

CENTER FOR JEWISH STUDIES AT QUEENS COLLEGE

THE ARTHUR AND CAROLE ANDERMAN

CULTURE & ARTS  
GUIDE

FALL 2012



Jerusalem Flowers © 2008 Mark Podwal, Courtesy Forum Gallery

CENTER FOR JEWISH STUDIES AT QUEENS COLLEGE  
**CULTURE & ARTS  
 GUIDE**

**CONTENTS**

Director's Report  
 Jewish Studies Program and  
 Center: The Year in Review 3

Review of Center's  
 2011-12 Culture & Arts  
 Programming 8

Music & Theater  
 Performance Series 14

Yiddish Theatre 15

Cinema on Sundays  
 Film/Dialogue Series 16

Biblical Archaeology  
 Slide-Lecture Series 18

Jewish Lecture Series 19

Faculty Speakers Bureau 22

Achievements & Distinctions 23

Graduation and Awards 30

Publications 32

About the Center 34

Parking and Transportation 39

Nine Good Reasons to Give 40

We would like to thank Forum Gallery  
 and Mark Podwal for making available his  
 beautiful art that graces our cover.



**FALL 2012**

**SEPTEMBER**

**September 9**  
 Sunday, 2 pm  
 LeFrak Concert Hall  
**CINEMA ON SUNDAYS**  
*Three Mothers (Shalosh Ima'ot, 2006)*,  
 Hebrew with English subtitles, dir.  
 Dina Zvi-Riklis  
 Discussant: Dr. Eric Goldman

**September 12**  
 Wednesday, 7 pm  
 LeFrak Concert Hall  
**National Yiddish Theatre Folksbiene**  
 Avi Hoffman performs *Itzik Manger*

**OCTOBER**

**October 18**  
 Thursday, 7:15 pm  
 Rosenthal Library 230  
**BIBLICAL ARCHAEOLOGY**  
**SLIDE/LECTURE**  
 Prof. Jodi Magness, University of  
 North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
*The Ancient Galilean Synagogue and  
 the Village at Huqoq*

**October 21**  
 Sunday, 2 pm  
 LeFrak Concert Hall  
**CINEMA ON SUNDAYS**  
*Little Rose (2011)*, Polish with English  
 Subtitles, dir. Jan Kidawa-Blonski  
 Discussant: Professor Emeritus  
 Stuart Liebman, Queens College

**October 24**  
 Wednesday, 7:15 pm  
 LeFrak Concert Hall  
**JEWISH LECTURE SERIES**  
 Hilit Surowitz-Israel, Rutgers University  
*Reoriented: American Jewish History  
 and the Sephardic Presence in Early  
 America*

**October 25**  
 Thursday, 7:15 pm  
 Rosenthal Library 230  
**JEWISH LECTURE SERIES**  
 Yossi Klein Halevi  
*Israel Looks Inward: The Emergence  
 of a New Israeli Center*

**October 30**  
 Tuesday, 12 noon  
 Rosenthal Library, President's  
 Conference Room 2  
**JEWISH LECTURE SERIES**  
 Dr. Godela Weiss-Sussex,  
 University of London  
*Femininity, Jewishness and the City:  
 Jewish Women Writers in Early  
 20th-Century Berlin*

**October 31**  
 Wednesday, 7 pm  
 Goldstein Theatre  
**MUSIC AND THEATRE**  
**PERFORMANCE SERIES**  
 Preview, *A Dybbuk*, adapted by  
 Tony Kushner

**NOVEMBER**

**November 1**  
 Thursday, 7 pm  
**November 3**  
 Saturday, 8 pm  
**November 4**  
 Sunday, 2 pm  
**November 8**  
 Thursday, 7 pm  
**November 10**  
 Saturday, 8 pm  
**November 11**  
 Sunday, 2 pm and 7 pm  
 Goldstein Theatre  
**MUSIC AND THEATRE**  
**PERFORMANCE SERIES**  
*A Dybbuk*, adapted by Tony Kushner

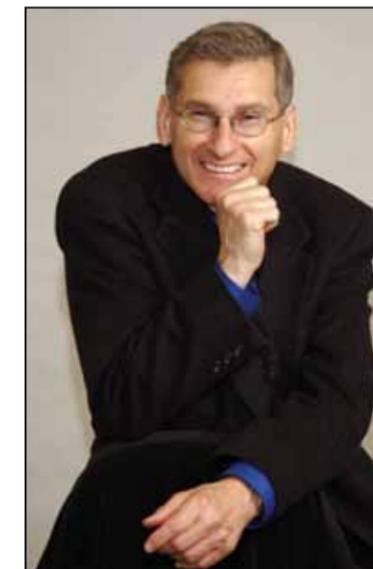
**November 14**  
 Wednesday, 7:15 PM  
 LeFrak Concert Hall  
**JEWISH LECTURE SERIES**  
 Dr. Elissa Bemporad, Queens College  
*Screening and commentary on the  
 original 1937 film Der Dybbuk*

**November 18**  
 Sunday, 2 pm  
 LeFrak Concert Hall  
*An Annual Commemoration of  
 Kristallnacht and Recommitment to  
 Combating Anti-Semitism and Hatred*  
 Keynote Speaker: Dr. Marion Kaplan

**The Jewish  
 Studies Program  
 and Center**

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Mark Rosenblum, Director



**T**he Center for Jewish Studies at Queens College has just completed another extraordinarily productive and exciting year. There are nine good reasons for our excitement and sense of accomplishment as we enter the New Year.

**Award-Winning Public Education Program:** One reason for this excitement is that we were singled out by the U.S. Department of Education for a multi-year grant of nearly \$300,000 to create a new Center for Ethnic, Racial & Religious Understanding (CERRU). This grant has provided the Center for Jewish Studies with a dramatic educational opportunity to bring Jewish students together with a broad array of their peers from other ethnic, racial and religious groups in order to foster cross-cultural understanding. As we begin our fourth year with this new initiative, we have trained more than 400 Queens College students to pursue difficult dialogues and engage in reflective listening in order to enhance our conflict-mitigation work. The student facilitators and fellow students they have recruited and trained have also organized more than 150 events and programs over the past three years. The programs ranged from “Walking in the Other Sides’ Neighborhood,” a fascinating street-level experience of Queens’s rich ethnic, racial and religious neighborhoods led by scholars of the urban landscape, to large community forums like “Bridging the Divide,” where our trained student facilitators helped guide dialogues on some of the most contested and controversial local, national and global issues with leaders from opposing sides.

An outside evaluation has found that our new initiative—CERRU—has had a significant impact in sensitizing students to other cultures and reducing their inclination to

engage in negative stereotyping and behaviors. Typical of the evaluator’s findings were two comments from student facilitators. An African-American student said:

“Before coming to the center I previously had developed misconceptions about the Orthodox Jewish community. Due to lack of exposure and interaction on my part and my limited experiences, I had come to believe that many members of the Orthodox Jewish community were unwelcoming to those outside the Orthodox faith. However through the center these false constructions have been broken down. I have gained many good friends of Orthodox Jewish faith.”

And a Muslim student said:

“The dialogue series held at the Center for Ethnic, Racial & Religious Understanding is truly and absolutely the most amazing initiative. I have to admit, when I first decided to be a part of this program, I didn’t expect it to have much of an impact on me, or my experiences on campus. But, at the first dialogue session, I met Patrick, a U.S. soldier who has been to Iraq and a few other Muslim countries, and I realized the power of this project. I realized the power of dialogue. The fact that we sat in the same room and shared each other’s views, morals, beliefs, and experiences, without pulling each other’s hair out, was a real eye-opener for me.”

**Creative Curriculum that has Won National Acclaim:** The Department of Education honor was bestowed upon the Center for Jewish Studies in part because of the Center’s award-winning curriculum and public education programs as well as the college’s stunning diversity, with students from more than 170 countries, speaking more

than 90 languages. Our nationally acclaimed curriculum has been featured in the *New York Times*, the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, CBS-TV National News, National Public Radio, the *Jewish Week*, the *Forward* and a host of other electronic and print media.

**A Dynamic and Expanding Culture & Arts Program:** This past year we offered 16 major programs. These included world-class scholars and educators, renowned diplomats and political analysts, virtuoso instrumentalists and singers, compelling cinema, a captivating musical drama, and an uplifting evening devoted to honoring those who have engaged in uncommon courage.

Many of these superb and creative programs were free to the public, and several of them included a sumptuous complimentary banquet. (Please see the detailed review of this past year's Culture & Arts Guide as well as our exhilarating programs for the fall semester that follow this report.)

**Distinguished and Growing Faculty:** Our excellent Jewish Studies faculty, drawn from 15 different departments within the college, includes some of America's most eminent scholars. More than half a dozen of our professors have won the coveted Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Strong as our faculty is, we are still growing. This fall we welcome back the six recently hired young, gifted scholar/teachers to our program:

Dr. Francesca Bregoli (The Joseph and Oro Halebua Professor in Greek and Sephardic Jewish Studies), Dr. Sari Kisilevsky (Philosophy of Law and Ethics), Dr. Elissa Bemporad (The Jerry and William Ungar Professorship in Jewish Studies), Dr. Arnold Franklin (Medieval Jewish History in the Arabic-Speaking World) and Miryam Segal (Modern Hebrew Literature and the Bible). Joining this stellar group is Dr. Abigail Doukhan (The Pearl and Nathan Halebua Family Professor in Ethics and Tolerance).

**Diverse and Talented Students:** At our spring 2012 commencement, yet another overflow crowd of parents, relatives, friends and faculty filled the Patio Room, *kvelling* as our graduates and awardees demonstrated anew their staggering academic achievements and demographic diversity. Nearly all our minors and majors were graduating with honors or high honors, and they and our awardees had a cumulative GPA of over 3.8 out of 4.0, with two graduates receiving a perfect 4.0. These graduates and awardees are among the more than 2,000 students who speak dozens of languages and represent a multitude of different ethnic, racial and religious groups, all studying Jewish topics in more than 80 of our Jewish Studies courses from over a dozen academic disciplines.

Our graduates and awardees' academic acumen is complemented by their ethical

commitment and community service. They represent a core of the campus leadership, from the President of Hillel to the campus coordinator for the American World Jewish Service to the editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Jewish Studies*. They also include two of the college's Commencement speakers over the past three years.

**The Only Jewish Studies Journal in the Nation that is Totally Student Produced and Where Students Have the Last Word:** The students who edit the *Queens College Journal of Jewish Studies* clarify our mission. The *Journal's* inside cover incorporates a rabbinic saying that captures the spirit of our endeavor: "Who is Wise? One Who Learns From Everyone" (Pirkei Avot 4:1). Drawn from the collection of rabbinic axioms that over the centuries have become a principal ethical scripture for Jews, this inscription honors the mission of the Jewish Studies Program and Center at Queens College, which explores—through competing perspectives—some of the most searing questions that confront Jewry.

The 14th edition of the *Queens College Journal of Jewish Studies*, a completely student-run initiative, will delight and stimulate readers, making them swell with pride to be associated with QC's Jewish Studies Program and the Center. A labor of love, this issue of the *Journal*

once again has been produced by a distinguished group of students who have mastered all aspects of the publication process: soliciting contributions, selecting those to be included, editing all materials, preparing camera-ready copy, and scouring the marketplace for the best printer at the most competitive price.

The editor-in-chief, Camelia Serghie, and her equally talented and exuberant editorial board—layout editor Rachel Lifshitz, Natalie Davidson, Nicola Kornbluth, Etan Kuperberg, Benjamin Kusin, and Jacqueline Wolpoe—produced a memorable work. Special recognition to Camelia for her diligence and commitment to see this project through. This beautiful and inspiring publication is worth having in your collection. It is available for \$12 from the office of Jewish Studies, Jefferson Hall, Room 307; (718) 997-4530.

**A Breakthrough Course in Bukharian History and Culture:** Another example of the excellence of our students that has allowed us to reach a segment of the Queens College Jewish student population significantly under-enrolled in our classes is Immanuel Rybakov. A talented recent QC graduate, Mr. Rybakov is a 27-year-old activist within the Bukharian Jewish Congress who organized and took the lead in teaching the first-ever



Student facilitators from the Center for Ethnic, Racial & Religious Understanding at the "Evening of Uncommon Courage" with (at bottom, left to right) Sophia McGee, CERRU Program Manager; Prof. Mark Rosenblum, Director; Steven Appel, Asst. Director; and (top right) Dr. John Vogelsang, Coordinator of the Facilitator & Dialogue Project

course on Bukharian history and culture at Queens College. Lead stories in the *Jewish Week*, *Daily News* and other newspapers heralded the initiative of offering academic courses on Bukharian culture, one of the first in the U.S.

There are nearly 1,000 Bukharian students on campus. Bukharian Jews come primarily from Central Asia and the former Soviet Union, and the largest concentration of the Bukharian population in the U.S. resides in Queens.

The course Mr. Rybakov so effectively organized included trips to the Bukharian Jewish Museum, as well as bringing iconic Bukharian musicians and performers to the campus, including Avrom Tolmasov and Tamara Katayeva. This successful experiment in developing courses that engage the Bukharian student body is sure to be followed by additional academic offerings in the future. In fact, with the help of Mr. Rybakov, we are developing a new Bukharian language course.

**Difficult Questions, Balanced Answers:** Our Center is committed to continuing to ask the hard questions that require responses from a diverse range of perspectives: Is it 1938 again? What is the future of Jerusalem? Are the U.S. and Israel under Obama and Netanyahu heading towards a strategic collision or a Solomonic compromise? How do we most effectively combat anti-Semitism and hatred? In the past three years we have brought together some of the greatest minds and notable leaders in Jewish life to address these provocative questions. Instead of

one-sided answers, we have participated in a dialogue that includes strikingly divergent ideas.

In my preface to *The Jewish Condition: Challenges and Responses—1938-2008*, I attempted to make a case for the broad band of opinion approach:

“Multiple sides were represented, not because we are devotees of some kind of insipid relativism that insists every point has an equally valid counterpoint, but because there are fundamental issues about which we as a community are resolutely unresolved. Too often, these issues are explored in forums for the like-minded who gather to cheerlead, recite their best arguments, and send their embedded ideologues out to engage in political battle. Our hope was that we might clarify our differences and perhaps discover some unexpected agreement.”

**New Community Initiative:** Finally, in addition to the Center’s robust and highly regarded Faculty Speakers Bureau, we have dramatically expanded our community outreach for this year. We have cultivated formal relationships with synagogues and community centers and developed a series of programs with Temple Beth Shalom in Roslyn, showcasing some of our most articulate student facilitators in interfaith dialogues and discussions about Israel and Jewish values, with another series of programs featuring compelling cinema. Other community groups with which we have worked this past year include Temple Emanuel in Great Neck, staging the blockbuster reading of *Warsaw: A Musical Drama*; Temple Gates

of Prayer in Flushing, and the Central Queens Y, each featuring discussions with Nobel Prize Nominee Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish, a prominent Palestinian physician and peace activist who established the Daughters for Life Foundation in memory of his three daughters who were killed in the Gaza tragedy of January 2009. We capped the year with a panel at Hillcrest Jewish Center entitled “Queens College: A Model for Combating Anti-Semitism and Anti-Israel Sentiment.” Steven Appel, Assistant Director of the Center for Ethnic, Racial and Religious Understanding, Batya Septimus, a graduating senior facilitator of CERRU, and I discussed the best practices of CERRU in addressing these issues. Each of these events has garnered rave reviews.

\* \* \* \*

**Many deserve our deep appreciation:** President James Muyskens and Vice President for Institutional Advancement Sue Henderson remain steady and generous supporters of our work. The president has found time in his frenetic schedule to introduce and attend many of our programs. “Time is money,” and he and the vice president have invested both in the Center. They have provided us with new staff positions that help coordinate and expand our various activities, and they have facilitated the hiring of six new professors who have joined us in the past few years.

With the guidance of the Center for Jewish Studies board, led by its esteemed Chairman Arthur Anderman and Vice Chair Pearl Halegua, who has been so effective and inspirational in developing our community programming, we are determined to ensure a world-class Jewish education for our students and an exciting variety of lectures, art and cultural performances for the broader community.

Thanks also to Elsi Levy, another one of the stalwarts on the Center’s board of directors. Her presence is felt in every dimension of our program. From stuffing envelopes in our office to her generous philanthropy, Elsi is there with a helping hand and a reassuring nod of support.

Thanks and deep appreciation are also in order for the two pillars of our program, Pat Tortorici and Rita Shliselberg. Their service to the Center and the academic program is distinguished by a devotion to our students and community that goes beyond their job descriptions and their paychecks.



From left to right: Batya Septimus, Lara Porter, Meher Moshin (CERRU facilitators), and Sophia McGee, CERRU program manager

## Thanks to Our “Friends”: Your Support is Our Future

The latest grant from the Department of Education has helped us through these difficult economic times. However, you no doubt continue to read in the Jewish press and elsewhere that like all institutions—for profit and not-for-profit—CUNY and Queens College have been impacted by the great recession and the very fragile and weak recovery. We are carefully addressing these challenges to ensure our long-term health, but we rely on your steadfast support to enable us to continue to offer so many free programs and to play such a pivotal role in the world of Jewish Studies.

There are very few institutions of higher education in the United States that can offer such a broad range of courses in Jewish Studies, taught by such a learned and vibrant faculty, with such talented and engaged students, on a campus where diversity and respect are so twinned.

We thank you for your past support and hope you will take a few moments to fill out the enclosed envelope and join us as a new member or renew as a Friend of the Center for Jewish Studies at Queens College. Join us and experience the nine reasons why we are excited and proud.

## Community Initiative: The Queens College Center for Jewish Studies, Fall 2012

Temple Beth Sholom, 401 Roslyn Road, Roslyn Heights, NY 11577

Wednesday, October 31, 2012, 7:15 pm

*Israel Looks Inward: The Emergence of a New Israeli Center*

Yossi Klein Halevi, renowned Israeli journalist and author, presenting. Halevi will explore the emergence of a new Israeli center that may have historical implications in overcoming the ideological crossfire between the left and right.

For more information please call Temple Sholom: 516-621-2288.

Central Queens Y—Hevesi Jewish Heritage Library  
67-09 108th St., Forest Hills, NY 11375

Monday, November 5, 1:30 pm

*The American Election, the Arab Spring & Israel: Hard Questions and Straight Answers*

Professor Mark Rosenblum, Middle East expert and historian at Queens College, presenting.

For more information please call Central Queens Y:  
781-268-5057, Ext. 151

With a superheated American election on the doorstep and the Arab Spring still unfolding day by day, we will take a hard look at the risks and opportunities both of these situations present for Israel. Would President Obama use a second term to try to forge a lasting peace between Israel and its neighbors or would he be likely to avoid this political minefield? What has been his record on Israel? Mitt Romney has stated that he “would not make any significant policy decisions about Israel without consulting Mr. Netanyahu.” How would a President Romney’s policy be likely to differ from the current administration’s? Finally, how has the Arab Spring affected Palestinians? With Syria collapsing into a brutal civil war and the Muslim Brotherhood and the Supreme Council of the Egyptian Armed Forces caught in a tense deadlock, what opportunities and risks does the Arab Spring hold for Israel?

For more information please call Temple Beth Sholom at  
516-621-2288.

# Review of Center's Culture & Arts Programming for 2011–12

Diane Spielmann, Assistant Director

**W**“WOW!” was the comment this past fall from keynote speaker Deborah Lipstadt, world-renowned Holocaust historian and distinguished professor, at the conclusion of the annual *Kristallnacht* program in November. She related that never before had she been at such a poignant and powerful event as the one at Queens College. (See page 10 for details)

And it all begins with our programming in September .

.. This past year the Center for Ethnic, Racial and Religious Understanding (CERRU), born out of the Center for Jewish Studies, opened the season by hosting a moving memorial on Sunday, September 11, commemorating 10 years since the attack on the World Trade Center.

A traditional piece on trombone and shofar, performed by Haim Avitsur, lent a solemn note to the occasion. In addition to poignant reminiscences, including those of Professor Mark Rosenblum, and then readings from *The Legacy Letters: Messages of Life and Hope from 9/11 Family Members*, a compilation of 100 letters written to those lost by their family members, the program had a constructive component in a question-and-answer period among audience participants of all ethnicities and religions, facilitated by students trained by CERRU in difficult dialogues. After each phase in the program, the audience was uplifted by a musical interlude. In addition to being a memorial, it was a celebration of humanity as all of the individuals, regardless of their origin and beliefs, belonged to one united group through shared remembrances realized by the afternoon's program.

Also in September, along with our on-campus programming, the New Community Initiative, bringing

world-class events directly to the community, had its kick-off, expanding our outreach dramatically for this year. “Israel’s Challenges Today,” a three-part series, opened at Temple Beth Shalom in Roslyn, LI, with renowned Middle East historian Mark Rosenblum, Director of the Center for Jewish Studies and of CERRU. He addressed “Israeli-Palestinian Peace: Grand Delusion or Feasible Solution?” to a full house of several hundred people. Covering a broad range of varying perspectives, he led the way to the subsequent lectures, which included a panel of distinguished negotiators from both sides posing “difficult questions and balanced answers,” as well as a discussion of “Jewish Ethics and Israeli Dilemmas: From Waging a Just War to Pursuing a Secure Peace” by Moshe Halbertal, author of the Israel Defense Forces’ *Code of Ethics*.

Additional fall and spring programs in the community, which reached almost 2,000 people, featured virtuoso musicians and compelling cinema at Temple Shalom in Roslyn, Temple Emanuel in Great Neck, Temple Gates of Prayer in Flushing, and the Central Queens Y in Forest Hills. Programs included engagements with 2012 Nobel Peace Prize Nominee Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish, author of *I Shall Not Hate*, who lost three daughters in the Gaza War of 2009.

In the meantime, back on campus . . .

Programming continued with the National Yiddish Theatre *Folksbiene* as they presented *Soul to Soul: Yiddish and African-American Music Meet in Celebration of Two Cultures*, sponsored by the City University of New York. Conceived by *Folksbiene*'s artistic director Zalmen Mlotek, the show masterfully wove together the shared struggles and victories of the Jewish and African-American communities through music and voice in Yiddish and



Diane Spielmann



Prof. Deborah Lipstadt

Top: Prof. Deborah Lipstadt addressing the audience during the Annual Kristallnacht Commemoration with six survivors seated on stage.

English, which included a photomontage. The audience was enthralled as they sang along with Lisa Fishman, singer, songwriter and actress; Elmore James, an internationally acclaimed baritone reminiscent of Paul Robeson; and Tony Perry, singer and songwriter. The music and voices were magnificent, exceeded only by the “soul” that was expressed. To paraphrase the Yiddish translation of Lisa’s rendition of “A Wonderful World” (Louis Armstrong), the evening was truly a *prekhtike nakht!*

The next musical event, made possible by the generous endowment of Arthur and Carole Anderman, *Rise Up Singing*, was in the best cabaret tradition and featured the program’s creator, Susan Winter, a multi-award-winning singer and veteran of the New York cabaret scene. Joined by Jared Egan on bass, Aleeza Wadler on violin, Sean Harkness on guitar, music director Alex Rybeck on piano and director Barry Kleinbort, Winter delivered an amalgam of songs in English, Yiddish, Spanish and Hebrew that embrace the Jewish heritage and lessons of the past, while squarely facing the future. This unmatched

array of songs from Broadway, Yiddish theater, folklore and film melded into one unforgettable program for the ecstatic audience.

As in the recent past, the annual Leon and Morris Levy Memorial Lecture, endowed by the Levy Family, opened the fall lecture series with “Cultural Integration and Social Separation: The Jews of 18th-Century Livorno,” presented by Professor Francesca Bregoli, the Joseph and Oro Halegua Professor of Greek and Sephardic Studies at Queens College. In her presentation Professor Bregoli emphasized the unique situation of the Jews in the port city of Livorno, where they were fully integrated socially as compared to most other leading cities in Europe of the time, and yet not totally accepted within the political sphere, and thus were socially separated. She presented numerous examples and scenarios to support her thesis. A captive audience, many of Italian descent, participated in a lively question-and-answer session with queries ranging from the early modern era through to the present, with Professor Bregoli offering hard facts as well as her interpretations.



From *Soul to Soul*'s Tony Perry, Lisa Fishman and Elmore James



From *Rise Up Singing*, Alex Rybeck and Susan Winter

This year our Biblical Archaeology Slide/Lecture Series came to us directly from the source: two distinguished archaeologists of the Israel Antiquities Authority, protector of antiquities in the nation, brought us back to the ancient world. Emmanuel Eisenberg, senior research archaeologist who has directed countless digs, presented “The Biblical City of Hebron in Light of Archaeological Excavations.” Through his talk and slides the audience was taken from the earliest times during the Bronze Age beginning in 2400 BCE through to the destruction at the end of the First Temple period in 586 BCE. A week later, Dr. Donald T. Ariel unfolded the splendor of Herod’s period through his coins, as he presented “In Herod’s Pockets: A Numismatist’s View of Herod the Great.” The audiences participated in a lively question-and-answer period following each talk.

As noted above, in November we observed perhaps the most poignant of our programs as we commemorated *Kristallnacht: Combating Anti-Semitism and Hatred*, in conjunction with CERRU as well as the Kupferberg Holocaust Center of Queensborough Community College and the Queens Jewish Community Council. Made possible through the Resnick Family and Sinai Chapels in Fresh Meadows, the afternoon highlighted world-renowned historian and distinguished professor Deborah Lipstadt, who delivered the keynote address to an enthralled audience. The program opened with President James Muyskens’ welcome, and also included public officials and Jewish war veterans. There was a multicultural invocation as well as audiovisual and musical interludes by Tizmoret and soloist Sara Kahan. The commemoration not only involved disparate segments of the college and community, but also engaged all generations from many sectors, including

six Survivors of the Holocaust, who each lit a memorial candle, escorted by a student facilitator from CERRU. The students, representing different races, religions and ethnicities, read short biographies of the respective survivors, and then made a commitment to combat hatred in the future, leaving a deep impression on the audience, including keynote speaker Deborah Lipstadt. The following is the commitment given by one of those students:

“As a Muslim I am a proud facilitator for the Center for Ethnic, Racial and Religious Understanding. . . . We are all human beings and share more in common than we can ever imagine. We all carry hopes and dreams, have feelings and emotions, and seek happiness and most of all, peace. . . . My commitment to combat hate for the upcoming year would be to continue educating myself on the beliefs of my fellow brothers and sisters and educating them about mine. . . . I would like to conclude by quoting Martin Luther King, ‘Injustice anywhere is a danger to justice everywhere,’ and a quote from Mahatma Gandhi, ‘You must be the change you wish to see in the world.’”

Capping the fall season on an equally poignant note, the Cinema on Sundays Film/Dialogue Series featured two movies dealing with aspects of the Holocaust, focusing on the period before and after.

*Ein Lied geht um die Welt (My Song Goes ‘Round the World*, German with English subtitles) showcased Joseph Schmidt. A tenor who was compared to the great Caruso, he had been a cantor in Czernowitz before becoming an internationally acclaimed radio opera star. With Schmidt’s cinematic debut in this film featuring operatic arias, classical pieces and popular music, he was declared the most popular new star overnight (albeit for a very brief period), despite the Nazi takeover several months earlier.

Given the timing, the film ultimately foreshadowed the juxtaposition of the impending destruction with the achievements of a culture about to be decimated on the threshold of the Holocaust. In the introduction and subsequent discussion of this semi-biographical film, Diane Spielmann, an expert in German-Jewish studies, provided the key elements of Schmidt’s all-too-brief life, including his 13-year career that ended with his death at age 38 in a Swiss detention camp in 1942.

The screening of *Everything is Illuminated* focused on the aftermath of the Holocaust, based on the best-selling novel by Jonathan Safran Foer. In the film a young Jewish American is on a quest to find answers to his grandfather’s survival two generations earlier in Ukraine. The film, which leaves you with an equal number of questions and answers, is an insightful study of Jewish identity far beyond the years of the Holocaust. Eric Goldman, an expert on Yiddish, Israeli and Jewish film, conducted a riveting discussion in his introduction and remarks following the film, probing the reality of Foer’s own experiences intertwined with his creative abilities to underscore the salient elements of the film and the history it depicted.

And the pulse continued for the spring . . .

A diplomatic breakthrough occurred at the first spring program, “The Audacity to Imagine Peace: The RAND’s Arc Project and the Hard Realities of Resolving the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict,” a visionary multimedia program sponsored with CERRU. Our role in bringing together panelists who represent major institutions in Washington involved at the highest levels in resolving the Arab-Israeli conflict was critical in inspiring the panelists to begin work on examining and defining the security matrix necessary

to implement the Arc vision in its various stages. As a result, currently meetings are being arranged for Israeli security experts and Palestinian authorities in the West Bank to consult on how to sharpen the Arc vision with support from Washington, Ramallah and Jerusalem.

“Timeliness” with another twist constituted our next program, which was made possible by Marc and Kenneth Rowin in memory of their mother, Miriam, all graduates of Queens College. On March 14 a tumultuous “welcome” was awaiting Professor Elisheva Carlebach, currently Baron Professor of Jewish History, Culture, and Society at Columbia University, and formerly Professor of History at Queens College. She opened the spring Jewish Studies Lecture Series with a discussion of her groundbreaking publication, *Palaces of Time: Jewish Calendar and Culture in Early Modern Europe*. Who would have thought that a shoebox full of neglected, tiny, handwritten books from early modern Europe would be uncovered in a Queens Public Library by one of our own former professors, and subsequently took her around the world finding a new source of heretofore hidden cultural treasures!? Step by step in a clear and coherent sequence accompanied by numerous illustrations, Prof. Carlebach outlined the intriguing history and origins of the calendar in general, and the Jewish calendar specifically. Fascinated by the discussion, the audience afterward engaged in a lively discussion with Prof. Carlebach. Everyone left with a new as well as a renewed sense of “time.”

After the introductory lecture’s focus on the universal—the calendar that affects the entire world—the focus for spring was on the Jewish experience in its diversity. We began with the Middle East. Queens College Professor



President James Muyskens



From left to right: Chris Tucker, Yale House Ventures, Ghaith al-Olmari, American Task Force on Palestine, and David Makovsky, Washington Institute during their discussion on *The Audacity to Imagine Peace: The RAND’s Arc Project and the Hard Realities of Resolving the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*.

Arnold Franklin explored the dynamic interaction between Judaism and Islam in the medieval era that served as a backdrop to a formative period in Jewish literature and religion. Dr. Franklin opened with the contemporary perspective with the question that has been asked throughout history, “Is it/was it good for the Jews?” leading the audience into the time and place for the topic: Iraq and Egypt of the 10th through 13th centuries. Prof. Franklin described and provided specific examples of how Islam influenced the way the rabbinic community adapted traditions in both literature as well as religious concepts and practices into the Jewish tradition. He suggested that there was a peaceful coexistence and interchange of ideas within both the Islamic and Jewish communities. From there, he demonstrated how these ideas percolated into the everyday stratum, most notably through the Cairo Geniza. With copious illustrations, Dr. Franklin highlighted such treasures from the Geniza as a Koran written in Arabic with Hebrew characters, among other examples, such as personal correspondence, organizational records and the like to the delight of an intensely interested audience. A wonderful learning experience for those familiar with the topic as well as those who were not, the evening was most enjoyable for all.

Encore! *Soul to Soul*, a smash success in the fall, was brought back to Queens College with the generous support of the Ruth and Sidney Schindler Memorial Lecture, endowed by the Schindler and Stolar Families, Lillian

Taynor and Family, and Arthur and Carole Anderman. Once more the audience was enthralled with the performance as they sang along and rocked to music in both English and Yiddish, celebrating the shared struggles and victories of the African-American and Jewish communities in America. Another *prekhtike nakht* was performed by Lisa Fishman from the Yiddish rendition of Louis Armstrong’s “What a Wonderful World.”

Beginning with the early modern period through today, black, white and mulatto are included in the racial spectrum of Jews of Portuguese descent living in the Caribbean and throughout the world, as we learned from Hilit Surowitz-Israel, the dynamic Sephardi scholar of Religion and Jewish Studies at Rutgers University. Her lecture, endowed through the William Ungar Fund, addressed issues that led the Jewish community of the Caribbean to redefine their religious identity in the racialized social structure found on the islands. Her fascinating discussion, accompanied by a Powerpoint presentation of image and word, included the mixing of the races there and the perception of race in light of *Halachah* (Jewish law) and Portuguese-Jewish rabbinic authorities, as well as from the perspectives of white, black and mulatto Jews. The ensuing questions from the audience and the answers from Dr. Surowitz-Israel matched, if not exceeded, the knowledge, enthusiasm and passion conveyed during the lecture itself.



From left to right: Sophia McGee (CERRU), Razia Khan and Batya Septimus (student recipients of the “Uncommon Courage” Award), and Steven Appel (CERRU)



Charlie Wohlberg and Alexandra Ruiz, student recipients of the “Uncommon Courage” Award



From left to right: Dr. Dennis Liotta, QC alumnus and recipient of the “Uncommon Courage” Award, Prof. Robert Engel, and Prof. Mark Rosenblum



Rachel Lloyd, global recipient of the “Uncommon Courage” Award, and Dr. John Vogelsang

Two events closing the spring semester offered reflections.

During May we held our third annual Evening of Uncommon Courage, in which we celebrated those who have made a difference for humanity. The three categories are for Queens College students, an alumnus, and an outstanding individual from the global community. The event sponsored by CERRU honored four of its exceptional students and trained facilitators: Batya Septimus for her deep inquiry, leadership and faith; Alexandra Ruiz for standing up for new Americans; Charlie Wohlberg for being a religious ambassador and a healer in both the spiritual and physical realms; and Razia Khan for the pursuit of interfaith understanding. The two other honorees were Dr. Dennis Liotta, a Queens College alumnus and professor of chemistry at Emory University who discovered one of the most effective HIV drugs and created iThemba (hope) Pharmaceuticals to benefit underdeveloped communities in sub-Saharan Africa. Rachel Lloyd, honored next, is an anti-human trafficking advocate and founder/Executive Director of the New York-based Girls Educational and Mentoring Services (GEMS), dedicated to ending human trafficking while empowering its victims. Musical interludes by indigenous Chiapas rock band Sak Tzevul and master of Sephardic song, Gerard Edery, alternated with the equally powerful statements given by each of the honorees.

The final event of the academic year commemorated Yom HaShoah and was endowed by Marvin and Celina

Zborowski, both Holocaust survivors. This year we remembered the children with a screening of the last Yiddish feature, *Undzere Kinder (Our Children)*, filmed in Poland in 1948, and banned there soon after its debut due to its “Jewish content.” Lost for many years, rediscovered and recently remastered through the National Center for Jewish Film, *Undzere Kinder* is now considered a classic. Professor Gabriel Finder, the Ida and Nathan Kolodiz Director of Jewish Studies at the University of Virginia, offered a thorough introduction. Having screened the film throughout the world and written extensively on *Undzere Kinder* in countless publications in a number of languages, Dr. Finder is the leading expert on this topic. The film portrays the encounter between two Jewish actors and the children in a Jewish orphanage, who recount their experiences during the Holocaust. All of the children in the film were actual survivors of the Holocaust. Both poignant and powerful, the screening resonated deeply with the packed audience, which included a significant number of child Holocaust survivors as well as Queens College students of Holocaust, Genocide, and Polish history. Prof. Finder skillfully led the moving discussion that ensued.

In sum, 2011–12 was an exceptional year as Queens College touched audiences not only on campus but also beyond, achieving diplomatic breakthroughs while disseminating knowledge through historical interpretations, discoveries and presentations of the best in culture and the arts.

Music and Theater Performance Series

# A Dybbuk

## Or Between Two Worlds

The Drama, Theatre & Dance Department and the Center for Jewish Studies collaborate for the first time to present *A Dybbuk: Or Between Two Worlds*, a classic story adapted by Pulitzer Prize-winner Tony Kushner in an exclusive engagement of eight performances in the newly renovated Goldstein Theatre.

PREVIEW, OCTOBER 31 AT 7 PM | NOVEMBER 1 AT 7 PM | NOVEMBER 3 AT 8 PM | NOVEMBER 4 AT 2 PM\*  
NOVEMBER 8 AT 7 PM | NOVEMBER 10 AT 8 PM | NOVEMBER 11 AT 2 PM AND 7 PM



Is there such a thing as a marriage made in Heaven?

*A Dybbuk: Or Between Two Worlds*, originally written in Yiddish and Russian by S. Ansky and adapted by Tony Kushner of *Angels in America* fame, ponders this question in a love story in which worldly concerns collide with destiny.

The production, headed by director and Queens College Professor Susan Einhorn, will uncover what is modern in this traditional story. It will feature an original klezmer score, performed live by Yale Strom and his band Hot P'Stromi.

**Preview Admission for October 31: \$18/\$16 Senior and QC ID**

**General Admission: \$20/\$18 Senior and QC ID**

**Goldstein Theatre**

For tickets, please visit or call the Kupferberg Center Box Office or call 718-793-8080

There is free parking in Lot 15 on Reeves Ave. (behind LeFrak Concert Hall). For directions to Queens College and parking/elevator information, please turn to page 39.

\*Sunday matinee performance will be followed by expert commentary and special guest appearances

In addition to the sponsorship of the Department of Drama, Theatre, and Dance, this program has been made possible by the Ruth and Sidney Schindler Memorial Fund, endowed by the Schindler and Stolar Families, Lillian Taynor and Family, and Arthur and Carole Anderman.

# National Yiddish Theatre

## Folksbiene

LEFRAK CONCERT HALL



## Reflections of a Lost Poet: The Life and Works of Itzik Manger

Starring Avi Hoffman

**September 12 • Wednesday, 7 pm**  
**Free and open to the public**

This one-man show written by Miriam Hoffman follows the life and times of Itzik Manger. Through his songs and poems, we discover the joy and anguish of one of the greatest Yiddish poets who lived through the best and worst of times.

**Binyumen Schachter, Musical Director, Arranger and Pianist**

In Yiddish, with English and Russian supertitles.

*Folksbiene* at CUNY is a series of free concerts and readings sponsored by the City University of New York.

# Cinema on Sundays

FILM/DIALOGUE SERIES  
LEFRAK CONCERT HALL

\$5 per screening, \$8 subscription discount for both screenings

Please visit or call the Kupferberg Center Box Office for tickets, 718-793-8080, during its regular hours. Tickets are also on sale, if available, in the LeFrak Concert Hall foyer prior to each screening.

For events in LeFrak Concert Hall only, there is free parking in Lot 15 on Reeves Avenue (behind LeFrak) and easy elevator access to the Concert Hall. For travel directions to Queens College and parking/elevator information, please turn to page 39.

## Three Mothers (Shalosh Ima'ot)

Israel, 2006.  
Hebrew with English subtitles.  
Director: Dina Zvi-Riklis

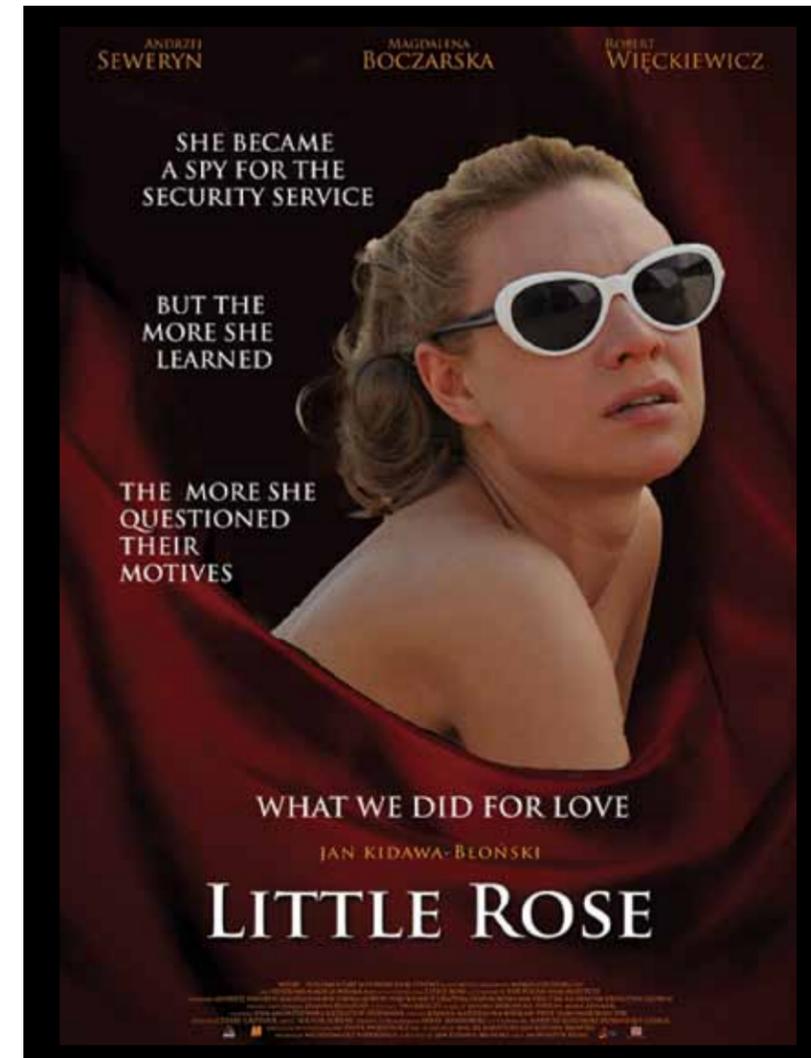
September 9  
Sunday, 2 pm  
LeFrak Concert Hall

Dina Zvi-Riklis's semi-autobiographical story is about three Jewish sisters, born into Egyptian aristocracy, whose life journeys are changed by the political events of the latter part of the twentieth century. Theirs is a story of love, respect and mutual admiration, changed radically but held steadfast as they are forced to leave their home and move to Israel, a country whose language and culture they must learn. Warm, challenging and empathetic, this film provides a touching portrait of family, while shedding great insight into the course of events that affected and molded Israel these last 60-plus years.



**Discussant: Dr. Eric Goldman**  
An adjunct Associate Professor of Cinema at Yeshiva University, Dr. Goldman received a PhD in Cinema Studies

from New York University, and was a fellow of the Max Weinreich Center for Eastern European Studies at Columbia University. He holds graduate degrees in Contemporary



Jewish Studies and Theater Arts from Brandeis University, and was adjunct fellow in cinema at the Center for Advanced Judaic Studies at the University of Pennsylvania. In 2004, while Dr. Goldman was teaching at Queens College, he conceived and co-chaired a national symposium on *The American Jewish Experience as Reflected in Film* at Queens. His recent publications include the newly revised edition of his book, *Visions, Images and Dreams: Yiddish Film Past and Present*. (Holmes and Meier, 2011) and *The American Jewish Story through Cinema* (University of Texas Press), which is to be published this winter. Currently Dr. Goldman is film reviewer for the *Jewish Standard* and president of Ergo Media Inc., a New Jersey-based video publishing company specializing in Jewish and Israeli video.

## Little Rose

Poland, 2010.  
Polish with English subtitles.  
Director: Jan Kidawa-Błoński

October 21  
Sunday, 2 pm  
LeFrak Concert Hall

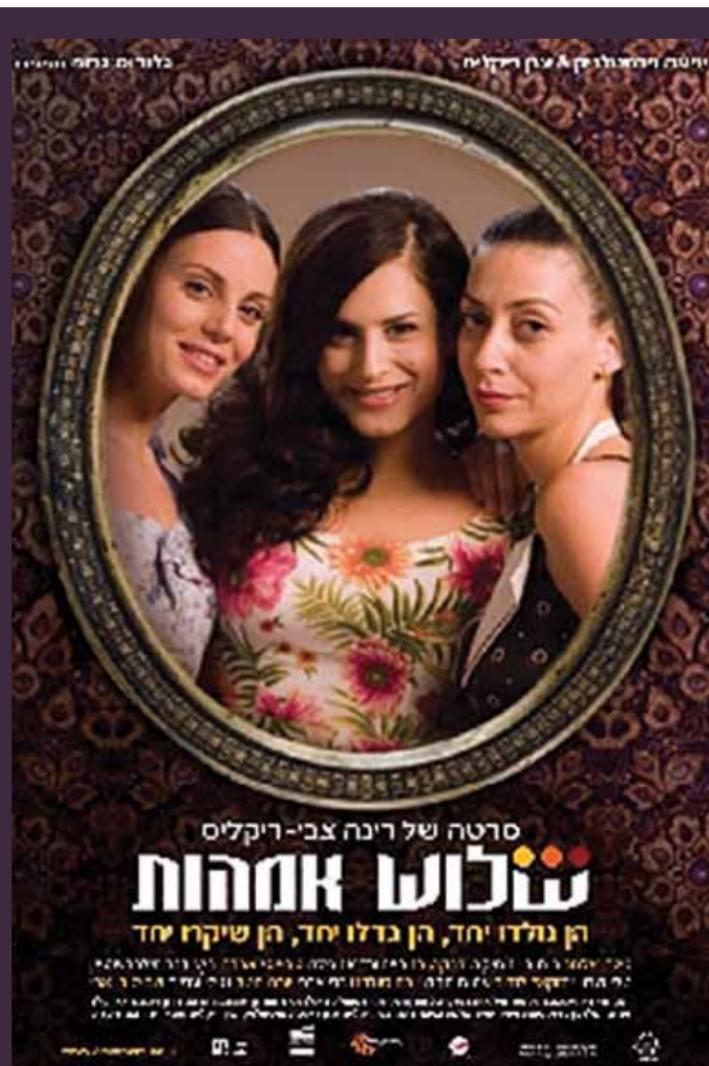
In 1968 the world witnessed the virtual end of Jewish life in Poland. A desperate Communist regime, embarrassed by Israel's lightning victory over its Arab allies in 1967, once again used well-established anti-Semitic propaganda to blame the country's ills on the few thousand Jews—for the most part loyal to the Party and the country—who still

lived there. Twenty-five thousand fled to Israel, Scandinavia and Western Europe. This tense, insightful drama, with English subtitles, features a magnificent performance by actress Magdalena Boczarska.



**Discussant: Prof. Emeritus Stuart Liebman**, an expert on the representation of history in films, retired from Queens College in

2010, where he taught for 37 years and served as the first chair of the Department of Media Studies. He has lectured and published widely on the representation of the Holocaust in world cinema, including in Poland, where he frequently participated in panel discussions. His awards include a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, the Advanced Holocaust Fellowship with the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, and the Lucius Littauer Foundation Award. His many publications include special issues of scholarly journals he edited, including *Alexander Kluge: Theoretical Writings, Stories and an Interview*, and *Berlin 1945: Liberators Take Liberties*, for which he won an award for Best Issue of a Scholarly Journal.



# Biblical Archaeology

SLIDE-LECTURE SERIES  
ROSENTHAL LIBRARY, ROOM 230

Admission for reserved seating \$5. For further information call 718-997-5730 or 4530.

For Rosenthal Library, Room 230, make a right turn onto Reeves Ave. Go to Gate 3 to enter campus; then follow map and directions on page 39.

## Recently Uncovered: The Ancient Galilean Synagogue and Village at Huqoq

Jodi Magness

October 18  
Thursday, 7:15 pm  
Rosenthal Library 230

Since 2002 Professor Jodi Magness has held a senior endowed chair in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill: the Kenan Distinguished Professor for Teaching Excellence in Early Judaism. She received her BA in Archaeology and History from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and her PhD in Classical Archaeology from the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Magness specializes in the archaeology of ancient Palestine, which includes modern Israel, Jordan and the Palestinian territories in the Roman, Byzantine

and early Islamic periods. Her research interests include Jerusalem, Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls, ancient synagogues, Masada, the Roman army in the East and ancient pottery.

She is the author of award-winning books, including *The Archaeology of Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls* (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2002), which won the 2003 Biblical Archaeology Society's Award for the Best Popular Book in Archaeology in 2001–02, and was selected as an Outstanding Academic Book for 2003 by *Choice Magazine*. Another book, *The Archaeology of the Early Islamic Settlement in Palestine* (Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 2003), was awarded the 2006 Irene Levi-Sala Book Prize in the category of nonfiction on the archaeology of Israel.

In this slide-illustrated lecture, Professor Magness presents the findings from her 2011–12 excavations in the ancient Galilean village at Huqoq, focusing especially on the remains of a Late Roman synagogue building that is coming to light for the first time. Discoveries to date reveal an unexpected monumental structure.

Huqoq is an ancient village located 1.5 miles to the northwest of the Sea of Galilee. Flourishing through the Late Roman and Byzantine periods, Huqoq is mentioned in I Chronicles 6:75 as part of the inheritance of the tribe of Asher. The ruins are spread over a six-acre area. The village also lies near Capernaum, the center of Jesus' Galilean ministry, and near the village Migdal, the hometown of Mary Magdalene.

Female face in the Huqoq mosaic. Photo by Jim Haberman

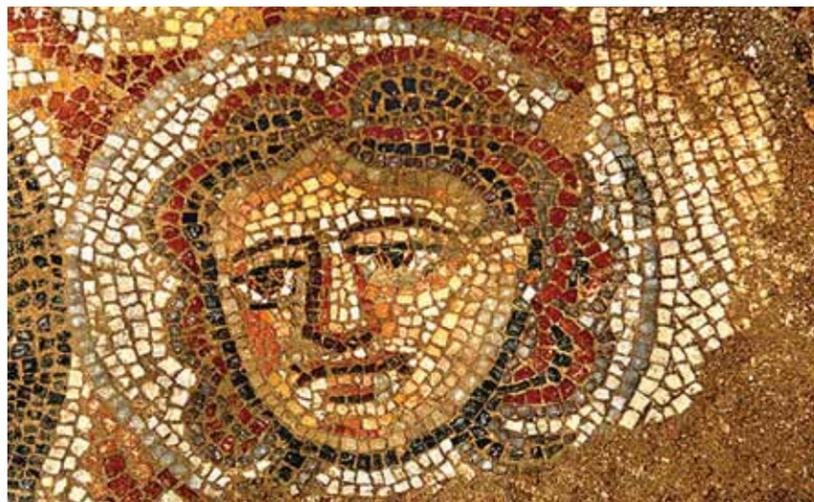


Photo: Jim Haberman



# Jewish Lecture Series

All lectures are free. There is free parking in Lot 15 on Reeves Avenue (behind LeFrak Concert Hall) and easy elevator access to the concert hall.

For Rosenthal Library, Room 230, make a right turn onto Reeves Ave. Go to Gate 3 to enter campus; then follow map and directions on page 39.

For travel directions to Queens College and parking/elevator information, please turn to page 39.

## Reoriented: American Jewish History and the Sephardic Presence in Early America

Hilit Surowitz-Israel

October 24  
Wednesday, 7:15 pm  
LeFrak Concert Hall  
Free and open to the public.



Hilit Surowitz-Israel, the dynamic Sephardi scholar of Religion and Jewish Studies at Rutgers University, returns to Queens by popular demand. She is a PhD candidate in the Department of Religion at the University of Florida, where she is currently completing her dissertation, "'Nacao': Reconstructing Jewish Identity in the Early Modern Atlantic World." She has received numerous awards, including a Fulbright Fellowship as well as fellowships from Brown University, Harvard University and the Center for



Jewish History. Her research interests include religion in the Americas, the Jewish communities of the Atlantic world and Diaspora theory. Prof. Surowitz is particularly interested in the transatlantic social and religious networks maintained by Portuguese Jews and New Christians during the 16th–18th centuries. She is working on "Religious Authority: An Americas Perspective," in *The Portuguese Jews of the Caribbean* (working title), ed. Jane S. Gerber (Littman Library of Jewish Civilization, June 2013), and "Portuguese Jews of the Caribbean and the Question of Early Modern Secularization" in *The Jewish Diaspora of the Caribbean* (forthcoming).

Prof. Surowitz-Israel will discuss the Sephardic influence on the New World.

Presented by the Annual Leon and Morris Levy Memorial Lecture, endowed by the Levy Family.

## Israel Looks Inward: The Emergence of a New Israeli Center

Yossi Klein Halevi

October 25  
Thursday, 7:15 pm  
Rosenthal Library, Room 230  
Free and open to the public.



Yossi Klein Halevi is a renowned Israeli journalist and author. He is a contributing editor to the *New Republic* and a fellow at the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem, where he is a member of the Institute's Engaging Israel project. Previously, Halevi was a Senior Fellow at the Shalem Center in Jerusalem. He is the author of *At the Entrance to the Garden of Eden: A Jew's Search for God with Christians and Muslims in the Holy Land* as well as *Memoirs of a Jewish Extremist*. Halevi has been a columnist for the *Jerusalem Post*, a regular contributor to the *Los Angeles Times*, and a frequent guest on CNN and other national and international broadcast media. The 1985 film *Kaddish*, which focuses on Halevi's relationship with his father, a Holocaust survivor, was called one of the best ten films of the year by the *Village Voice*. Halevi suggests that Israel may no longer be divided between left and right. Instead, a new centrist majority

has emerged that has potential historic implications for Israel's pressing domestic issues.

This program has been made possible by the Ernest and Marta Schwarcz Endowment fund.



Courtesy of the Bel Canto Society.

## Femininity, Jewishness and the City: Jewish Women Writers in Early 20th-Century Berlin

**Dr. Godela Weiss-Sussex**

In co-sponsorship with the Department of European Languages and Literatures

**October 30  
Tuesday, 12–2 pm  
Rosenthal Library, President's Conference Room 2**

**Free and open to the public.  
Due to space limitations,  
please reserve in advance:  
Tel: 718-997-5730 or 4530**



**Dr. Godela Weiss-Sussex** is Senior Lecturer in German at the Institute of Germanic & Romance Studies

(University of London) and a Fellow in German at King's College, Cambridge. Her current research project builds on a conference volume she co-edited with Andrea Hammel in 2009, *“Not an Essence but a Positioning”*: German-Jewish Women Writers (1900–1938). The project aims to analyze the discursive and aesthetic

strategies through which German-Jewish women writers in the first third of the 20th century participated in key public debates, including those on the role of women in society, the “Jewish question” and eugenics.

In her lecture, Dr. Weiss-Sussex will concentrate on two case studies, showing how the seemingly contradictory campaigns for radical feminism, eugenics, and Jewish assimilation are combined in the novel *Die Intellektuellen*, 1911 (*The Intellectuals*) by Grete Meisel-Hess, and how Else Croner, novelist and author of *Die moderne Juedin*, 1913 (*The Modern Jewish Woman*), uses the discourse of Jewishness to advance her conservative program for the education of girls.

Both perspectives will highlight German-Jewish women's struggle for inclusion in the dynamic Wilhelmine and Weimar periods (1870–1933), and their determination to be heard.

## Screening of *Der Dybbuk* **Elissa Bemporad**

**November 14  
Wednesday, 7:15 pm  
LeFrak Concert Hall  
Free and open to the public.**



**Dr. Elissa Bemporad** is an Assistant Professor of History and the Jerry and William Ungar Professor of East

European Jewish History at Queens College. She teaches a variety of courses on Eastern Europe, women in Jewish history and the Holocaust, and lectures widely both in the U.S. and abroad in numerous languages.

Professor Bemporad received her BA and MA in Slavic Studies from Bologna University, an additional MA in Modern Jewish Studies from the Graduate School of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America and earned her PhD from the Department of History at Stanford University. She has taught at Stanford, Hunter College and the New School. She is the author of *Becoming Soviet Jews: The Bolshevik Experiment in Minsk*

Be sure to visit our new Center for Ethnic, Racial & Religious Understanding  
[www.qccenterforunderstanding.org](http://www.qccenterforunderstanding.org)

(forthcoming from Indiana University Press, 2013).

Following Queens College's exclusive eight-performance engagement of *A Dybbuk* (adapted by Tony Kushner), Professor Bemporad will explore the original *Dybbuk*, filmed in Kaszimirz, Poland in 1937, directed by Michal Waszynski and starring Lili Lilianna and Leon Liebgold. Along with the screening of copious clips from the original (in Yiddish with English subtitles), which includes scenes of the renowned cantor Gershon Sirota of Vilna, Odessa and Warsaw, Dr. Bemporad will offer her expert commentary on the social and cultural history of the Jews in Poland during the period depicted in the film as well as on the eve of the Holocaust, when the film debuted. She will also delve into the origins of the film itself, including the folktales gathered by S. Ansky, which formed the basis of his play, and the ensuing 1937 production.

This program is made possible through the Ungar Professorship Endowment.

## An Annual Commemoration of Kristallnacht and Recommitment to Combating Anti-Semitism and Hatred

**Keynote Address:  
Marion Kaplan, Skirball Professor of Modern Jewish History, New York University “Kristallnacht: Jewish Women and Families React”**



**Presented by the Resnick Family and Sinai Chapels, Fresh Meadows, Queens, NY**

**November 18  
Sunday, 2–4 pm  
LeFrak Concert Hall**



**Dr. Marion Kaplan** is the Skirball Professor of Modern Jewish History at NYU. She is a three-time

National Jewish Book Award winner for *The Making of the Jewish Middle Class: Women, Family and Identity in Imperial Germany* (1991), *Between Dignity and Despair: Jewish Life in Nazi Germany* (1998), and *Gender and Jewish History* (with Deborah Dash Moore, 2011) as well as a finalist for *Dominican Haven: The Jewish Refugee Settlement in Sosua* (2008). Her book on the Nazi era also won the Fraenkel Prize in Contemporary History from the Wiener Library and her *Middle Class* book also won the American Historical Association Conference Group in Central European History Book Prize. She has also edited books on German Jewish history, European women's history and German women's history, and has taught German and European history as well as European Jewish history, Jewish women's history and German-Jewish history.

The program will include a candle-lighting ceremony with six Holocaust Survivors, escorted by student facilitators from the Center for Ethnic, Racial and Religious Understanding, each of whom makes a commitment to combat anti-Semitism and hatred after introducing a survivor. In addition, there is a multicultural invocation, remarks by public officials and audiovisual and musical interludes.

**Organized by the Center for Jewish Studies and the Center for Ethnic, Racial & Religious understanding at Queens College, the Queens Jewish Community Council, Kupferberg Holocaust Research Center and Archives at Queensborough Community College, and others.**

# Faculty Speakers Bureau



The Queens College Center for Jewish Studies Speakers Bureau has been established as a public service to the community to foster learning and education about

Jews and their culture. Supplementing the center's numerous, varied, and rich cultural programs on the campus, the Speakers Bureau seeks to serve organizations and agencies that wish to sponsor stimulating, appealing programs for their members in the community. Its faculty resources are also available to educational institutions, such as high schools and colleges.

The Speakers Bureau is composed of outstanding faculty members from Queens College who are associated with the Jewish Studies Program on campus. Many are award-winning scholars, teachers, and internationally recognized figures whose opinions on historical and contemporary issues are much sought after by academicians and laypeople alike. They are specialists in Jewish history, sociology, philosophy, political science, music, media, and language and literature. Specific subject areas in which they will speak include:

[American Judaism](#)

[Anti-Semitism](#)

[Biblical Studies](#)

[Hasidism](#)

[Hebrew Language, Literature, and Culture](#)

[Holocaust: History, Film, Literature, and Theology](#)

[Zionism](#)

[Contemporary Israel](#)

[American-Israeli Relations](#)

[Israel-Arab Conflict and Peacemaking](#)

[Jews and Film](#)

[Jewish-Christian Relations](#)

[Jewish History: Ancient, Medieval, and Modern](#)

[East European Jewry](#)

[German Jewry](#)

[Sephardi Jewish History and Culture](#)

[American Jewry](#)

[New York City](#)

[Jewish Humor](#)

[Jewish Labor Movement](#)

[American Jewish Literature](#)

[Jewish Music/Jews and Music](#)

[Jewish Thought, Philosophy, and Messianism](#)

[Women in Judaism and Jewish Life](#)

[Yiddish Language, Literature, and Culture](#)

## Participating Faculty

In addition to its own faculty, the Queens College Center for Jewish Studies annually hosts visiting faculty from the United States and abroad who may also be available to participate in the Speakers Bureau. Please keep in mind that faculty also go on leave from time to time and may be unavailable.

For updates on available speakers, please call the Jewish Studies Office, 718-997-4530, or consult the center's website, [www.qc.cuny.edu/centerfor-jewishstudies](http://www.qc.cuny.edu/centerfor-jewishstudies). Speakers must be booked at least six weeks in advance.

A comprehensive booklet on the Speakers Bureau listing all the faculty and their specific topics is available from the Jewish Studies Office.

# Achievements & Distinctions

## FACULTY NOTES

The faculty associated with Jewish Studies at Queens College are exceptional scholars and award-winning teachers. Some of their highlights are listed below.

We extend a special welcome to six scholars who have recently joined the faculty and are working with the Jewish Studies Program:

### Elissa Bemporad History



is an Assistant Professor of History and the Jerry and William Ungar Professor of East European Jewish

History at QC. She teaches a variety of courses on Eastern Europe, women in Jewish history, and the Holocaust. Her research focuses on the social and cultural history of Russian Jewry in the 19th and 20th centuries. During spring 2011 Professor Bemporad was invited to speak at the symposium at the Van Leer Institute in Jerusalem marking the twentieth anniversary of Ephraim Urbach's death, where she gave a paper entitled "Minsk, ir va-em be-rusiah ha-sovietit" (Minsk, City and Mother in Soviet Russia). During fall 2011 she presented a paper at the Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies on kosher meat production in interwar Soviet Ukraine, and spoke at the Association for Jewish Studies on the blood libel in the Soviet Union. During summer 2012, with the support of a grant from the Research Foundation of Queens College, she conducted some

preliminary research in the Vatican Archives in Rome related to her new book project on Jewish reactions to anti-Semitism in interwar Poland and Russia. Her article, "Empowerment, Defiance and Demise: Jews and the Blood Libel Specter under Stalinism," is forthcoming in *Jewish History* in an issue devoted to the ritual murder accusation in modern Central and Eastern Europe. Professor Bemporad is the author of *Becoming Soviet Jews: The Bolshevik Experiment in Minsk*, which will be published by Indiana University Press in early 2013. She is also co-editor, with Margherita Pascucci, of a book series in Yiddish literature and culture. As part of the series, Professor Bemporad is translating from Yiddish into Italian the work of Y. L. Peretz, which will be published by Edizioni di Storia e Letteratura, Firenze.

### Francesca Bregoli History



is an Assistant Professor of History and the Joseph and Oro Halebua Professor of Greek and Sephardic Studies.

Her book manuscript on Jewish integration in the 18th-century port-city of Livorno, dealing with the themes of acculturation, privilege, and social segregation, is currently under review. Since her appointment in 2009, Professor Bregoli has presented widely and published extensively. In 2011 she organized a roundtable on

current trends in the study of Italian Jewish history that took place at the Columbia Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies. Additionally, she presented on the Hebrew printing press of Livorno at the Scholars Working Group on the Jewish Book (Center for Jewish History) and gave papers at the Fourth International Conference on the Haskalah in Frankfurt (Germany) and at the Early Modern Workshop on Jewish Ego-Documents. In fall 2011 she participated in a roundtable on *Religious Exile and Migration in the Renaissance and Early Modern World* at the CUNY Graduate Center, and gave the Leon and Morris Levy Memorial Lecture at Queens College. This past year Professor Bregoli published "The Port of Livorno and its Nazione Ebraica in the Eighteenth Century: Economic Utility and Political Reforms" in *Quest: Issues in Contemporary Jewish History*, and "Hebrew Printing in Eighteenth-Century Livorno: From Government Control to a Free Market" in *The Hebrew Book in Early Modern Italy*, edited by Joseph Hacker and Adam Shear.

### Abigail Doukhan Philosophy



is an Assistant Professor of Philosophy and holds the Pearl and Nathan Halebua Family Professorship in

Ethics and Tolerance, supported by the Pearl and Nathan Halebua Family

Foundation. She came to Queens College in fall 2010 to teach courses in ethics, contemporary continental philosophy, and Jewish philosophy. Prior to her current appointment, Dr. Doukhan had been Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Elon University in North Carolina, having taught courses in contemporary French philosophy and contemporary ethics. This past year Professor Doukhan presented a number of papers: “Emmanuel Levinas: The Wisdom of Exile” at the Center for Jewish Studies Faculty Colloquium at Queen College, April 2011; “Emmanuel Levinas: A Politics of Exile,” for the North American Levinas Society Annual Conference at Texas A & M University, May 2011; and “Beyond Haverut: Towards an Inter-faith Hermeneutics,” at the Emmanuel Levinas, Biblical Exegesis and Literature Conference at Boston College, March 2012. She also has a forthcoming book: *Emmanuel Levinas: A Philosophy of Exile*, Continuum, 2012.

### Arnold Franklin History



is an Assistant Professor of History who holds a BA from Harvard and a PhD from Princeton University’s

Department of Near Eastern Studies. A specialist in the field of Medieval Jewish History, Dr. Franklin’s current research project, a book tentatively entitled *This Noble House: Jewish Descendants of King David in the Islamic East*, explores the profound concern with lineage that developed among Jews living in Muslim lands during the Middle Ages. This past year Dr. Franklin presented “Recent Trends in the Study of Jewish

Society in the Near East” at the *New Directions in Medieval Scholarship Roundtable* at the CUNY Graduate Center. He also organized a panel at the Conference of the Association of Jewish Studies in Boston, entitled “New Trends in Geniza Research.” As a part of the panel, he presented “Family Matters: Reconsidering the Importance of Lineage in the Geniza Society.”

### Sari Kisilevsky Philosophy

is Assistant Professor of Philosophy. Prior to that appointment she held the Pearl and Nathan Halegua Chair in Ethics and Tolerance. In addition to her affiliation with Jewish Studies, Professor Kisilevsky is an affiliated scholar with the CUNY School of Law. Her areas of teaching include philosophy of law, political philosophy, and ethics. She is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Faculty Publication Program Fellowship Award for the spring 2011 semester, and in 2010 she received the Teacher Scholar Award for Innovation in Teaching from Queens College. Presentations this past year included “Easy Cases and Social Sources: Towards a New Defense of Legal Positivism” and “The Nature of Law: Contemporary Perspectives,” both delivered at McMaster University in Hamilton, ON. She also presented “Security, Liberty, and Procedural Justice: Rethinking the Balance,” delivered at Nassau College, New York, and at the Social and Political Theory Workshop at the CUNY Graduate Center. Her forthcoming publication, “Equity, Necessity and the Rule of Law,” will appear in the *Proceedings of the 10th International Kant Congress* (Berlin: Walter de Gruyter).

### Miryam Segal Classical, Middle Eastern & Asian Languages & Cultures



is an Assistant Professor of Classical, Middle Eastern, and Asian Languages and Cultures. She came to Queens College

in 2009 to teach Modern Hebrew language and literature as well as courses in Bible and Rabbinics. She earned her doctorate in Comparative Literature at the University of California, Berkeley, and is a graduate of Harvard. Previously she was an Assistant Professor at Indiana University and a Visiting Assistant Professor at Harvard Divinity School. Prolific in all of her scholarly endeavors since her appointment, Prof. Segal won the Feliks Gross Endowment Award from the City University of New York Academy this spring (2012), which is given annually to two assistant professors working in any field in the humanities, social sciences, or natural sciences who, through their research, show promise of making a worthwhile contribution to their field, the university, and academia. In 2011 she won the Prize for Innovative Scholarship in Gender and Women’s Studies from the Association for Jewish Studies Women’s Caucus for a paper on women’s poetry in Hebrew. This paper is part of a larger work-in-progress on Rachel Bluvshtain’s poetry. Professor Segal was invited to speak at the faculty seminar of the Department of Hebrew Literature at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in November 2011 on the topic of her book, *A New Sound in Hebrew Poetry: Poetics, Politics, Accent*. She was also invited to give a lecture on her book at Columbia University in February 2012. In April Professor

Segal participated in the colloquium on *Ethnicity, Secularization, Religion and Nationalism in Hebrew Culture* at the John Hope Franklin Humanities Institute at Duke University.

\* \* \*

### Rikki Asher Secondary Education

Dr. Asher is the recipient of the New York City Higher Education Art Educator of the Year Award from the New York City Art Teachers Association, which was presented to her in a ceremony at MoMA. Dr. Asher lectured in Baltimore at the National Art Education Association conference, *When Women Pursue Justice*, giving a talk about a mural project in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn in honor of Shirley Chisholm and other women activists. Together with Professor Mark Rosenblum and Dr. Amy Winter, she also co-curated *Windows and Mirrors: Reflections on the War in Afghanistan*, which was exhibited at the Godwin-Ternbach Museum at Queens College, Dec. 2010–Jan. 2011.

### Thomas E. Bird European Languages and Literatures



This past year Professor Bird, also a faculty member in the National Endowment for the Humanities Institute on “America Engages Russia: 1880–1930,” published a translation in *Jewish Currents* (Winter 2010) of Beyle Schaechter-Gottesman’s poem “Dovid Bergelson,” citing four of the martyred Soviet Yiddish writer’s best-known literary works. Ever active lecturing, Professor Bird presented a

paper in June 2011 on “The Russian Emigre Impact on America” at the third National Endowment for the Humanities Institute devoted to Russian affairs at Columbia University. Thereafter he lectured on “The Scholarly Contributions of the Belarusian Institute” in a seminar at the European Humanities University in Vilnius, and was elected Vice President of the North American Association for Belarusian Studies. He spoke on “International Anti-Semitism” and “Anti-Semitism and the Churches” before the Jamaica Study Group. At a hereditary society in Rhinebeck, NY, he spoke about “Loyalists and Patriots.” His other academic activities included serving as an advisor to the course on the Central Asian Bukharian Community, chairing the Phi Beta Kappa Christian Gauss Award for literary scholarship for the third year, and reviewing manuscripts for *Canadian Slavonic Papers*.

### Sami S. Chetrit Classical, Middle Eastern & Asian Languages and Culture



A Moroccan-born Jew raised in Israel, Prof. Chetrit is the advisor and coordinator of the Hebrew Studies Program. He writes and publishes poetry, prose, and research, and produces documentary films. Dr. Chetrit’s book, *Intra-Jewish Conflict in Israel: White Jews, Black Jews*, was published by Routledge, New York and London (2009). Other recent books by him are *Yehudim (Jews)*, a poetry book released by Nahar Books, Israel (2008), and *Ein Habuba (Doll’s Eye)*, a novel, Hargol-Am Oved Publishers, Israel (2007). A forthcoming book project is about the Mizrahi voice in Israeli poetry. Dr.

Chetrit recently finished his second documentary film, *Azi Ayima (Come, Mother, Israel)*, 2009), about his mother’s classmates in Morocco 60 years ago. The film was selected for the DocAviv and Darom film festivals in Israel in 2009. His first film, which he wrote and co-directed, *The Black Panthers (in Israel) Speak* (Israel, 2003), is about the Israeli Mizrahi social uprising during the 1970s. It was selected to be shown at many festivals around the world. His next film project will explore the concept of Jewish statehood throughout Jewish history.

### Harriet Davis Kram History

Professor Davis Kram is working on a revision of *No More a Stranger and Alone*, a study of immigrant Jewish women during the Progressive Era. She published an article on the Clara de Hirsch Home (1897–1927), and is completing a study on “The Inmates of the Clara de Hirsch Home.” She lectures widely on behalf of the Center for Jewish Studies at communal organizations, and also lectures for the New York Council for the Humanities, which has listed her as one of its “star lecturers.” Two of her extremely popular lectures include “Jewish Communal Organizations” and “Rebels in Red Kerchiefs” about Jewish women activists in the U.S. and Eastern Europe from the late 19th century through the end of World War I.

## Liba H. Engel

### Elementary and Early Childhood Education



Professor Engel had a recent conference presentation published: “Democratic Education in Practice: A Case Study of the Democratic School, Hadera, Israel.” Other publications include “A Case Study: Implementation of Janusz Korczak’s Pedagogy in the Democratic School, Hadera, a Contemporary Israeli School”; “Dor le dor: Studies in the History of Jewish Education in Israel and the Diaspora”; “Experiment in Democratic Education: Dewey’s Lab School and Korczak’s Children’s Republic,” in *Jewish Social Studies*.

## Nora Glickman

### Hispanic Languages and Literatures and CUNY Graduate Center



Professor Glickman is Associate Editor of *Modern Jewish Studies*, with a special issue devoted to Hispanic Jewish Literature (2007), co-editor of the *Latin American Jewish Studies Association Bulletin* and member of its Executive Board; and President of the American Association of Professors of Yiddish. She has organized a LAJSA Colloquium at the Graduate Center on *The Current State of Latin American Ashkenazi and Sephardic Studies* (2007). Her publications include a selection of monologues in *Claves para el teatro de Nora Glickman* (2007) and film reviews. Her book reviews include “El tiempo y las palabras: Literatura y cultura Judeo-hispanoamericana contemporaneas,” Steve Sadow, ed., in *LAJSA Bulletin*

Vol. 27, 2, 2008; “Paula Varsavsky, El resto de su vida,” in *Hispanamerica*, 2007; “Moshe Liba, Dos Pintele Yid,” in *LAJSA Bulletin*, Vol. 28, 1, Spring 2008; and “Angelina Muniz-Huberman, La burladora de Toledo,” in *World Literature Today*. Her monologues were performed at the Center for Jewish History, NY (2007); her latest play *Preludes* and monologue *Lot’s Wife* were performed at the Hasimta Theatre in Jerusalem in 2008. Dr. Glickman received a PSC/CUNY Award in 2007–08. She has lectured on Latin American Jewish cinema and theatre, and has read from her short stories at various public institutions and Jewish centers.

## Samuel Heilman

### Sociology



Professor Heilman—who has been awarded the highest university rank of Distinguished Professor by CUNY and won the Marshall Sklare Memorial Award for his lifetime of scholarship from the Association for the Social Scientific Study of Jewry—is the Harold Proshansky Chair in Jewish Studies at the Graduate Center. He also serves as the Editor-in-Chief of *Contemporary Jewry*, the premiere scholarly journal on the social scientific study of Jewry. Recently he published *The Rebbe: The Life and Afterlife of Menachem Mendel Schneerson*, co-authored with Menachem Friedman (Princeton, 2010), which won the National Jewish Book Award. In addition, Professor Heilman gave the keynote address at the Bar-Ilan University Conference on Cultural Vitality and Jewish Education.

## Leo Hershkowitz

### History



Professor Hershkowitz has centered much of his work on the study of the early pre-19th-century Jewish community of New York City and has lectured widely on this subject to various groups, including the Jewish Historical Society of England and the American Jewish Historical Society. He has also published extensively in the publications of the American Jewish Archives, American Jewish Historical Society, the Holland Society’s *de Halve Maen*, and is working on a study of Jews in 1790 in New York City. He mostly uses primary archival sources, thereby presenting new and challenging interpretations of the history of this period. In recognition of his efforts, he was awarded the prestigious Lee Max Friedman Award by the American Jewish Historical Society in 2008 and an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters in 2006 from the Hebrew Institute of Religion as a “beloved professor of History, Conscientious Teacher . . . whose scholarly research and writing have given the academic world an appreciation for and a deeper understanding of the presence and contributions of Jews in the days of New Amsterdam until the present day.”

## Steven Kruger

### English

Professor Kruger published *The Spectral Jew: Conversion and Embodiment in Medieval Europe* (University of Minnesota Press, 2006)

## Chava Lapin

### Classical, Middle Eastern, & Asian Languages and Cultures

Professor Lapin continues to teach and lecture to academic and public interest audiences about the cultural and literary traditions of Eastern European Jewry and the flowering of that legacy in more recent times. In spring 2008 she presented “The Power of the Proverb” to the International Resources Center at the Queensborough Public Library, and in 2009 a lecture entitled “Loshn un Shteyger” (Language and Lifestyle) to a broad array of participants in a four-day EPYC conference at the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research. Her recent publications include “The Unknown Folk Poet—A Lamentation on the Holocaust,” an analysis of the hitherto unknown and unpublished poetry of Felix Horn, a survivor who describes for the first time, in verse, the destruction of Mogielnica and his personal saga in Vol. CXII of *Die Zukunft*, a 112-year-old literary Yiddish journal (the oldest extant to this day). She also conducted a week of advanced classes in Yiddish language and literature (in Yiddish) and focused on the 150th birthday of Sholem Aleichem for the Jewish Cultural Experience at Circle Lodge, Sylvan Lake, NY.

## Kristina Richardson

### History



Professor Richardson received a Summer 2009 NEH grant to conduct research at the Wellcome Library for the History of Medicine in London, England. This project focused on Jewish and Muslim scholars’ use of neuroenhancers to boost their memory in 15th-century mamluk Cairo.

## David Richter

### English



Professor Richter published “Keeping Company in Hollywood: Toward an Ethics of the Non-fiction Film,” focusing largely on Stephen Spielberg’s *Munich*. It appeared in the journal *Narrative*, 15:2 (May 2007). He was invited to contribute “Robert Alter and the Resistance to Theory” to the Academic Roundtable on Alter’s biblical translations and interpretations, published in *Expositions 2:2* (2008). His essay “Genre, Repetition, Temporal Ordering: Some Aspects of Biblical Narratology” was translated into Mandarin and republished in the Chinese edition of *The Blackwell Companion to Narrative Theory* (Beijing: Peking University Press, 2009). In addition, he reviewed Northrop Frye’s *The Educated Imagination and Other Writings on Critical Theory 1933–1963* for the *University of Toronto Quarterly* 77.1 (Winter 2008). He spoke on “Rereading/Rewriting the Story of Korah” at Congregation Habonim in Manhattan (2009), and was invited to the plenary lecture, “Difficulty and Recalcitrance in Biblical Narrative: Judges 19–21 and Job 42,” at the International Narrative Conference in Chongqing, China (2009).

## Alan Rosenberg

### Philosophy

Professor Rosenberg has focused his scholarly work on philosophical issues relating to the Holocaust, philosophical issues that arise in connection to psychoanalysis as well as key themes in continental philosophy, value theory, and philosophy of the social sciences.

He is the co-author of over 80 journal articles and book chapters. He is also co-editor of numerous books, including *Echoes from the Holocaust: Philosophical Reflections on a Dark Time* (Temple University Press, 1988); *Healing Their Wounds: Psychotherapy and Holocaust Survivors* (Praeger, 1989); *Psychoanalytic Versions of the Human Condition* (New York University Press, 1998); *Contemporary Portrayals of Auschwitz: Philosophical Challenges* (Prometheus Books, 2000); *Foucault and Heidegger: Critical Encounters* (University of Minnesota Press, 2003); *Experiments in Thinking the Holocaust: Auschwitz, Modernity and Philosophy* (Polish edition: Wydawnictwo Naukowe “Scholar,” 2004); and *Reading Nietzsche at the Margins* (Purdue University Press, 2008). For the past few years he has served as co-editor of the electronic journal *Foucault Studies*, and as of March 2007 has been managing editor. In 2008 he served as Visiting Professor of Philosophy at the Copenhagen Business School in Denmark. Peking University has bought the rights to translate into Chinese *Foucault and Heidegger: Critical Encounters* (2010).

## Mark Rosenblum

### History



Professor Rosenblum’s project “America and the Middle East: A Clash of Civilizations or a Meeting of Minds” continues to garner considerable national acclaim and media attention for its requirement that Jewish and Muslim students immerse themselves in the opposing group’s history relative to the Middle East conflict and construct a

compelling “narrative” that supports the opposing viewpoint. The program has been featured in the *New York Times* and the *Chronicle of Higher Education* as well as on CBS-TV national news, National Public Radio, and a host of other electronic and print media. It received a \$100,000 grant from the Ford Foundation. He was selected by the Clinton Global Initiative as one of two winners of an award for work in the field of Religion, Conflict and Reconciliation: “Insight on Incitement: A Public Education Program on Israeli-Palestinian Understanding.” In fall 2009 Professor Rosenblum was appointed director of a new initiative devoted to fostering racial and ethnic understanding. This initiative has been awarded a \$285,000 grant by the Department of Education and helps facilitate conflict resolution training of Queens College students, and engage members of the broader Queens community. Professor Rosenblum co-edited *The Jewish Condition, Challenges and Response—1938–2008*, a collection of essays that assesses the state of world Jewry from competing perspectives (Transaction Publishers, New Brunswick and London, 2008). He also authored “After Rabin: The Malaise of the Israeli Zionist Left,” Robert O. Freedman, ed., in *Contemporary Israel: Domestic Politics, Foreign Policy and Security Challenges* (Westview Press, Boulder, 2008). Professor Rosenblum’s most recent writing includes “The Quest for Impact: Lessons Learned from the American Jewish Peace Camp,” in Robert O. Freedman, *Israel and the United States: Six Decades of US-Israeli Relations*, Westview Press, 2012. He is the winner of the Queens College President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching and was

selected by the *Forward* newspaper as one of the 50 most influential American Jews.

### Arthur Shippee Religious Studies



Professor Shippee and Philip Culbertson edited *The Pastor: Readings from the Patristic Period*, which has been republished by Fortress Press. He continues to chair the committee selecting each year’s winners of the President’s Award for Excellence in Teaching by Adjunct Faculty.

### Sheila Spector English

Professor Spector recently published *Byron and the Jews: A Study in Translation* (Wayne State University Press, 2010). Her essays include “Byron and the Bund: The New York Connection between the British Poet and Russian-Jewish Revolutionaries.” She was invited for inclusion in *Byron’s Transatlantic Influence and Reputation*, eds. Mathew Scott and Joel Pace. Forthcoming publications include “I give you the end of a golden string”: *A Kabbalistic Guide to Blake’s “Jerusalem”* (manuscript completed). Professor Spector’s publications include *Orientalism: Contextual Approaches and Pedagogical Practices*, Diane Long Hoeveler and Jeffrey Cass, eds., Columbus: Ohio State University Press, 2006. “A Kabbalistic Reading of *Jerusalem’s* Prose Plates.” Invited for inclusion in *Women Read William Blake*: “Opposition Is True Friendship,” ed. Helen P. Bruder. Lectures and readings: organizer and chair of “Objections to Objects,” a special session for the International Conference on Romanticism 2007,

*Romantic Objects*, held in Baltimore; “Byron and the Jews,” presented at a Queens College Center for Jewish Studies Faculty Colloquium, 2007; “Byron and the Russian Revolution,” presented at the International Conference on Romanticism 2006, *Engaged Romanticism*, held at Arizona State University. Organizer and chair of “Romanticism and Translation,” a special session for the North American Society for the Study of Romanticism 2006 Conference, *Scientia and Techne*, held at Purdue University.

### Joseph Sungolowsky European Languages and Literatures

Professor Sungolowsky published a chapter entitled “Andre Neher (1918–1988) et Erets Israel” in *La Pensee Juive contemporaine* (Editions parole et Silence, 2008): “Hidden Children in France (1940–1944): A Memoir” in *The Hidden Child* (XVI, 2008). He is the author of “Rabbi Joseph Sinzheim, President of Napoleon’s Sanhedrin and First Chief Rabbi of France,” which appeared in *Midstream* (Winter 2009) and of “Holocaust and Autobiography” published in *Bloom’s Guides: “Wiesel’s Night”* (Chelsea House, 2009). He reviewed “Les Trains du souvenir,” a World War II memoir by Victor Brombert, in *Tsafon: A Journal of Jewish Studies* published by the Universite Charles de Gaulle, Lille, France, Hiver (Winter 2009).

### Izabella Taler Benjamin S. Rosenthal Library

Professor Izabella Taler manages a Lucius N. Littauer Grant for the library enabling the purchase of new Holocaust publications each year. She has been able to purchase 251 volumes (231 titles) over the last

nine years. This past year she was able to acquire 42 titles. Among her recent achievements are “The Jewish Studies Book Awards: A Collection Development Strategy for Non-Sectarian Academic Libraries,” in *Collection Building*, Vol. 30, 1, 2011. She also delivered a paper, “Uncovering Jewish Resources in the Benjamin Rosenthal Library,” at the Queens College Faculty Colloquium, October 2011.

### Evan Zimroth English



Professor Zimroth received the Medal of Honour from the Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Lithuanian Millennium Star in September 2009 for “the fostering of friendly relations between the Lithuanian and Jewish nations.” The Millennium

Medal was presented to her by the Foreign Minister of Lithuania in a ceremony at the Lithuanian Consulate in New York. That year she also gave the ASH Lecture at Clare Hall, Cambridge on “Isaiah Berlin: Baltic Jew,” and in June 2010 was on the organizing committee for the First Annual Isaiah Berlin Lecture in Riga, Latvia, given by Anne Applebaum on “The New Authoritarianisms.” Also in June 2010, Professor Zimroth lectured and led a discussion at the Vilnius Yiddish Institute in Lithuania on “Two Kinds of (American) Holocaust Poetry.” This past year Professor Zimroth was on sabbatical, based at Clare Hall, Cambridge, where she was a Visiting Fellow and is a Life Member since 2003, doing research in the Modern Archives at King’s College. In May 2011 she delivered the keynote address “The Limits (if Any) of Holocaust Discourse” at a conference on

*The Problems of Literary Genres*, University of Lodz, Poland. The essay was published in April 2012 in the journal *Kinds and Styles of Criticism*. In June 2011 she spoke at Cambridge on the use of the computer for literary composition in a symposium on English language usage, and in fall 2011 she met as a consultant with the Lithuanian government on Jewish heritage issues. In spring 2012 she was named advisor for the Jewish Studies program at the European Humanities University, Vilnius, and joined the Board of Advisors for the “Sunflower Project” (tentative title), devoted to Jewish-Lithuanian reconciliation. In June 2012 she spoke in Riga, Latvia, on “Lithuania’s Jewish Heritage: History, Memory and Public Policy” as part of the annual commemorative events for the Isaiah Berlin Centenary, for which she had been co-organizer in 2009.

# Jewish Studies

TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL GRADUATION  
AND AWARDS CEREMONY  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 2012



Prof. Mark Rosenblum and Batya Septimus



Danielle Chaim, Leonore Sinnreich and Dr. Diane Spielmann

## The 2012 Graduates

### FEBRUARY

Rachel Deutsch  
Natasha Kaufman  
Bari Robyn Nadworny

### MAY

Devorah Bernstein  
Rachel I. Gelfand  
Allison S. Horowitz  
Philip L. Kaplan  
Etan Y. Kuperberg  
Tamar Markowitz  
Jeremy J. Reichmann  
Ricki A. Rubin  
Batya Septimus  
Melissa J. Sovronsky  
Jacqueline A. Wolpoe

## Award Recipients

### CENTER FOR JEWISH STUDIES AWARD

Natalie Davidson  
Camelia Serghie

### WILLIAM FENSTER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Rebecca Newhouse

### MORRIS FLATOW MEMORIAL AWARD

Batya Septimus

### STEFA BERGER COMMUNAL SERVICE AWARD

Lara Porter  
Charlie Wohlberg

### JAN SINNREICH AWARD FOR WRITING EXCELLENCE

Danielle Chaim

### THE M. HRATCH ZADOIAN STUDENT ESSAY PRIZE IN HOLOCAUST STUDIES

Heather M. Nitschke

### PRIZE FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Natasha Kaufman  
Bari Robyn Nadworny  
Jacqueline A. Wolpoe

### RUTH HOLLANDER AWARD

Philip L. Kaplan

### MAIMONIDES AWARD

Batya Septimus



Rebecca Newhouse and Jan Fenster



Hratch Zadoian and Heather Nitschke

The Center for Jewish Studies and the Jewish Studies Program's 24th Annual Graduation and Awards Ceremonies was held on May 16, 2012. Another overflow crowd of parents, relatives, friends, and faculty was *kvelling* as our graduates and awardees demonstrated anew their staggering academic achievements.

Nearly all our majors and minors graduated with honors or high honors; they had a combined cumulative GPA of 3.8 out of 4.0. Two students had a perfect 4.0! These graduates and awardees are among the more than 2,000 students who annually enroll in over eighty of our Jewish Studies courses.

Their academic acumen is complemented by their ethical commitment and community service. They represent a core of the campus leadership, from the president of Hillel, to the campus coordinator for the American World Jewish Service, to the editors-in-chief of the *Journal of Jewish Studies*.

The dedication and excellence of these students manifested itself in

another arena: the production of the only all-student-run Jewish Studies journal in the country. A labor of love, this issue of the *Journal* has once again been produced by a distinguished group of students who have mastered all aspects of the publication process.

This year's keynote presentation consisted of a distinguished panel entitled "Student Reflections on Advancing Cross-Cultural Understanding." Each of the four outstanding students on the panel, two current students and one alumnus,

and one graduate highly trained as facilitators in the Center for Ethnic, Racial, and Religious Understanding (CERRU) shared their personal experiences with the graduates and the audience. One by one, Steven Appel '09; Charlie Wohlberg '13; Batya Septimus '12 and Lara Porter '14, by way of example for the graduates, addressed the impact of their unique work in CERRU on their own lives, and how such dialogues can effect change in our society, and for the individual in both the personal and professional arenas.

Charlie Wohlberg, Eva Zimmerman and Lara Porter



# Publications

CENTER FOR JEWISH STUDIES



The Center for Jewish Studies has a growing number of significant academic publications, of interest to scholars and laypeople alike. The complete list appears below; several publication covers are also reprinted above.

Individual publications may be purchased directly from the Center. If you wish to obtain a specific publication, please contact the center, either by calling the number above, or by email ([rita.shlisselberg@qc.cuny.edu](mailto:rita.shlisselberg@qc.cuny.edu)).

## THE HERBERT BERMAN MEMORIAL LECTURE

Israel Singer, *Holocaust Era Assets: The Moral Perspective*, November 17, 1999

Eliševa Carlebach, *The Death of Simon Abeles: Jewish-Christian Tension in Seventeenth-Century Prague*, November 7, 2001

Suzanne Last Stone, *Between Truth and Trust: The False Prophet as Self-Deceiver?*, October 29, 2003

## OCCASIONAL PAPERS

Geoffrey Hartman, *Holocaust Testimony, Videography and Education*, The Marvin and Celina Zborowski Endowment Lecture, May 2, 2001

Warren Zev Harvey, *Maimonides' Political Philosophy and Its Relevance for the State of Israel Today*, The Dean

Ernest Schwarcz Memorial Lecture, November 15, 2001

Feige Kaplan, *Should We Be Moaning About Cloning? Opportunities and Concerns in the New Genetics*, The Dr. William Weil and Dr. Martha Weil Memorial Lecture, March 6, 2002

Jenna Weissman Joselit, *From Ghetto to Suburb: American Jews on the Move, 1880s–1950s*, The Jack, Louis and Ida, and Rose Lummer Memorial Lecture, October 8, 2003

Warren Zev Harvey, *Judah Halevi's Political Philosophy and Its Relevance for the State of Israel Today*, The Dean Ernest Schwarcz Memorial Lecture, November 19, 2003

## QUEENS COLLEGE JOURNAL OF JEWISH STUDIES: A STUDENT PUBLICATION

Volume I, Spring 1999, Michael Adler & Daniel Chung, eds.

Volume II, Spring 2000, Elana Ducat & Malka Epstein, eds.

Volume III, Spring 2001, Dena Bieler & Leah Rabinovits, eds.

Volume IV, Spring 2002, Rifka Libman Schulman & Justin Engel, eds.

Volume V, Spring 2003, Rebecca Finkel & Deborah Kahan, eds.

Volume VI, Spring 2004, Nicole Iny & Russel Neiss, eds.

Volume VII, Spring 2005, Michael Gutman & Bracha Feit, eds.

Volume VIII, Spring 2006, David Greenberg & Lauren Talerman, eds.

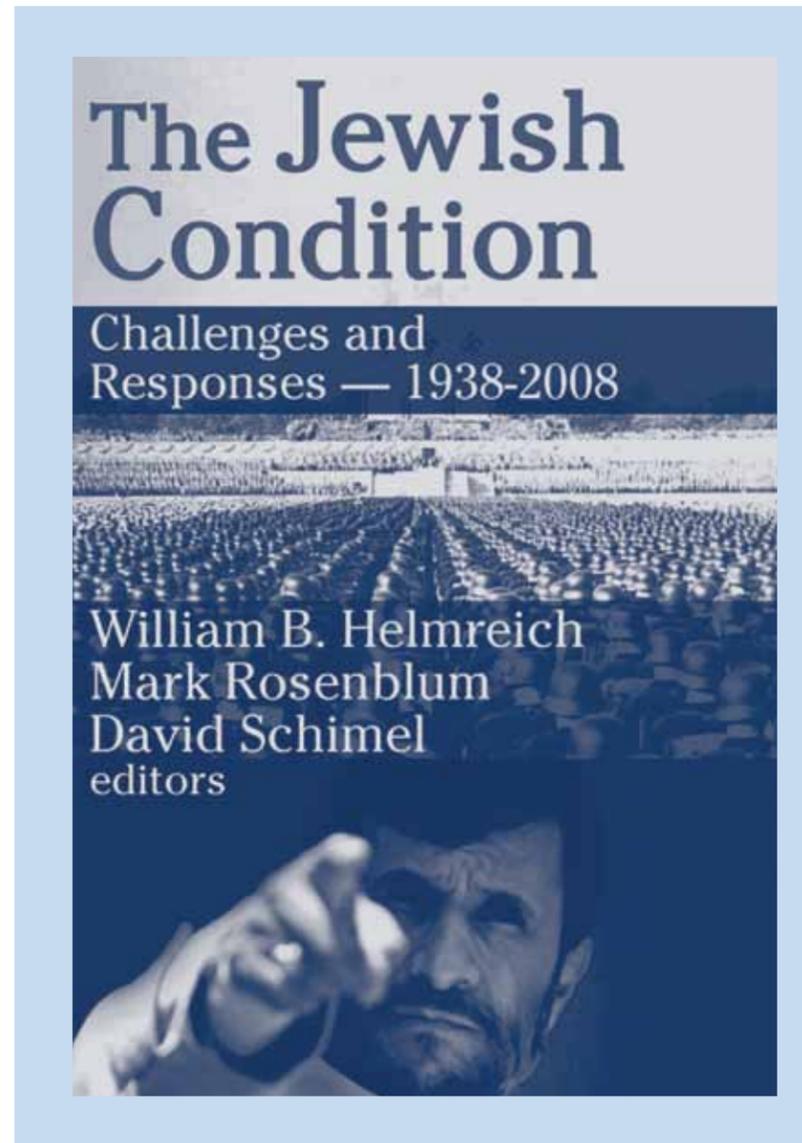
Volume X, Spring 2008, Ari Moshkovski, editor-in-chief.

Volume XI, Spring 2009, editors-in-chief Faigy Abdelhak & Laura Sonneborn-Turetsky.

Volume XII, Spring 2010, editors-in-chief Daniella E. Adler & Chana Rosenthal.

Volume XIII, Spring 2011, editors-in-chief Natalie Davidson & Camelia Serghie.

Volume XIV, Spring 2012, editor-in chief, Camelia Serghie.



*The Jewish Condition: Challenges and Responses*, edited by William B. Helmreich, Mark Rosenblum, and David Schimel [Essays by Norman Podhoretz, Michael Walzer, Irving Louis Horowitz, Alan Dershowitz, Malcolm Hoenlein, Leonard Fein, Susannah Heschel, and others]

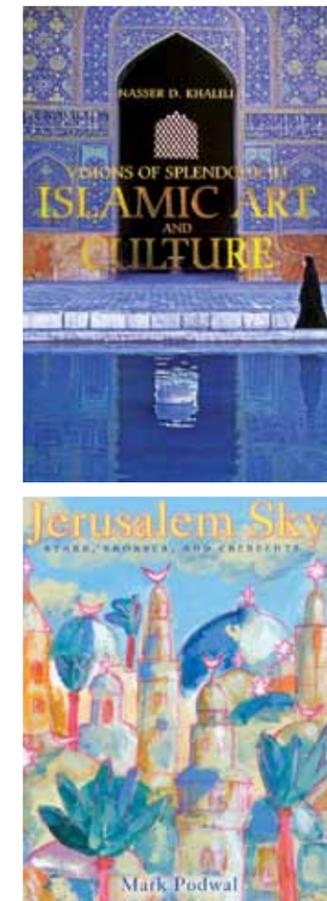
Our conference, "Is it 1938 Again?," has been published by Transaction Publishers, April 2008, under the title *The Jewish Condition: Challenges and Responses—1938–2008*. Limited copies are available, so rush your orders for this probing study of the peril and promise of the Jewish condition at a special discount price of \$15.00.

## OTHER SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE THROUGH THE CENTER

Nasser D. Khalili, *Islamic Arts & Culture*.  
Mark Podwal, *Jerusalem Sky: Stars, Crosses, and Crescents*.  
Mark Podwal, "Sweet Year" Wall Calendar.

## QUEENS COLLEGE JOURNAL OF JEWISH STUDIES: A STUDENT PUBLIC CONFERENCE/ SYMPOSIUM PROCEEDINGS

*Moses Maimonides: Communal Impact and Historic Legacy: Proceedings of an International Symposium*, November 16, 2003, edited by Benny Kraut [Essays by Professors David Berger,



Jane S. Gerber, Warren Zev Harvey, and Allan Nadler]

*The Enduring Legacy of Yitzchok Leybush Peretz: Proceedings of a Literary and Cultural Symposium*, March 27, 2005, edited by Benny Kraut [Essays by Professors Chava Lapin, Emanuel S. Goldsmith, Dan Miron, and Ken Frieden]

## PURCHASE PRICE OF PUBLICATIONS (INCLUDING SHIPPING)

The Herbert Berman Memorial Lectures: \$4.00 each

Occasional Papers: \$4.00 each

Conference/Symposium Proceedings

Maimonides Conference: \$12.00

Peretz Symposium: \$7.00

*Journal of Jewish Studies:*

*A Student Publication*

Volumes I–VII and X–XI: \$10.00

each; Volumes VI, XII, XIII & XIV:

\$12.00 each

# About The Center for Jewish Studies

## Mission Statement

The Center for Jewish Studies is the research and outreach arm of Jewish Studies on campus, promoting Jewish knowledge, scholarship, and culture outside the formal classroom setting. Serving as a bridge between the academic program and the community, the center has a wide array of exciting extracurricular events, making it a pre-eminent Jewish intellectual and cultural resource for the entire region. Through its imaginative programming, the center seeks to:

- Engage the college and general public in Jewish education and culture by organizing lectures, symposia, conferences, films, music and theater performances.
- Foster Jewish learning in the community.
- Publish and disseminate scholarly proceedings to laypeople and scholars.
- Promote academic community among students and faculty.
- Encourage and sustain the pedagogic and scholarly activities of the faculty and students within the Jewish Studies Program at Queens College.
- Combat and overcome intolerance and stereotyping while promoting understanding among diverse groups on campus and within the broader community, with a belief in nurturing a sense of shared citizenship on issues transcending differences while recognizing and celebrating the beauty of difference.

### CENTER FOR JEWISH STUDIES ADVISORY BOARD

Professor Mark Rosenblum,  
Director  
Professor Evan Zimroth,  
Associate Director  
Dr. Diane Spielmann,  
Assistant Director

### CENTER FOR JEWISH STUDIES Executive Board

Ernest Schwarcz, Founder\*  
Rabbi Israel Mowshowitz,  
Chair Emeritus\*  
Herbert Berman, Esq.,  
Chair Emeritus\*  
Arthur Anderman, Esq., Chair  
Pearl Halegua, Vice Chair  
Gary Sazer, Vice Chair  
Simon Gold, Esq.,  
Honorary Vice Chair  
William Ungar, Executive  
Vice President  
Elsi Levy, Vice President  
for Cultural Affairs  
Robert Grossman, Treasurer

### General Board

Daniel Andron\*  
Elayne P. Bernstein-Schwartz\*  
Melvin Dubin  
Nathan Halegua  
Leon Levy\*  
Leon Miller  
Sandi Povman  
Judith Rosen, PhD  
Arden Smith  
Bernie Spear  
Laurie Spear  
David Werber  
Martin Werber  
Jeffrey S. Wiesenfeld  
Marvin Zborowski  
\*deceased

### STAFF

Pat Tortorici  
Rita Shliselberg

### CULTURAL PROGRAMS

Biblical Archaeology  
Slide-Lecture Series  
Lecture/Book Signings  
Music & Theater Series  
International Symposia and  
Conferences  
Kristallnacht Memorials  
Jewish Visual Arts Programs  
Student Seminars

### PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY

Faculty Speakers Bureau  
Community Initiative

### PUBLICATIONS

*The Queens College Journal of  
Jewish Studies: A Student  
Publication*  
*Occasional Papers Series  
Conference/Symposium  
Proceedings*

### SUPPORTERS OF ENDOWED LECTURES

Arthur and Carole Anderman  
(in honor of the Rose and  
Morris Danzig Trust)  
Simon and Dr. Roslyn Gold  
Robert and Susan Grossman  
The Levy Family  
Jack Lummer Endowment  
The Ruth and Sidney Schindler  
Family  
The Ernest and Marta  
Schwarcz Endowment Fund  
The Stolar Family  
Lillian Taynor & Family  
Max and Dr. Jenny Weil  
Marvin and Celina Zborowski

### SPONSORS OF THE CINEMA ON SUNDAYS FILM/DIALOGUE SERIES

Mr. & Mrs. Arthur A. Anderman  
Mr. & Mrs. Melvin Dubin  
Elsi Levy  
The Honorable Nettie  
Mayersohn, New York State  
Assembly, 27th District  
The Honorable Toby Ann  
Stavisky, New York State  
Senate, 16th District

### SPONSORS OF THE JEWISH MUSIC & THEATER PERFORMANCE SERIES

The Honorable David I.  
Weprin, New York City  
Council, 23rd District  
The Levy Family

### RECENTLY HIRED FACULTY

Elissa Bemporad  
The Jerry and William Ungar  
Professorship in Jewish  
Studies  
Francesca Bregoli  
The Joseph and Oro  
Halegua Professor in Greek  
and Sephardic Jewish  
Studies  
Abigail Doukhan  
The Pearl and Nathan  
Halegua Family Professor in  
Ethics and Tolerance  
Arnold Franklin  
Medieval Jewish History in  
the Arabic-Speaking World  
Sari Kisilevsky  
Philosophy of Law and  
Ethics  
Miryam Segal  
Modern Hebrew Literature  
and Bible

### FACULTY

Jerome Acker  
Classical, Middle Eastern &  
Asian Languages & Cultures  
Ammiel Alcalay  
Classical, Middle Eastern &  
Asian Languages & Cultures  
Isaac Alteras  
History  
Rikki Asher  
Art Education  
Thomas E. Bird  
European Languages &  
Literatures  
Sami S. Chetrit  
Classical, Middle Eastern &  
Asian Languages & Cultures  
Alyson Cole  
Political Science  
Sarah Covington  
History  
Harriet Davis-Kram  
History

Liba H. Engel  
Elementary & Early  
Childhood Education  
Raymond Erickson  
Copland School of Music  
Ziva Flamhaft  
Political Science

Nora Glickman  
Hispanic Languages &  
Literatures

Samuel Heilman  
Sociology

Leo Hershkovitz  
History

Michael Krasner  
Political Science

Benny Kraut\*  
History

Steven Kruger  
English

Chava Lapin  
Classical, Middle Eastern &  
Asian Languages & Cultures

Adam Mintz  
History

John O'Brien  
History

Arbie Orenstein  
Copland School of Music

Martin Pine  
History

Kristina Richardson  
History

David Richter  
English

Alan Rosenberg  
Philosophy

Mark Rosenblum  
History

Naftali Rottenstreich  
English

Imanuel Rybakov  
History

Arthur Shippee  
Philosophy

Rabbi Moshe Shur  
History

Joseph Sungolowsky  
European Languages &  
Literatures

Izabella Taler  
Jewish Studies Bibliographer  
Benjamin Rosenthal Library

### NEW PROFESSORSHIPS AND TEACHERS

The Jerry and William Ungar  
Professorship in Jewish  
Studies Endowment, sup-  
ported by Jerry\* and William  
Ungar: Dr. Elissa Bemporad

The Joseph and Oro Halegua  
Professorship in Greek and  
Sephardic Jewish Studies,  
supported by the Pearl and  
Nathan Halegua Family  
Foundation: Dr. Francesca  
Bregoli

The Pearl and Nathan  
Halegua Family Professorship  
in Ethics and Tolerance,  
supported by the Pearl and  
Nathan Halegua Family  
Foundation: Dr. Abigail  
Doukhan

### VISITING AND ADJUNCT PROFESSORSHIPS

Dean Ernest Schwarcz  
Visiting Eminent  
Professorship in Jewish  
Philosophy, supported by the  
Ernest and Marta Schwarcz  
Endowment Fund and by  
Queens College

The Rabbi Israel and Libby  
Mowshowitz Adjunct  
Professorship in Politics and  
Religion, supported by the  
Mowshowitz Endowment  
Fund

The Jerry and William Ungar  
Adjunct Professorship in  
Holocaust Studies, supported  
by the Jerry\* and William  
Ungar Endowment Fund

Rose & Morris Danzig Visiting  
Professor in Jewish Studies,  
established by Carole and  
Arthur Anderman

### FACULTY PROGRAMS

The Faculty Reading Group  
in Jewish Civilization

The Jewish Studies  
Faculty Colloquium

### STUDENT AWARDS AND PRIZES

Center for Jewish Studies  
Award, supported by the  
Jewish Studies Program

Jewish Studies Academic  
Excellence Prize, supported  
by the Jewish Studies  
Program

Stefa Berger Communal  
Service Award, supported by  
Eva and Lenny Zimmerman

William Fenster Memorial  
Scholarship, supported by the  
Fenster Family Endowment  
Fund

Morris Flatow Memorial  
Scholarship, supported by the  
Flatow Family Endowment  
Fund

Ruth Hollander Award,  
supported by Ruth Hollander

Jan Sinnreich Award for  
Writing Excellence,  
supported by  
Leonore Sinnreich

M. Hrach Zadoian Essay  
Prize in Holocaust/Genocide  
Studies, endowed by  
M. Hrach Zadoian

\*deceased

## Friends of The Center for Jewish Studies

Like all Queens College Centers and Institutes, the Center for Jewish Studies must be financially self-sustaining. Its numerous free or nominally priced programs, publications, enhanced academic curricular offerings, and student scholarships simply would not be possible without external funding assistance. The Center for Jewish Studies is, therefore, most grateful for the gifts and grants that it receives from alumni, program patrons, elected public officials, and foundations, and is particularly thankful for the membership gifts (\$36 and above) of those who have joined the Friends of the Center organization.

The Friends was established as an annual membership organization to maintain the functions and activities of the center. Monies of the Friends underwrite student scholarships, the student *Journal of Jewish Studies*, new courses, and public programs—for example, our “Is It 1938 Again?” conference attended by over 1,000 participants. Members of the Friends become active stakeholders in the Jewish Studies’ initiatives at Queens College and can take heart that they are supporting vital and dynamic Jewish academic and intellectual/cultural programs.

For Member Benefits, see page 37.



### A NOTE FROM ELSI LEVY

An interesting parallel appears on the Web, accidentally setting a good example for us as Jews. It involves two men of the same name whose accomplishments are mistakenly intertwined in extensive columns on our computers. Both gentlemen died

in recent years and were leaders in their industries and in their world involvements. Of the two, which is our Leon Levy and which is the other?

One Leon Levy’s estate recently left twenty-five million dollars to the New York Botanical Gardens. That’s not our Leon Levy. One gave thirty million dollars to City College. That’s not our Leon Levy, either. One gave millions to museums, opera companies, symphony orchestras, and archaeological digs worldwide. Not our

Leon Levy! He was the other one. But our Leon Levy did give thousands of dollars to our own Center for Jewish Studies, as well as QC Hillel, and thousands to Hillcrest Jewish Center, and thousands to the Sephardic Jewish Center of Forest Hills, all in Queens. He gave thousands more to AIPAC and the Conference of Major American Jewish Organizations, and thousands to the Joint Distribution Committee, and thousands to the American Sephardi Federation, and thousands to the Center for Jewish History, and Bar Ilan University and Meir Panim and UJA, among many, many other recipients worldwide! The differences between our Leon Levy and the other Leon Levy are twofold. First, one gave in the millions while the other gave in the thousands, and that’s all right. They both felt their responsibility to give back to society, not to just take, consume, and leave. The second difference becomes obvious and worrisome in that only one Leon Levy understood his responsibility to Jewish causes. He couldn’t help his people with millions of dollars, but he could give whatever was available within his means. There’s nothing wrong with helping Jews with whatever we have—millions, thousands, hundreds, whatever and whenever we can. If each of us follows the path of our Leon Levy, giving and doing what we can for causes that will help our people survive, one Leon Levy multiplied by the rest of us right here, right now, can make the difference throughout the world. It’s that simple! Please give as you can, or rather, give as you must, to worthy Jewish causes. And also consider leaving a bequest to the Center for Jewish Studies at Queens College to ensure the continuation of this important organization, which supports students and the Jewish community.

### PLANNED GIVING: LEAVING A LEGACY FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

If you want to ensure that the Center for Jewish Studies at Queens College will continue to serve and delight generations to come, you may wish to consider making a planned gift. Planned giving helps you maximize the tax benefits of your charitable donation while allowing you to provide a gift that you may not have thought possible. Regardless of your age or income, you can benefit from estate planning, and planned giving. There are many creative ways to provide a contribution to the Center for Jewish Studies while enhancing and safeguarding your own financial situation. For more information about planned giving, please contact the Office for Institutional Advancement at 718-997-3920 and speak to one of our advisors.

### FRIENDS OF THE CENTER (June 2011 through June 2012)

It is with deepest gratitude and appreciation that we publish here the names of those who have contributed to the Center for Jewish Studies at all levels as of June 1, 2012.

We have attempted to list member names as accurately as possible. If by chance your name has been omitted, misspelled, or misidentified we apologize. Please alert our office and we will correct our database. Call (718) 997-5730.

The donors identified below only include those who have provided financial assistance to the Center as of April 2012.

#### PRESIDENT’S COUNCIL (\$10,000 and over)

Mr. & Mrs. Arthur A. Anderman  
The Community Foundation of Sarasota  
County, Elayne P. Bernstein Fund\*,\*\*  
Mr. & Mrs. Nathan Halegua  
Mr. James Klutznick\*  
Mrs. Elsi Levy  
Levy Family Foundation  
Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Schorr\*  
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Sills\*  
Jerry\*\* and William Ungar  
Edmond D. Villani, Frederic & Agnes Maloof Foundation, Inc.\*

#### DEAN’S CIRCLE (\$5,000-\$9,999)

Sinai Chapels

#### FACULTY CIRCLE (\$2,500-\$4,999)

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Grossman  
Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Spear

#### PATRON CIRCLE (\$500-\$2,499)

Mr. Hasan Biberaj\*  
Mr. Edward Braun  
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund,  
Reiss Portnoy Family Fund  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Levy  
Amy & Marc Magid Philanthropic Jewish Communal Fund\*  
Leon & Syma Miller Memorial Trust Fund  
Mr. & Mrs. Kurt Nash  
Mr. Martin Newman  
Hon. & Mrs. Morton Povman  
Mr. Stuart & Dr. Judith Rosen  
Messrs. Kenneth & Marc Rowin in memory of their mother Miriam Rowin  
Ms. Susan Schindler  
Ms. Stella Skura  
Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Stolar  
Mr. & Mrs. Isaac Taitz  
Dr. George Wisoff  
Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Zborowski

Dr. Edith Lane-Holzmann  
Dr. George Wisoff  
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Lefkowitz  
Mrs. Susi Leiter  
Ms. Grace Meng\*  
Ms. Edith Mentle

## New Membership Benefits

#### PRESIDENT’S COUNCIL (\$10,000 AND OVER):

- Luncheon with Director and pre-event dinners with our distinguished speakers.
- A copy of Nasser D. Khalili’s spectacular book *Visions of Splendor in Islamic Art and Culture*.
- A copy of *The Jewish Condition: Challenges and Responses—1938–2008*.
- 2 DVDs of concerts and interfaith dialogue.
- Free tickets to all events; reserved seating; free annual publications; advance notices, auditing of classes; listing in *Culture & Arts Guide*.
- Two of the renowned author and illustrator Mark Podwal’s beautiful children’s books: *Jerusalem Sky: Stars, Crosses and Crescents* and *Built by Angels, The Story of the Old-New Synagogue*.

#### DEAN’S CIRCLE (\$5,000-\$9,999):

- A copy of Nasser D. Khalili’s spectacular book *Visions of Splendor in Islamic Art and Culture*.
- A copy of *The Jewish Condition: Challenges and Responses—1938–2008*.
- 2 DVDs of concerts and interfaith dialogue.
- Free tickets to all events; reserved seating, free annual publications, advance notices; auditing of classes, listing in *Culture & Arts Guide*.
- Two of the renowned author and illustrator Mark Podwal’s beautiful children’s books: *Jerusalem Sky: Stars, Crosses and Crescents* and *Built by Angels, The Story of the Old-New Synagogue*.

#### SPONSOR (\$100-\$499)

Dr. & Mrs. George Axelrad  
Mr. & Mrs. Sigmund Balka  
Mr. & Mrs. Manuel Bardash  
Mr. & Mrs. Elmer Beberfall  
Mr. Mel Berkowitz  
Mr. & Mrs. Max Brauner  
Mr. & Mrs. Philip Darvin  
Mr. & Mrs. Norman Delman  
Mr. & Mrs. David First  
Mr. Elliot & Dr. Renee Fleischer  
Mr. & Mrs. Albert Freberge  
Mr. & Mrs. Allen Hellman  
Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Horn  
Mr. Marc S. Horowitz, JD  
Ms. Deborah Kamins  
Ms. Lynn Karpen  
Ms. Lily Kaufman  
Mr. & Mrs. Ingolf Kohn  
Mr. & Mrs. Allan Landes  
Dr. Edith Lane-Holzmann  
Dr. & Mrs. Harold Lefkowitz  
Mrs. Susi Leiter  
Ms. Grace Meng\*  
Ms. Edith Mentle

#### FACULTY CIRCLE (\$2,500-\$4,999):

- A copy of Nasser D. Khalili’s spectacular book *Visions of Splendor in Islamic Art and Culture*.
- A copy of *The Jewish Condition: Challenges and Responses—1938–2008*.
- 2 DVDs of concerts and interfaith dialogue.
- Free tickets to all events; reserved seating, free annual publications; advance notices, auditing of classes; listing in *Culture & Arts Guide*.
- A copy of the renowned author and illustrator Mark Podwal’s beautiful children’s book, *Jerusalem Sky: Stars, Crosses, and Crescents*.

#### PATRON CIRCLE (\$500-\$2,499):

- A copy of Nasser D. Khalili’s spectacular book *Visions of Splendor in Islamic Art and Culture*.
- A copy of *The Jewish Condition: Challenges and Responses—1938–2008*.
- 2 DVDs of concerts and interfaith dialogue.
- Reserved seating; free annual publications, advance notices; auditing of classes; listing in *Culture & Arts Guide*.

#### SPONSOR (\$100-\$499):

- A copy of *The Jewish Condition: Challenges and Responses—1938–2008*.
- Reserved seating; free annual publications; advance notices; auditing of classes; listing in *Culture & Arts Guide*.

#### SUPPORTER (\$36-\$99):

- Free annual publications; advance notices; listing in *Culture & Arts Guide*.

Mr. Louis Naviasky  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Oberstein,  
Oberstein Family Fund  
Mr. & Mrs. Morris Ojalvo  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Perla  
Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Plush  
Mrs. Adele Robbins  
Mr. & Mrs. Hyman Rostoker  
Mr. Marshall Rubin  
Mr. & Mrs. Norman Ruhm  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Ruskin  
Mr. & Mrs. Sholom Sanders  
Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Schachter  
Mr. & Mrs. Melvin Schoenfeld  
Ms. Ruth Schorsch  
Mr. & Mrs. Edgar Schwartz  
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Seiden\*  
Mr. & Mrs. Fredrick Shaw  
Ms. Lenore Sinnreich  
Rabbi Gerald Solomon, Flushing-Fresh Meadows Jewish Center

Mr. & Mrs. Alfons Sperber  
Ms. Judith Steinberg  
Mr. & Mrs. Sol Sturm  
Mr. Nick Tsounis  
Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Wald  
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Weiss  
Mr. & Mrs. Jerome White  
Hon. and Mrs. Sol Wieselthier  
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Wiesenfeld  
Mr. Marvin Yablou  
Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Zimmerman

#### SUPPORTER (\$36-\$99)

Ms. Elaine Abend  
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Ackerman  
Mr. Arthur Aeder  
Ms. Ruth Alpert  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Amron  
Mrs. Esther Andron, The Daniel

\*Donor directed contributions to the Center for Ethnic, Racial & Religious Understanding

\*\*Deceased

Andron Living Trust  
 Mr. & Mrs. Jack Anfang  
 Mr. & Mrs. Eli Baum  
 Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Bender  
 Mr. Gary S. Berman  
 Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Bloom  
 Ms. Lillian Budabin  
 Mr. & Mrs. Barry Cohen  
 Mr. & Mrs. Boris Cohen  
 Mr. & Mrs. Richard Cohen  
 Ms. Sondra Cohen  
 Mr. & Mrs. Julius Cohn  
 Ms. Edith Dressler  
 Dr. & Mrs. Bernard Edelstein  
 Ms. Wendie Eigen-Weinstein  
 Mr. & Mrs. Milton Einbinder  
 Ms. Marian Fish  
 Dr. & Mrs. Howard Gage  
 Mr. & Mrs. David Glick  
 Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Glick  
 Ms. Emily Goldberg  
 Ms. Gloria Goldsmith  
 Ms. Beatrice Grant  
 Ms. Mildred Hammerschlag  
 Mr. & Mrs. R. Harris  
 Ms. Ruth Heiman  
 Mr. & Mrs. William Hoffer  
 Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Holden  
 Ms. Ruth Hollander  
 Mr. & Mrs. Gunther Holz  
 Mr. & Mrs. Harold Jacobs  
 Mr. & Mrs. Paul Katz  
 Mr. & Mrs. Albert Kimmelstiel  
 Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Kirsh  
 Mr. & Mrs. Arnie Klein  
 Mr. Henry Kletter  
 Dr. & Mrs. Nat Kopelowitz

Ms. Muriel Korman  
 Ms. Lillian Kurtz  
 Prof. Evelyn Lapin  
 Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Lavine  
 Mr. & Mrs. Milton Leifer  
 Mr. & Mrs. Howard Levy  
 Ms. Sarah Loewenberger  
 Ms. Ruth Loewenstein  
 Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Loewenthal  
 Mrs. Sylvia Marks  
 Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd Merkelson  
 Ms. Dorothy Meyerson  
 Mr. & Mrs. Milton Mitzner  
 Mrs. Francine Moshkovski  
 Mr. Henry Musat  
 Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Narotsky  
 Mr. & Mrs. Allan Newman  
 Ms. Beatrice Newman  
 Dr. & Mrs. Arbie Orenstein  
 Mr. & Mrs. Walter Orgel  
 Mr. & Mrs. Allan Orol  
 Mr. Louis Osofsky  
 Mr. Jeffrey Peltzer  
 Mr. & Mrs. Hal Perlstein  
 Mr. & Mrs. Irving Phillip  
 Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Pogensky  
 Dr. Betty Popper  
 Ms. Sandy Prinz  
 Dr. Leonard Pulerwitz  
 Mr. Joseph Pure  
 Queens Community for Cultural Judaism  
 Mr. Carl Rabinowitz  
 Mr. & Mrs. Albert Roberts  
 Ms. Shulamit Roness  
 Dr. & Mrs. Michael Rosenberg  
 Ms. Rozanne Rosenthal

Ms. Carol Rothbell  
 Ms. Galdys Russo  
 Mr. & Mrs. David Scherr  
 Mr. & Mrs. Seymour Scherzer  
 Mr. & Mrs. Larry Schonfeld  
 Ms. Blanche Schoffman  
 Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Schwartz  
 Ms. Rosalie Schwartz  
 Dr. Alan Seifer  
 Mrs. Gladys Sherman  
 Mr. & Mrs. Leo Shliselberg  
 Mr. & Mrs. Louis Shub  
 Mrs. Diana Silberman  
 Mr. & Mrs., Leonard Sloane  
 Ms. Pearl Smerling  
 Dr. Diane Spielmann  
 Ms. Irma Spivak  
 Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Stark  
 Ms. Gladys Stefel  
 Ms. Ailene Steinberg  
 Mr. & Mrs. Jack Steinberg  
 Mr. & Mrs. Stanely Steinerman  
 Mr. & Mrs. Sol Teichman  
 Mr. Renie Tell  
 Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Tiger  
 Ms. Rgina Vogelmann  
 Mrs. Gisele Warshawsky  
 Mrs. Dorothy K. Weinman  
 Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Weintraub  
 Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Weiser  
 Mrs. Esther Wertenteil  
 Ms. Betty Levin Zimmerman

**UNDER \$36**  
 Ms. Susan Aranoff  
 Mr. & Mrs. Claude Ballin  
 Ms. Fay Brandwein  
 Mr. & Mrs. Norman Brustein  
 Mr. & Mrs. Sam Dikowitz  
 Mr. Samuel Frank  
 Ms. Gloria Friedman  
 Ms. Lauren Fuld  
 Ms. Rose Goldberg  
 Mrs. Ida Gorbacz  
 Mr. & Mrs. Yosef Gubin  
 Ms. Sue Ann Kaminsky  
 Ms. Lorin & Ms. Babette Kanton  
 Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Kirsh  
 Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Krochak  
 Mr. & Mrs. Albert Lato  
 Ms. Inge Leopold  
 Mr. & Mrs. Irwin Lieberman  
 Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Lipmanowicz  
 Mr. Jerome Marmelstein  
 Mr. & Mrs. Leon Meyer  
 Mr. Stanley Pitkowsky  
 Dr. & Mrs. Lawrence Pomerantz  
 Mr. & Mrs. David Resnick  
 Mr. & Mrs. Sam Resnick  
 Mr. & Mrs. Albert Roberts  
 Ms. Jacqueline Rosay  
 Mr. Leonard Saltz  
 Mr. & Mrs. Irving Schnitzer  
 Ms. Pauline Schwager  
 Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Schwartz  
 Ms. Claire Shefftz  
 Mr. Joshua Teplitsky  
 Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Wager  
 Ms. Gertrude Wolf  
 Ms. Ethel Zaremba



Prof. Elisheva Carlebach discussing her recent book *Palaces of Time: Jewish Calendar and Culture in Early Modern Europe*.



Arthur Anderman, Chair, Advisory Board



Professor Gabriel Finder at the screening of *Undzere Kinder (Our Children)*



From left to right: Michael Resnick and Howard Kahn of Sinai Chapels, Fresh Meadows, Queens, New York

## Parking and Transportation

Free parking available on campus for LeFrak Concert Hall events: Lot 15, Reeves Avenue.

### Getting to Queens College

#### BY CAR

**From Long Island and points East:** Long Island Expressway to Exit 23 (Main Street). Left at light and immediate left at next traffic light (Horace Harding Expressway/ L.I.E. service road eastbound). Continue on service road to Reeves Avenue. Right turn onto Reeves and another right onto 61st Road to parking lot 15. See map on this page.

**From Manhattan and points West:** Long Island Expressway to Exit 24 (Kissena Blvd.). First right turn onto Reeves Avenue and another right onto 61st Road to parking lot 15. See map.

#### BY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

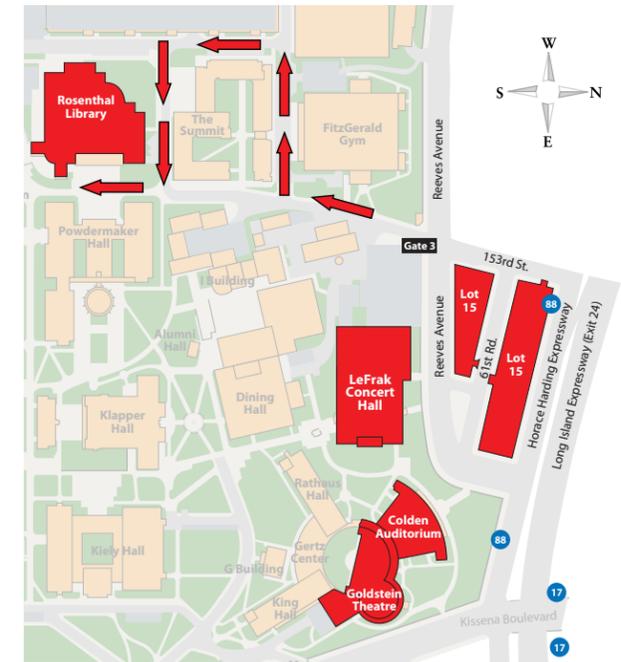
Take the Q17, Q25-Q34, or Q88 bus to the corner of Kissena Blvd. and Horace Harding Expressway (L.I.E. service road). Buses can be

coordinated with E, F, M, R, or #7 subway trains.

#### Elevator Access to LeFrak:

Cross Reeves Avenue and walk through the opening in the big iron fence to the rear entrance of the LeFrak Concert Hall. Pathway through the opening in the fence leads directly into the building. Proceed down the entrance hallway to the elevator on your left. An attendant will take you up in the elevator to the Concert Hall level. This is not a self-service elevator; it requires the attendant with a special key. Stairs from the ground floor, to the right of the entrance as you enter, also will take you to the Concert Hall level. See map.

**For Rosenthal Library, Room 230:** Make a right turn onto Reeves Ave. (see "By Car," above). Go to Gate 3 to enter campus; then follow map.



Advance tickets (for individual events or any series) may be purchased in person or by phone and charged to a major credit card no later than one full week prior to the event. Ticket(s) will be mailed at no extra charge. Please visit or call the Kupferberg Center Box Office (718-793-8080) in Colden Auditorium on the Queens College campus to order your tickets.

**Regular Box Office hours:** Mondays, 10 am–8 pm; Wednesdays, 12 noon–8 pm; and Fridays, 12 noon–6 pm.  
  
Day/night of event tickets, if available, will be sold in the LeFrak Concert Hall foyer on a first-come, first-served basis approximately one hour prior to the program.

# Nine Good Reasons

Why Your Contribution to The Center For Jewish Studies at Queens College Is a Wise Investment:

- **An Award-Winning Public Education Program** that has been singled out by the U.S. Department of Education for a grant to create a new “Center For Ethnic, Racial & Religious Understanding.”
- **A Distinguished and Growing Faculty**, six of whom have won the college’s coveted “Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching.”
- **Creative Curriculum That Has Won National Acclaim** and has been featured in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, *New York Times*, *New York Jewish Week*, National Public Radio, CBS-TV national news, and a host of other electronic and print media.
- **A Dynamic and Expanding Culture & Arts Program** that includes world-class scholars and educators, renowned diplomats and political analysts, virtuoso musicians and singers, and compelling cinema.
- **Our Diverse and Talented Students**, who speak dozens of languages and represent a multitude of different ethnic, racial, and religious groups, all studying Jewish topics across more than a dozen academic disciplines.
- **The Only Jewish Studies Journal in the Nation That Is Totally Student-Produced:** The Journal’s motto, drawn from Pirkei Avot (4:1), is an invitation to join us: “Who is Wise? One who learns from everyone.”
- **Breakthrough Courses in Bukharian History and Culture** that have been heralded as some of the first such courses offered in the nation.
- **Asking Difficult Questions and Providing Balanced Answers** to the most pressing issues facing the Jewish People today.
- **New Community Initiative** dramatically expands our outreach program off campus which includes compelling interfaith dialogues and discussions, powerful film series and performances.

