktails** (by invitation)

6:30 pm **Dinner and Evening Program** (by invitation)

Logan Hall, Terrace Room, University of Pennsylvania, 249 S. 36th St.

Modern Jewish Poems: A Reading

Participants:

Kathryn Hellerstein (Yiddish)

Gidi Nevo (Hebrew)

Laurence Roth (American)

Maurice Samuels (French)

Deborah Starr (Arabic)

THURSDAY, May 5 **Houston Hall, Ben Franklin Room, University of Pennsylvania, 3417 Spruce St.**

9:00 am

JEWISH LITERATURE: INTERSECTIONS AND BOUNDARIES

Chair: **David Stern**, University of Pennsylvania

Presenter:

Hana Wirth-Nesher, Tel-Aviv University

Respondents:

Werner Sollors, Harvard University

Anita Norich, University of Michigan/CAJS

Nadia Valman, University of Southampton, UK/CAJS

11:00 am

Coffee Break

11:30 am

CONCLUDING DISCUSSION

Chair: **David Ruderman**, University of Pennsylvania/CAJS

12:45 pm

Concluding Luncheon (by invitation)

Houston Hall, Hall of Flags, University of Pennsylvania, 3417 Spruce St.

For further information, contact the

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