Dear Colleagues and Friends:

This is our third on-line issue of Latin American Jewish Studies (LAJS), and although we miss the hard copy version we used to send you in the past (from Queen’s College, from Swarthmore, when it was edited by Joan Friedman, and from Ann Arbor, when it was founded and edited by Judith Laikin Elkin), because they were ‘concrete’ proof of our existence), we are resigned but happy to reach you through the web. It is the way of the future, more efficient, and accessible to many more people. Please continue to send us your professional news, book reviews, photos, research notes, etc.

Since the printing of our last hard copy issue of LAJSA, LAJS 27.1 (Spring 2007), the 2007 LAJSA conference in Buenos Aires, and after our regional 2008 LAJSA colloquium at the CUNY Graduate Center in New York, the LAJSA organization has been planning for our next meeting, at Tel Aviv University, on July 26-28, 2008 (for updated information on the conference, visit the LAJSA home page <http://www.utexas.edu/cola/orgs/lajsa/>, go to “News,” and then “Archives”). We have also included the complete conference program in this issue of LAJS (look for it below, in the index). By the way, a number of LAJSA members will also participate in the sessions organized by AMILAT at the World Congress of Jewish Studies in Jerusalem a few days after the LAJSA conference (August 2-6).

Since September 1, 2007, and under the management of Naomi Lindstrom at the University of Texas (sponsored by the Schusterman Center for Jewish Studies), LAJSA has a new web page that allows us to share syllabi and other teaching materials for Latin American Jewish Studies; bibliographic resources; downloadable issues of LAJS; and, to view illustrations pertinent to our research interests. We hope you will share your own materials on this web page. Most recently, the website is now housing a registry of Ph.D dissertations in Latin American Jewish Studies. Please visit <http://www.utexas.edu/cola/orgs/lajsa/resources/dissertations-theses/> to see the new registry, and write to lindstrom@austin.utexas.edu to send your information.

This issue of LAJS mourning the death of our beloved Jacobo Kovadloff (Pipo to his friends), who was LAJSA’s senior advisor and supported our organization from its inception. We shall greatly miss his
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wise counsel, his sharp humor, his vast knowledge of Latin American Jewish communities and personalities, and his courage to speak his mind. As time moves on, we will be learning to further appreciate the great impact Jacobo had on all of us, and particularly in young scholars, in fostering the Latin American Jewish culture. LAJSA has established a permanent Jacobo Kovadloff Memorial Fund for Latin American Jewish Studies to honor his memory (please see details in this issue’s Professional News section).

LAJSA elections are ongoing: the results should be ready by late July, for announcement at the LAJSA conference at Tel Aviv University. We are still in the process of voting and selecting new members for our Executive Board.

We would like to thank David Foster for having successfully led our organization over the past few years, and especially for his organization of the 2007 conference in Buenos Aires. We wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

Nora y Kenya

FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENTS

Dear LASJA Friends and Colleagues,

We are pleased to give you an update on what’s happening in LAJSA and what we’ve been doing as your VPs.

The preparations for the July conference are in full swing. We are now finalizing the program of what promises to be a fascinating event. At Tel Aviv University we are all excited about this forthcoming encounter.

The current financial crisis, which has affected most academic institutions, has been the major obstacle we have had to face. Many LAJSA members unfortunately have not been able to raise the necessary funds to join us in Israel. In addition, the proximity of the LASA congress in Rio de Janeiro in June also complicated matters. Even so, we are expecting to host more than 80 participants at our July conference as moderators, paper presenters and commentators.

The organization of this conference has revealed to us both the flaws of our association as well as its strengths and potential for growth. There are more scholars interested in studying different aspects of the Jewish experience in Latin America than we tend to think. Moreover, if we expand the territorial boundaries of our field so as to include Jewish-Latin Americans who have relocated to other places, such as Israel, the United States and Europe, the numbers are even higher. This is particularly true in the case of younger scholars.

The challenge is to make these and other scholars aware of LAJSA’s existence and give them reason to join our association.

We believe that we should mobilize these potential members by putting special emphasis on graduate students, in order to ensure both the survival and future of LAJSA as a scholarly association. To this end, we are exploring possible new outlets for the publication of high quality research papers on Jewish-Latin Americans as well as the possibility of obtaining reduced subscription rates to various journals for LAJSA members.

We are also looking into ways of making LAJSA members more active in reshaping our association and making sure that board members are mobilizing support on a regional basis: North America, Mexico and Central America, the Andes, the Southern Cone, and Israel. We held brainstorming sessions with LAJSA members at venues such as the Association of Jewish Studies conference, and have also begun conversations with the AJS to establish closer ties. We also worked with our bulletin editors to encourage more contributions by members.

Other areas of activity included membership, consideration of mini-symposia in a variety of venues, and renewal of the LAJSA board; the forthcoming elections are a result.

Within a couple of weeks we will make the conference program available on LAJSA’s site. We hope to see as many of you as possible in Israel, as well as at the next events that we intend to promote for 2010 and 2011.

We’d like to hear from you, this is your association.

Edna and Ranaan
The American Jewish Committee (AJC) mourns the passing of Jacobo Kovadloff, a cherished colleague whose lifelong contributions will have an everlasting impact on Latin American and world Jewry. “Jacobo devoted his entire life to defending the Jewish people, building bridges between the Jewish people and other communities, standing strong for the advancement of democratic values and human rights protection, enhancing understanding of Israel’s quest for peace and security, and strengthening ties between the United States and Latin America,” said AJC Executive Director David Harris. “We are all, in one way or another, the beneficiaries of his tireless dedication.”

Kovadloff joined AJC’s staff in 1970 as director of AJC’s South American office, then located in Buenos Aires. Prior to joining AJC, Kovadloff held a variety of lay leadership positions in the Argentine Jewish community, including the president of Hebraica, the main community center for the Argentine Jewish community. “Jacobo was a treasure trove of knowledge when it comes to the political, economic, cultural and religious trends in this region so vital to our own nation’s and the Jewish community’s interests,” Harris said.

During his tenure at AJC, Kovadloff was a valued adviser to U.S. governments, members of Congress and journalists dealing with Latin American issues. He oversaw AJC’s respected Spanish-language magazine Comentario, and produced thought-provoking, informative articles and research papers. He founded the first university-level course on Jewish studies in Argentina, and edited Comunidades, the only Jewish yearbook published in Spanish and dealing with Latin American Jewry.

After Argentina’s armed forces seized power in the mid-1970s, leading to violence and internal strife, Kovadloff quietly, but effectively, assisted fellow citizens, Jews and non-Jews, targeted by the military. He had a role in saving a number of lives. But Kovadloff and his family were forced to flee Argentina in 1977, after receiving death threats from right-wing extremist groups. Regrettably, AJC also was forced to close its Buenos Aires office. Kovadloff’s story was widely reported in the New York Times and other major media at the time.

Kovadloff continued his long career directing Latin American affairs from AJC’s New York headquarters. He was able to return to visit Argentina after democracy reemerged in 1983, and played a central role in AJC’s efforts to support the Argentine government’s investigation of the 1994 terror bombing of AMIA.


AJC extends heartfelt condolences to his wife Sonia, his children Georgina and Eddie, and the other members of his grieving family.

Condolences and messages of sympathy may be sent to his family at the following address:

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Roni Goldberg, Vicecónsul de Israel en Uruguay, presentó “El renacimiento del idioma hebreo,” un homenaje a Eliezer Ben Yehuda, tras haber sido reconocido como contribuyente al patrimonio cultural de la humanidad. La actividad tomó lugar en el 150 aniversario del nacimiento, en el Auditorio ORT Pocitos. Fue auspiciada por el Departamento de Estudios Judaicos de Universidad ORT Uruguay y la Embajada de Israel en Uruguay, el 17 de noviembre de 2008.

Misha Klein co-organized the panel “Cultural Citizenship, Personhood, and Participation in the Americas,” for the meetings of the American Anthropological Association in San Francisco, CA, in November 2008 (LAJSA member Natasha Zaretsky was also on the panel. Klein's paper, “Remembering Doutor Samuel: Immigrant, Citizen, Brazilian Jew,” was based in part on an interview she conducted with Samuel Malamud in Rio in 1999 shortly before he passed away and considered the relationship between cultural citizenship and legal citizenship for transnationals. She is also serving on two LAJSA committees, two LAJSA committees—the Ad Hoc committee that is reviewing the LAJSA By-laws committee, and the LAJSA elections committee. Misha and Renée Avigdor are organizing a panel on social scientific perspectives on the contemporary Jewish experience in Brazil for the 2010 Brazilian Studies Association conference in Brasilia. Please see the Call for Proposals section of the newsletter for details.

Edna Aizenberg lectured on the "Holocaust and Latin American Memory" at Northwestern University, on the history of Latin American Jewish literature at Queensboro Community College, and on "Should We Bury the Jewish Gaucho? A New Gerchunoff for the 21st Century" at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. Her presentation in Lincoln was part of the "Back to Babel" conference held in April. She was a scholar-in residence for the Jewish Museum study tour to Latin America, which took place in March.

She also completed for publication an essay collection on "Contemporary Sephardim in the Americas," co-edited with Margalit Bejarano, and published the following articles: "Borges, Guimaraes Rosa, Mistral: intelectuales latinoamericanos frente a la Segunda Guerra Mundial y el Holocausto" in Jorge Luis Borges, Politicas de la literatura, edited by Juan Pablo Dabove (ILLI, 2008), and "Nation and Holocaust Narration: Uruguay's Memorial del Holocausto del Pueblo Judío" in Rethinking Jewish-Latin Americans, edited by Jeffrey Lesser and Raanan Rein, UNM, 2008. Her essay on Auschwitz and the ESMA is forthcoming in the collection, The Iconization of Auschwitz. As co-vice president of LAJSA her activities have included membership outreach, conversations with the Association for Jewish Studies for closer cooperation, meetings with LAJSA members (at the AJS) in Washington, in Jerusalem and in Tel Aviv, work on the LAJSA conference stipend and program committees, and consultations on the bulletin and a possible LAJSA scholarly publication.


La Asociación Hispana de Estudios Hebraicos (en Madrid) anuncia la aparición de su nuevo anuario, Iberia Judaica, centrada en el judaísmo hispano desde los orígenes hasta la expulsión de los judíos de Hispania. <asociacionheh@aheh.e.telefonica.net>
Professional News...continued from page 5

O Núcleo Interdisciplinar de Estudos Judaicos da UFRJ (NIEJ) é uma iniciativa dedicada ao ensino e à pesquisa acadêmica na área de estudos judaicos, de diferentes perspectivas disciplinares. Em sua articulação com o Departamento de História da UFRJ, realiza um laboratorio, associado principalmente, mas não exclusivamente, a área de moderna contemporanea, geral e do Brasil. O NIEJ é formado por professores e pesquisadores universitários que lecionam e pesquisam nas áreas de história, ciências sociais, filosofia e letras. Possui um Conselho Internacional composto de importantes especialistas na área de Estudos judaicos no Brasil e no exterior. <http://estudosjudaicos.blogspot.com/2009/03/nucleo-interdisciplinar-de-estudos.html>.

In March 2009, Angelina Muñíz Huberman received the Medalla Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz from the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México.


The following LAJSA panels were presented at the Latin American Studies Association (LASA) conference in Brazil earlier this summer:

“Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Latin American Jewish Studies.” Organizer: Naomi E. Lindstrom, University of Texas-Austin. “People of the Book or People of the (Foot)Ball? Towards a New Social History of Jewish-Latin Americans,” Raanan Rein, Tel Aviv University; “El discurso profético, apocalíptico y mésiánico de Jacobo Fijman,” Naomi E. Lindstrom, University of Texas-Austin.

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“Jewish Latin American Culture Revisited: Conflicting, Complementary, Exclusive Identities?” Organizer: Amalia Ran, University of Nebraska, Alejandro Dujovne, IDES/CONICET, Carolina Rocha, Southern Illinois University, Alejandro Meter, University of San Diego. Discussant: Amalia Ran, University of Nebraska.

Saúl Drajer, Presidente de la Fundación IWO, nos informó que el pasado jueves 18 de junio la Fundación IWO colocó la piedra fundamental de la Casa de la Cultura Judeo Argentina, que se construirá en la calle Acevedo 477 de la Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires. Con este acto, la Fundación IWO toma la decisión de instalar su biblioteca rescatada de la voladura del edificio de la comunidad de Buenos Aires, su hemeroteca, musicoteca, museo y archivo documental en esta nueva locación, y desarrollar allí sus actividades.


Professional News...continued on page 7
La curadora Federica Palomero dio una conferencia sobre Gertrude Goldschmidt titulada “Gego: una poeistisa del espacio” el domingo, 24 de mayo de 2009, en el Museo Sefardi de Caracas.

Professor Ignacio López-Calvo organized the Second Conference on Orientalisms and the Asian/Arab Diaspora in the Americas and the Hispanic World, “East Reads West: West Reads East,” on April 24-25, 2009, at the University of California, Merced.

El Departamento de Estudios Judaicos de Universidad ORT Uruguay, en adhesión a las celebraciones por el 100 aniversario de la fundación de la ciudad de Tel Aviv, tiene el placer de invitarlos a la conferencia “Desde Altneuland a Tel Aviv: reflexiones sobre la primera ciudad hebrea moderna”, que dictó el Dr. Gustavo D. Perednik. La misma tuvo lugar el 5 de mayo de 2009, en el Salón Auditorio de ORT Pocitos.

On 19-20 April 2009, the Harris Center for Judaic Studies and the Department of Modern Languages at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln hosted a symposium entitled “Returning to Babel: Jewish Latin American Experiences and Representations.” The symposium was organized by Professor Amalia Ran and Professor Jean Cahan, and focused on re-examining some of the prevalent paradigms in the area of Latin American Jewish studies from an interdisciplinary standpoint, comprising literature, culture, history, cinematography and visual arts. Additionally, the symposium aimed to explore the wider range of theoretical and disciplinary perspectives concerning Latin American Jewish experiences in its various fields, thereby offering a framework to discuss new and old trends, and to elaborate on these concerns.

El 7 de abril de 2009, se inauguró la exposición de escultura “Piedras con vidas,” por el Dr. Isaac Satkin, en la Universidad ORT, Montevideo, Uruguay, Montevideo.

Raanan Rein is currently a Research Fellow at the Hebrew University’s Institute of Advanced Studies (Jerusalem) and in the fall semester he will be a Distinguished Visiting Professor at the Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry, Emory University.

A couple of weeks ago he was awarded an endowed chair at Tel Aviv University, the Elias Sourasky Chair of Ibero and Latin-American Studies.


On May 14, 2009, the Santa Fe Art Institute and Gaon Books present a multi-media performance launching the first two novels, Guardians of Hidden Traditions, and Converso, written by New Mexican, Crypto-Jewish authors Isabelle Medina-Sandoval and Mario X. Martínez, respectively. For more information go to: <http://www.gaonbooks.com>.

Ronnie Perelis published “‘These Indians are Jews!’: Lost Tribes, Crypto-Jews and Jewish Self-Fashioning in Antonio de Montezinos’ Relación of 1644” in Richard L. Kagan’s Atlantic Diasporas: Jews, Conversos, and Crypto-Jews in the Age of Mercantilism, 1500—1800 (John’s Hopkins University Press, 2009).


O Núcleo Interdisciplinar de Estudos Judaicos da UFRJ (NIEJ) divulgou as recentes premiações de duas de nossas pesquisadoras associadas, Tatiana Salem Levy e Kátia Lerner. Salema ganhou o Prêmio São Paulo de literatura de melhor romance de autor estreante com o seu A Chave de Casa. Lerner ganhou o Prêmio Mário de Andrade, lançado pelo MinC, através do Iphan, e com apoio da Associação Brasileira de Antropologia (ABA), com a sua excelente tese de doutorado Holocausto, memória e identidade social: a experiência da Fundação Shoah.

La Dra. Raquel Sperber compartió información sobre la recién creada Sociedad de estudios sefardíes, que decidieron fundar investigadores de varios países en una reunión especial celebrada en el Centro Hispania Judaica de la Universidad Hebrea de Jerusalén. La sociedad estará afiliada al Instituto Ben-Zvi y tendrá su sede administrativa en Hispania Judaica, en la Universidad Hebrea de Jerusalén. Todo el que pueda estar interesado en hacerse miembro de la misma podrá pedir información a la Dra.
On March 22-28, 2009, Caribbean Volunteer Expeditions continued its historic Jewish cemetery inventory in the Kingston, Jamaica area, surveying two smaller historic cemeteries. The group also checked out the inventory work that was done last year at Hunt's Bay Cemetery, Jamaica's oldest Jewish cemetery, which includes illustrative gravestones from the 17th-19th centuries. The inventory was once again at the request of United Congregation of Israelites Shaare Shalom.

Rachel Frankel, a New York architect and recognized authority on historic New World Jewish sites, once again led the fieldwork. Jews fleeing persecution in Europe settled in Jamaica as early as 1530 where they played important roles in commerce and the sugar industry. Volunteers inventoried, photographed, and mapped the Orange and Elliston sites and checked work that was begun last year at Hunt's Bay. For more information, contact <ahershai@adelphia.com >.


**OVERVIEW OF LAJSA/SOBRE LAJSA**

LAJSA serves as a network for scholars who are working on related themes but who are geographically distant from one another. Members maintain contact with one another through membership directory, the listserv LAJSA-List and the semiannual Latin American Jewish Studies, which carries news of professional activities, critical reviews of new scholarly work, and current bibliography. Our members and subscribers include major research libraries as well as individual scholars and others with expertise in the field.

LAJSA sirve como red para investigadores que trabajan sobre temas afines pero que se encuentran geográficamente distanciados. Los miembros se mantienen en contacto a través de un directorio de miembros, la listserv LAJSA-List y de un boletín informativo semi-anual, Latin American Jewish Studies, el cual incluye información sobre actividades profesionales, revisiones críticas de nuevos trabajos académicos y bibliografía reciente. Nuestros miembros y suscriptores incluyen importantes bibliotecas de investigación así como investigadores individuales y otros expertos en el campo.

LAJSA funciona como uma rede internacional para investigadores que trabalham com temas em comum mas que se encontram em diferentes regiões do mundo. Os membros se mantêm em contato por meio de um catálogo de associados, a listserv LAJSA-List e do boletim semestral, Latin American Jewish Studies, que abrange noticias de atividades profissionais, resenhas de livros e bibliografia de publicações recentes. Entre os nossos membros e assinantes encontram-se as mais importantes bibliotecas e instituições voltadas para a pesquisa, bem como professores e pesquisadores individuais.
The Lester and Sally Entin Faculty of Humanities
The Sverdlin Institute for Latin American History and Culture

XIV International Research Conference of LAJSA
Latin American Jewish Experiences through Plural Lenses

July 26-27-28, 2009

Sunday 26, Webb 001, 09:15 – 10:30
Moderator: Rosalie Sitman

Greetings
Dany Leviatan, Rector, Tel Aviv University
Raanan Rein, Co-Vice President of LAJSA
Gerardo Leibner, Director, Sverdlin Institute for Latin American History and Culture

Tribute to Günter Böhm (z.l.):
Ana María Tapia, Centro de Estudios Judaicos, Universidad de Chile

Opening Lecture
¿Is the Jewish Diaspora Unique?
Gabi Sheffer, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Panel 1: “La Shoá y sus efectos en Latinoamérica”
Webb 102, 10:30 – 12:00
Moderator: Efraim Zadoff

“La mesopotamia judeoargentina y el Holocauusto”
Fanny Ran

“La Segunda Guerra Mundial en el arte verbal judío argentino contemporáneo”
Fernando Fischman

“Costa Rica y el pueblo judío durante el Holocausto”
Haim Avni

“Pasaportes latinoamericanos como documento de protección de judíos durante la Shoá”
Efraim Zadoff

Panel 2: “Comunidad y Educación Judía en Latinoamérica” I
Webb 103, 10:30 – 12:00
Moderator: Natan Lerner

“Identidad, pertenencia y comunidad judía: los judíos en Argentina y Brasil desde la perspectiva de los estudios comunitarios”
Yossi Goldstein

“Educación, diversidad e identidad en grupos minoritarios”
Frida Shwartz

“Multiculturalismo e racialização: paradoxos da representação dos judeus no Brasil do século XXI”
Monica Grin

Panel 3: “Victimismo, conflicto y aportaciones de los escritores judíos en América Latina”
Webb 104, 10:30 – 12:00
Moderator: Lízbeth Souza-Fuertes

“Refugiados y Asalto al paraís o de Marcos Aguinis: apropiaciones y reapropiaciones del discurso palestino”
Ignacio López-Calvo

Program continued on pg. 11
Program continued from pg. 10

“Carácter pionero, marginalidad y desarraigo en la obra de Samuel Rawet”
Lizbeth Souza-Fuertes

“Aportaciones a la cultura mexicana del exilio judío español del 39”
Roberto Fuertes-Manjón

SUNDAY 26, 14:30 – 16:00 PANELS

Panel 2: “Comunidad y Educación Judía en Latinoamérica” II
Webb 103, 14:30 – 16:00

  Moderator: Natan Lerner

"Educación escolar judía viable al 2015"
León Trahtemberg

“Niños y jóvenes en situación de riesgo en la comunidad judía argentina. Institucionalización- posibilidad de reinserción social”
Patricia Hanono

“Diálogo intercultural: jóvenes de origen judío y árabe en Chile”
Abraham Magendzo

Panel 4: “Libros y prensa judía en la Argentina”
Webb 102, 14:30 – 16:00

  Moderator: Silvina Schammah-Gesser

Alejandro Dujovne

“La prensa judía de izquierda en Argentina – los periódicos en idish hasta mediados del siglo XX”
Silvia Schenkolewski-Kroll

“From Apoliticism to Leftism: Re-Crafting Jewish Argentine Ethnicity in the 1960s and 1970s”
Beatrice Gurwitz

Panel 5: “Representaciones artísticas judeolatinoamericanas” I
Webb 104, 14:30 – 16:00

  Moderator: Beth Pollack

“¿Dijo ‘gay’ o ‘goy’?: Identidades étnicas y prácticas sexuales en Esperando al Mesías de Daniel Burman”
Amy Kaminsky

“Miradas cotidianas hacia un nuevo cine judío argentino”
Luciano Martínez

“As Três Semanas em que os Brasileiros Saiiram de Férias”
Shawn Stein

“Rituales judaicos en el cine judeolatinoamericano: circuncisión, bar-mitzva, casamiento y entierro”
Nora Glickman

SUNDAY 26, 16:30 – 18:00 PANELS

Panel 5: “Representaciones artísticas judeolatinoamericanas” II
Webb 104, 16:30 – 18:00

  Moderator: Beth Pollack

“Falafel and Salsa.” A Comparison between Israeli Muzika Mizrahit and Salsa Music”
Moshe Morad

“[Con]Textualization of Tico Memories in Samuel Rovinski”
Beth Pollack

“The Name and the Number-Embroidered onto the Skin”
Mirta Kupferminc

Panel 6: “Inmigraciones judías a Latinoamérica” I
Webb 103, 16:30 – 18:00

  Moderator: Margalit Bejarano

“Artistas judeo-alemanes en el exilio sudamericano: entre patrias, religión e ideología (1938-1953)”
Ximena Álvarez

Program continued on pg. 12
“El comienzo de la organización comunitaria judía en Chile”
Moshe Nes-El

“The Settlement of Monastir Jews in Temuco, Chile”
Yitzchak Kerem

Panel 7: “Expresiones en la literatura” I

Webb 102, 16:30 – 18:00

Moderator: Ester N. Azubel

“Madres e hijas en la genealogía literaria de las escritoras judeo-argentinas”
Alicia Ramos González

“O corpo e a memória em dois romances”
Moacir Amancio

“Another Esther: Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz’s Biblical Self-Portrait”
Pamela Kirk Rappaport

SUNDAY 26, 18:30 – 20:00 PANELS

Panel 8: “Objetos e inmobiliaria como forma de validación identitaria”

Webb 104, 18:30 – 20:00

Moderator: Martina Weisz

“Haciendo Comunidad, Haciendo Ciudad. La inversión inmobiliaria como mecanismo de inserción social de los migrantes judíos en Bogotá, Colombia, desde 1910 hasta 1970. El caso del centro de la ciudad”
Enrique Martínez Ruiz

“La construcción del ’Once’: burguesía inmigrante, lenguajes arquitectónicos y élites judías (1920-1930)”
Marcelo Dimentstein

Panel 6: “Inmigraciones judías a Latinoamérica” II

Webb 103, 18:30 – 20:00

Moderator: Margalit Bejarano

“A política imigratória brasileira e o caráter da imigração dos sefaraditas egípcios ao Brasil”
Ruth Leftel

“Historiografía e identidad – ‘polacos’ en América Latina”
Margalit Bejarano

"Alfred Hirschberg – o direito à cidadania dos judeus na Alemanha. Sua atuação na vida cultural de São Paulo, após a emigração”
Miriam Oelsner

“Entre la Torá y el manifiesto: tensiones en la construcción de la identidad judeocomunista en América Latina”
Daniel Kersfeld

Panel 7: “Expresiones en la literatura” II

Webb 102, 18:30 – 20:00

Moderator: Ester N. Azubel

“Las Acacias desde Buenos Aires: Rebeca Mactas y la identidad judía”
James Hussar

“La representación del terror en novelas de José Pablo Feinmann”
Ester N. Azubel

"Margo Glantz: judía errante a domicilio. Relectura de Las genealogías”
Juana Lorena Campos

“Entre dos mundos: juego de la alteridad en El Dibuk de Ansky”
Atziri Cárdenas

Sunday 26, 20:15 – 21:30
Cocktail
“Palm Garden”

Program continued on pg. 13
MONDAY 27, 9:00 – 10:30 PANELS

Panel 9: “Dictaduras latinoamericanas” I
Webb 102, 9:00 -10:30

Moderator: Daniel Fainstein

“No todo lo que brilla es oro. El periódico Nueva Presencia y la dictadura militar en Argentina, 1977-1983”
Emmanuel Kahan

“Las texturas y las políticas de la memoria: el papel de la Shoá en el posicionamiento comunitario y el activismo social de diversos sectores de la colectividad judía de la Argentina y sus implicaciones institucionales y políticas (1973-1984)”
Daniel Fainstein

“Una solidaridad selectiva: los exilados políticos latinoamericanos en Israel (1973-1978)”
Efraim Davidi

Panel 10: “Arabs and Jews in Latin America” I
Webb 103, 9:00 – 10:30

Moderator: Raanan Rein

“Dynamics of Arabs and Jews in Brazil in the Present”
Regina Igel

Jerry Dávila

“Moors, Turks, Syrians and Poles in Cuba: Shared Collective Imaginary, Tensions and Reconfigured Identities”
Maritza Corrales

Panel 11: “Raíces identitarias en la literatura” I
Webb 104, 9:00 – 10:30

Moderator: Ana María Tapia

“Literature and Autobiography in the Writings of Isaías Leo Kremer”
Daniel Nahson

“Trazando raíces en el habla”
Matilde Holte

“Jewish Enlightenment in Berlin and in Paramaribo - A Contemporary Perspective”
Ineke Phaf-Rheinberger

MONDAY 27, 11:00 – 12:30 PANELS

Panel 9: “Dictaduras latinoamericanas” II
Webb 102, 11:00 -12:30

Moderator: Daniel Fainstein

“Aullando con los lobos: comunidad judía de Chile durante la dictadura de Pinochet (1973-1990)”
Valeria Navarro

“Genocidio y campos de concentración en Chile, 1973-1990. Reflexiones a partir de la Shoá”
Silvana Vetó

“The Abduction of a Professor: U.S. and American Jewish Support for General Rafael Trujillo’s Dictatorship”
Allen Wells

Panel 10: “Arabs and Jews in Latin America” II
Webb 103, 11:00 – 12:30

Moderator: Raanan Rein

“Inscribing Difference: Maronites, Jews and Arabs in Mexico, Migrant Institutions, Marriage Strategies and Popular Culture in the Institutionalization of Conflicting Ethno-religious Identities”
Camila Pastor

“Collective Identities and Public Sphere: Jews and Arabs in Mexico”
Judit Bokser Liwerant

Panel 11: “Raíces identitarias en la literatura” II
Webb 104, 11:00 – 12:30

Moderator: Ana María Tapia

“Heine’s Princess Sabbath in Grünberg’s Spanish and Bialik’s Yiddish Versions”
Alan Astro

“Escritos de Yejezkel Fridman”
Ana María Tapia

Program continued on pg. 14
MONDAY 27, 14:00 – 15:30 PANELS

Panel 12: “Antisemitismo y neonazismo en Latinoamérica”

Webb 105 14:00 – 15:30

Moderators: Alicia Gojman
Haim Avni

“Tramas do Neonazismo: tessituras de ódio nas tramas das cidades”
Adriana Abreu Dias

“Judeofobia en Chile durante la dictadura: el caso de Miguel Serrano”
Gustavo Guzmán Castro

“Antisemitismo en Argentina: características y diferenciaciones. Una visión comparativa”
Graciela Ben-Dror

“Las actividades nazis en México a través del Archivo Secreto de México: 1939-1942”
Alicia Gojman

MONDAY 27, 16:00 – 17:30 PANELS

Panel 13: “Fronteras identitarias” I

Webb 104, 14:00 – 15:30

Moderators: Alisa Ginio
Marquesa Macadar

“Indios y judíos en Chiapas: apuntes y cuestiones preliminares”
Luz del Rocío Bermúdez

“Judíos, indios y el mito de crimen ritual: el caso de Chamula, Chiapas (México), 1868”
Misgav Har-Peled

“El caso del indio frente a la inmigración árabe y judía en Norpatagonia (Argentina, 1900-1930)”
Mauricio Dimant

“Las actividades nazis en México a través del Archivo Secreto de México: 1939-1942”
Alicia Gojman

Panel 14: “Lo judío en escritores no judíos” I

Webb 103, 14:00 – 15:30

Moderator: Ruth Fine

“El Holocausto en obras de novelistas mexicanos no judíos: Carlos Fuentes y José Emilio Pacheco”
Malva Filer

“Rescuing Homero Aridjis: Latin American Jewish Literature Beyond Identity Politics”
Yael Halevi-Wise

“Manifestaciones de la identidad judía en textos de Roberto Bolaño”
Myrna Solotorevsky

Program continued on pg. 15
Panel 15: “Inmigrantes latinoamericanos judíos y no judíos en Israel: una perspectiva comparativa”

Webb 102, 16:00 – 17:30  
Moderator: Ori Preuss

“Olim latinoamericanos y sus organizaciones voluntarias en Israel”

Deby Babis

“El estatus civil de los niños de inmigrantes laborales en general y de la comunidad latinoamericana en particular”

Anabel Lifszyc

“La Aliyah de Argentina al Estado de Israel 1948-1967”

Sebastian Klor

“La Escuelita: trabajo comunitario educativo desde la marginalidad”

Marcelo Weksler

TUESDAY 28, 9:00- 10:30 PANELS

Panel 16: “Las nuevas escrituras del desarraigo judío en Latinoamérica: transmigraciones, identidades y lenguas” I

Webb 102, 9:00 –10:30  
Moderator: Andrea Jeftanovic

“Tradición y huerfanía en las nuevas voces judías mexicanas”

Rodrigo Cánovas

“Reinventarse como héroe mítico”

Jorge Scherman

“Saudades de la tierra paterna”

Andrea Jeftanovic

Panel 17: “Los judíos de origen sirio en América Latina: procesos de inserción a partir de la segunda mitad del siglo XX”

Webb 104, 9:00 – 10:30  
Moderators: Liz Hamui, Susana Brauner  
Commentator: Margalit Bejarano

“Os judeus de Alepo em São Paulo”

Rachel Mizrahi

Entre la "Patria Socialista" y la heterodoxia: los argentinos judíos de origen sirio en los años setenta

Program continued on pg. 16
Program continued from pg. 15

“Nuestra Shoá: dictaduras, Holocausto y represión en tres novelas judeorioplatenses”
Amalia Ran

“Presencia del misticismo judío en la literatura latinoamericana contemporánea”
Ariana Huberman

Panel 18: “Paradigmas y prácticas identitarias judías en la actualidad: conflictos, evoluciones, cambios” II
Webb 103, 11:00 – 12:30
Moderator: Adriana Brodsky

“Are you trying to kill me? You are my doctor, and you get me a cheeseburger?: Food practices and the manner of their transmission among modern day anusim”
Schulamith Halevy

“Who’s the Boss?: Notions of Empowerment in the Shami and Halebi Communities in Mexico City”
Paulette Kershenovich Schuster

“Who needs a rabbi?”
Leni Silverstein

Panel 19: “Judíos latinoamericanos: una diáspora transnacionalizada” I
Webb 104, 11:00 – 12:30
Moderator: Sergio DellaPergola

“Pluralizando hogares/patrias: los parámetros cambiantes de la diáspora judía en América Latina”
Judit Bokser Liwerant

“Diáspora y judaísmo: reflexiones teóricas y dinámicas culturales en América Latina”
Bernardo Sorj

“Cambios culturales como expresiones de transnacionalización”
Saúl Sosnowski

Panel 19: “Judíos latinoamericanos: una diáspora transnacionalizada” II
Webb 104, 14:00 – 15:30
Moderator: Sergio DellaPergola

“Iberoamerican Jews and Transnational Legitimation and De-Legitimation”
Luis Roniger

“¿Diásporas transnacionales? Prácticas de ciudadanía dual y etnicidad de italianos y judíos argentinos en el nuevo milenio”
Leonardo Senkman

Panel 20: “Ecos de guerras nos trópicos”
Webb 102, 14:00 – 15:30
Moderator: Nancy Rozenchan

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TRIBUTE TO JACOBO KOVADLOFF (Z.L.)
Tuesday 28, 16:00 – 17:30
Webb 001, 16:00 – 16:15
Moderator: Rosalie Sitman

Alejandro Dujovne, Judit Bokser Liwerant

General Assembly: “Breaking Out and Breaking In: Latin American Jewish Studies 2009”
Webb 001, 16:15 – 17:30
Moderator: Rosalie Sitman

“From Jewish Gauchos to Anti-Nazis: The Challenge of Latin American Literature to Shoah Studies”
Edna Aizenberg

“Towards a Normalization of Jewish-Latin American Historiography”
Raanan Rein
LAJSA FINANCIAL STATEMENT
(February 2008—May 2009)

Beginning balance $11,054.00

Dues $7498.00*

* Includes $215.00 for “Endow Our Future” fund

Total $18,552.00

Expenses

Bank charges $661.00

Total $17,891.00

Transfer to “Endow Our Future” $215.00

Ending Balance $17,676.00

ENDOW OUR FUTURE REPORT

Vanguard Group (Mutual Fund) 500 Index Fund

Opened September 1999

Value as of March 31, 2009 $8,514.85

Respectfully submitted by
Darrell B. Lockhart, Treasurer
May 12, 2009
“PRELUDES” & “WITH MOTHERS LIKE THESE” IN ISRAEL

Nora Glickman
Queens College, CUNY

Teatrotaller, Cornell University’s Latino theatre troupe, performed Nora Glickman’s plays in Jerusalem on November 24, 2008, at the International Theatre Festival. What was meant to be a larger festival was curtailed by the strike at the Hebrew University, which resulted in the cancelation of all the cultural events of the season. Two months later, several theatre groups were invited to present at various theatres in the city, groups from Belgium (The Teatre Universitari Royal de Liege) and Ecuador (El Callejón del Agua) performed at The Maabadah Theatre; they were joined by Israeli troupes from the Hebrew University.

Glickman's plays were performed at the beautiful Khan Theatre in Jerusalem, where in 2003 a Smith College group had performed her “Two Charlottes,” under the direction of Ellen Kaplan and Isaac Benabu. On this occasion, Glickman's first play, entitled “With Mothers Like These” was a combination of three monologues based on mothers who mean well for their children, but whose actions lead to devastating results for their offspring: When “Lot's Wife” turned back her face towards S'dom, she never really intended to let her husband Lot leave the town alone with her daughters. “Fanny” Nemirovksy did not really mean to refuse to let her orphaned grandchildren stay with her in Nice when their teacher brought them to her, after her daughter, Irene, was murdered in Auschwitz. And yet, she chose to send her granddaughters to an orphanage. And” Mireille” Brutweiser truly believed she was protecting her son from the police when she got rid of his artwork in her own peculiar way.

For the staging of these monologues, director Jimmy A. Noriega juxtaposed “Mireille” and “Fanny” by separating the stage in two parts, and by having each actress alternate her lines with the other, without taking away from the original texts. As a result, the outcome became most effective, as it was the accumulation of excuses on the part of the protagonists that revealed the strength of the plays. “Lot's Wife” was presented on a totally barren stage, without the prop of a salt statue from which the actress would emerge. Instead, her frozen body slowly came to life prompted by the rhythm of desert music, and by the approaching of human lives. The second act featured a short play, “Preludes,” set for a trio of amateur musicians. The action takes place in Argentina, in the 1940s.

The Hebrew University has hosted other plays by Nora Glickman over the past few years. In 1999, Smith College, under the direction of Ellen Kaplan, presented Glickman’s “Liturgies” (in English). This event was part of the Thespis Fifth International University Theatre Festival.

This is the second time Teatro-Taller has chosen Glickman plays for performances at other universities. In 2000, “A Certain Raquel” was performed in Ithaca, N.Y. (at Cornell University), and in New York City (at Barnard College and at Queens College, CUNY); in Liege (Belgium), in 2007, under the direction of Ellen Kaplan and Isaac Benabu; and, in Mexico City and Puebla, as part of an International University Theatre Festival. For the staging of these monologues, Jimmy A. Noriega, the director, juxtaposed “Mireille” and “Fanny” by separating the stage in two parts, and by having each actress alternate her lines with the other, without taking away from the original texts. As a result, the outcome became most effective, as it was the accumulation of excuses on the part of the protagonists that revealed the strength of the plays. “Lot's Wife” was presented on a totally barren stage, without the prop of a salt statue from which the actress would emerge. Instead, her frozen body slowly came to life prompted by the rhythm of desert music, and by the approaching

Latin American Jewish Theatre...continued on page 39
of human lives. The second act featured a short play, “Preludes” (actresses' names) set for a trio of amateur musicians. The action takes place in Argentina, in the 1940s.

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Standing from left to right, the cast of Teatro-Taller: Director Jimmy A. Noriega, standing second from left. Playwright Nora Glickman, seated in the center.

All photos courtesy of Jimmy A. Noriega
Actress Charlotte Colón playing Lot’s wife in “Lot’s Wife,” by Nora Glickman.

Mireille (Stephanie Cajina) and Fanny (Katya Soll) in a split-stage scene, in “With Mothers Like These,” by Nora Glickman.

Alejandra Ruiz, Stephanie Cajima, and Kayley Bebber in a scene from “Preludes,” by Nora Glickman.

Actress Charlotte Colón playing Lot’s wife in “Lot’s Wife,” by Nora Glickman.
Se anunció la aparición de una nueva revista, un anuario, *Iberia Judaica*, a cargo de la *Asociación Hispana de Estudios Hebraicos* (Madrid), centrada en el judaísmo hispano (desde los orígenes hasta la expulsión de los judíos de Hispania). La revista se propone fomentar la investigación científica del judaísmo hispano y pertrechar al estudioso de elementos imprescindibles para sus investigaciones.

Con estos objetivos, el anuario dispone de tres secciones: una sección monográfica (el primer número está dedicado a los judíos de al-Andalus), una sección de textos (inéditos o en el original o en traducción) y otra sección de bibliografía (con reseñas y recensiones y un boletín bibliográfico de la producción internacional en el campo del judaísmo hispano). Para este último fin el Anuario cuenta ya concorresponsales en algunas de las diferentes naciones. Pensamos también en la conveniencia de abrir para algunas cuestiones un foro de debate.

La revista tiene carácter internacional y acoge sus publicaciones en español, portugués, catalán, inglés, francés, italiano, alemán y latín. Dentro de la sección de textos sí se admiten las escrituras originales (hebreo, arameo, árabe, etc).

Los interesados en la adquisición del primer número de *Iberia Judaica* (2009), de cuyo contenido se da información en los archivos adjuntos, deben dirigirse a <asociacionheh@ahhe.e.telefonica.net>.

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**ALL ABOUT LAJSA-LIST**

Among one of LAJSA’s activities is the LAJSA Electronic Archive, or the LAJSA-list, an electronic mailing list dedicated to news about Latin American Jewish communities and announcements of scholarly activities and new publications in Latin American Jewish Studies. All postings from September 2002 forward are saved in the LAJSA Electronic Archive.

To subscribe or post messages to the LAJSA-list, contact the Manager of the LAJSA Electronic Archive, Naomi Lindstrom at <lindstrom@austin.utexas.edu>.

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**Discover the Benefits of LAJSA Membership**

If you are not already a LAJSA member but would like to become a member of an international community of scholars focused on Latin American Jewish Studies, please visit:

http://www.utexas.edu/cola/orgs/lajsa/

or download an application at:

http://www.utexas.edu/cola/orgs/lajsa/content/membership/LAJSA_membershipapp.pdf
UNITED STATES-ISRAEL EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

The United States-Israel Educational Foundation (USIEF) plans to award ten grants to American post-doctoral scholars who are about to begin a program of research at Israeli institutions of higher education which will commence during the 2010-2011 academic year. The total length of the proposed program of work in Israel must be at least two academic years (20 months net in Israel).

The Fulbright award totals $40,000, $20,000 per academic year. Fulbright funding supplements basic post-doctoral stipends provided by Israeli host institutions. This program is open to post-doctoral researchers in all academic disciplines.

USIEF awards are granted on the basis of academic excellence, the leadership promise of the applicant, and the potential of the proposed visit to both advance knowledge and enhance mutual understanding between the peoples of the U.S. and Israel.

The Foundation gives preference to applicants who have not had significant prior professional experience in Israel.

Knowledge of Hebrew is helpful but not required, except as necessary for the conduct of proposed research projects.

Post-doctoral fellows must be hosted by an accredited Israeli institution of higher education. For the complete list of accredited institutions, click here.

Each candidate should try to arrange his/her institutional affiliations in Israel independently, including development of the program of work for the proposed visit, through contacts with possible host institutions. If assistance is required, USIEF will attempt to help candidates to identify suitable host institutions.

Candidates should take into account that, according to USIEF policy, host institutions will be required to provide to the program fellows a grant no smaller than their own usual basic post-doctoral award, in addition to USIEF’s grant. Thus, candidates should submit applications for post-doctoral stipends to potential host institutions, in parallel to presentation of their candidacy for Fulbright fellowships. Host institution awards vary from university to university. The Fulbright award in every case will be $40,000 - $20,000 per academic year, for two academic years (20 months net in Israel).

A letter from an Israeli researcher, expressing at least preliminary interest in hosting the candidate, must be included among the materials submitted to the Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES) by the August 1 application deadline. A formal hosting commitment, including the commitment to provide financial support, must be received by USIEF from the host institution in November 2009 in order for a candidate to be evaluated in the final stage of the grant allocation process.


Those interested may also contact the CIES staff member responsible for the Middle East region for further information:

Mr. Gary L. Garrison
Telephone: 202-686-4019
Email: ggarrison@cies.iie.org
The Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies (CAHS) of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) is pleased to invite applications for a workshop on Sephardic Jewry and the Holocaust, scheduled for June 16-25, 2010 at the USHMM in Washington, DC. Established in 1999, the Center's Summer Research Workshop program provides an environment in which groups of scholars working in closely related areas of study—but with limited previous personal interaction—can gather to discuss central research questions or issues; their research methodologies and findings; the major challenges facing their work; and potential future collaborative scholarly ventures.

The objectives of this workshop are to acquaint emerging scholars with the breadth of this rich and diverse subject matter; expose them to new scholarly research on Sephardic Studies and the Holocaust; and consequently provide them with the background knowledge, archival resources, and scholarly networking necessary to initiate or continue work in this underrepresented area. The workshop will be led by two leading scholars in the field, Aron Rodrigue and Daniel Schroeter. Professor Rodrigue is the Eva Chernov Lokey Professor in Jewish Studies and Professor of History at Stanford University, and Director of the Stanford Humanities Center. He has written extensively on the history and culture of Sephardic Jews, Modern Jewish History, Jews of Modern France, minority identities, and the Ottoman Empire. Professor Schroeter holds the Amos S. Deinard Memorial Chair in Jewish History at the University of Minnesota. His work focuses on the history and culture of Jews in Northern Africa and the Muslim Mediterranean.

The workshop will be divided into seminar and research segments. The seminar portion of the program will address broader issues from an interdisciplinary perspective, such as Ladino language and Sephardic identity; the Sephardic experience in ghettos, camps, and transports; resistance and rescue; and the experience of North African Jews both before and during the war. By the conclusion of the workshop, participants will be exposed to broad subject matter on both Sephardic life and culture before the war, and the Sephardic experience during the Holocaust. The regions to be considered include Southeastern Europe (Balkans, Bulgaria, Greece) and North Africa (Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, and Morocco).

The research portion of the workshop will consist of orientation, exposure, and guided research in the Museum's extensive archival and other collections. The Museum has significant holdings concerning North Africa, Croatia, Greece, Serbia, the Jewish community of Monastir, as well as newly acquired collections in Ladino and Judeo-Arabic, and selected collections of Sephardic-survivor oral testimonies and Sephardic music. The workshop will also provide specific presentations on selected topics of interest to the field.

The Museum welcomes applications from advanced graduate students, doctoral candidates, post-doctoral scholars, and early career academics who are either conducting or considering research on Sephardic Jewish Studies, Holocaust Studies in Sephardic countries or communities, or area studies in countries in which Sephardic Jews resided. All disciplines are encouraged to apply. Candidates must be affiliated with an accredited, degree-awarding institution (baccalaureate, the equivalent, or higher) in North America.

A maximum of fourteen scholars will be selected. Applications must be submitted in English and include: (1) a current CV; (2) a statement addressing the candidate’s specific interest and background (including previous coursework, projects, publications, or language study) in the program’s area of study as well as how the workshop will benefit the candidate’s research; and (3) a supporting letter from an academic advisor, department chair, or dean that addresses the candidate’s qualifications and research as well as his/her potential as a scholar in the field. Participants are required to attend the full duration of the workshop.

For non-local participants, the Center will provide: (1) lodging for the duration of the workshop; and (2) $1,000 toward the cost of travel and other incidental expenses, which will be distributed within 2-4 weeks of the workshop's conclusion. Local participants will receive a stipend of $200 for the two weeks.

**Applications must be postmarked or submitted electronically no later than November 23, 2009.** Applications should be sent to University Programs, Center of Advanced Holocaust Studies, United States Holocaust memorial Museum, 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place, SW, Washington, DC 20024 (Fax: 202-479-9726; Email: university_programs@ushmm.org). Candidates will be notified by January 18, 2010. For questions, please contact Dr. Leah Wolfson at lwolfson@ushmm.org.

This workshop is made possible through the generosity of The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, Inc.
2010 CJH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM: GUIDELINES FOR APPLICATION

The Center for Jewish History (CJH) composed of its five partners (American Jewish Historical Society, American Sephardi Federation, Leo Baeck Institute, Yeshiva University Museum, YIVO Institute for Jewish Research), offers fellowships, that are intended for Ph.D. candidates. The awards support original research at the Center for Jewish History in the field of Jewish Studies. Preference will be given to those candidates who draw on the library and archival resources of more than one partner.

Full fellowships carry a stipend of up to $12,500 for a period of one academic year. It is expected that applicants will have completed all requirements for the doctoral degree except for the dissertation (a.b.d.).

It is required that each fellow chosen for the award:

* Conduct research for the duration of the award at a minimum of 2 days/week in the Lillian Goldman Reading Room using the archival and library resources. Please note that the Center reserves the right to withhold stipends from fellows who do not fulfill the attendance commitment.
* Participate in a Center for Jewish History Seminar and deliver a minimum of one lecture (during or beyond the grant period) based on research at the Center and the collections used; or participate in exhibition planning (for curatorial fellows only).

Eligibility:

* Open to qualified doctoral candidates in accredited institutions.
* For non-USA citizens, it is the responsibility of the applicant to have the appropriate visa for acceptance of the stipend (award) and for the required duration of the award.

Requirements for Application:

* Cover letter stating area of interest and knowledge of relevant languages, and how the project relates to the mission of the Center for Jewish History.
* Curriculum Vitae, including contact information, education, publications, scholarly and/or museum activities, teaching experience, and any other relevant work experience.
* Specific research proposal of no more than three pages, including specific reference to the collections (http://catalog.cjh.org) and aims for research during the period of the fellowship.
* Official graduate school transcript.
* Three letters of recommendation, including from the students’ academic advisors, which address the significance of the candidate’s work for the field as well as the candidate's ability to fulfill the proposed work.

The schedule for application is as follows:

* Receipt of application is due by February 17, 2010
* Committee to review applications by March 15, 2010
* Announcement of grant recipients by April 2010
* Commencement of grant period, August 15 - September 15, 2010
* Conclusion of grant period, June 30, 2010

Applications are to be mailed to:

Diane Spielmann, Ph.D.
Director of Public Services
Center for Jewish History
15 West 16th Street
New York, NY 10011
United States of America

Email: dspielmann@cjh.org

The application deadline for the 2010 CJH Fellowship Program is February 17, 2010
Maurice and Marilyn Cohen Fund
for
Doctoral Dissertation Fellowships in Jewish Studies

The Maurice and Marilyn Cohen Fund for Doctoral Dissertation Fellowships in Jewish Studies encourages scholarly research, publication and teaching in the various disciplines of Jewish studies. Established in 1960, we have awarded fellowships to nearly 600 scholars, including many leaders in the field.

The Doctoral Dissertation Fellowships in Jewish Studies are made for one academic year and are given for the final stages of completing a dissertation, typically in the fifth year of study. Applicants should have completed all doctoral requirements, except for the completion of their thesis, and must show evidence of being able to complete their thesis within the fellowship year.

The 2009-2010 grant cycle will be announced Summer 2009.

ACLS/SSRC/NEH
International and Area Studies Fellowships

In order to encourage humanistic research in area studies, special funding by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the ACLS has been set aside for up to ten ACLS/SSRC/NEH International and Area Studies Fellowships to be designated among the successful applicants to the central ACLS Fellowship competition. Scholars pursuing research and writing on the societies and cultures of Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean, Eastern Europe, and the former Soviet Union will be eligible for these special fellowships.

Application must be made to the ACLS Fellowship Program and all requirements and provisions of that program must be met, with the addition that an International and Area Studies Fellow must be either a U.S. citizen or a permanent resident who has lived in the U.S. continuously for at least three years by the application deadline. These fellows also must submit a final report to both NEH and ACLS. Designation of the ACLS/SSRC/NEH International and Area Studies Fellows will be made by ACLS.

Fellowship Details

* Maximum award:
  $60,000 for full Professor and equivalent
  $40,000 for Associate Professor and equivalent
  $35,000 for Assistant Professor and equivalent

* Tenure: six to twelve consecutive months devoted to full-time research, to be initiated between July 1, 2010 and February 1, 2011

* Completed applications must be submitted through the ACLS Online Fellowship Application system (ofa.acls.org) no later than 9 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time, September 30, 2009. The Online Fellowship Application (OFA) system will open in mid-July.

* Notifications will be sent in March 2010.

For more information, please visit:

DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR LAJSA MEMBERSHIP!

For information on when and how to renew your LAJSA membership, please visit the LAJSA membership section on the homepage at the University of Texas, Austin:

<http://www.utexas.edu/cola/orgs/lajsa/membership/>
The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives is pleased to invite applications to its annual Fellowship Program for the 2010-2011 academic year. The Marcus Center’s Fellowship Program provides recipients with month long fellowships for research and writing at The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives, located on the Cincinnati campus of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. Fellowship stipends will be sufficient to cover transportation and living expenses while in residence in Cincinnati.

Applicants for the Marcus Center Fellowship program must be conducting serious research in some area relating to the history of North American Jewry. Typically, Marcus Center Fellowships will be awarded to post-doctoral candidates, Ph.D. candidates who are completing dissertations, and senior or independent scholars.

Applicants must submit a fellowship application (see below) together with a five-page (maximum) research proposal that outlines the scope of their project and lists those collections at the American Jewish Archives that are crucial to their research. Applicants should also submit two letters of support, preferably from academic colleagues. For graduate and doctoral students, one of these two letters must be from their dissertation advisor.

Download a fellowship application or request to have one sent via postal mail. The submission deadline for applications is no later than March 18, 2010. All inquiries and application materials should be forwarded to:

Mr. Kevin Proffitt  
The Director of the Fellowship Program  
c/o The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives  
3101 Clifton Avenue  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45220 -2408  
(513) 221-7444, ext. 304  
Fax: (513) 221-7812 or send an email to kproffitt@huc.edu

For a comprehensive list of funding sources in Judaic Studies visit the web page of the Library of the Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies at the University of Pennsylvania:

http://www.library.upenn.edu/cajs/funding.html
From the time Abraham left the city of Ur, the Israelites and later the Jews have been a people on the move. Whether one thinks of the legal aspects of travelling; or of famous travellers such as Benjamin of Tudela and Petachia of Regensburg; whether one thinks of the astronomers and mapmakers such as Abraham Zacuto or the cartographers of Palma de Mallorca; whether one thinks or the travellers’ tales deposited in the Genizah, or of the forced displacement particular to our difficult history, the subject of travel and exploration is a perfect opportunity for Jewish studies scholars and students of Jewish Christian and Jewish Muslim relations to engage in scholarly dialogue and debate.

Conference organizers are seeking proposals for sessions (3 papers or multiples of 3) or individual papers relating to Jewish travel and exploration in the Medieval Period. The IMC’s full CPF is available on [http://www.leeds.ac.uk/ims/imc/imc2010_call.html](http://www.leeds.ac.uk/ims/imc/imc2010_call.html). The deadline for paper is August 31, 2009 for papers, and September 31, 2009, for sessions. Enquiries about the Jewish Studies strand should be emailed to Dr Eva Frojmovic, Centre for Jewish Studies, University of Leeds, <e.frojmovic@leeds.ac.uk>.

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS OR PAPERS**

**2010 BRAZILIAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE**

**BRASILIA**

Misha Klein and Renée Avigdor are organizing a panel on social scientific perspectives on the contemporary Jewish experience in Brazil for the 2010 Brazilian Studies Association conference in Brasília. We welcome proposals for papers from anthropologists and sociologists. Please send proposed topics in English or Portuguese to misha@ou.edu and renee.9a@gmail.com.

**BRITISH CONFERENCE ON JUDEO-SPANISH STUDIES**

**QUEEN MARY, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON**

**JULY 13-20, 2010**

Dr. Hilary Pomeroy is delighted to announce that the Sixteenth British Conference on Judeo-Spanish Studies will take place at Queen Mary, University of London from Tuesday 13 July to Thursday 15 July 2010.

The British Conference on Judeo-Spanish Studies is an international scholarly forum for university teachers and researchers working in Judeo-Spanish Studies, and welcomes papers from both eminent scholars and those engaged in doctoral studies. Our emphasis is on Judeo-Spanish Language and Judeo-Spanish Literature.

The conference is being held in collaboration with The Naime and Yeshoshua Salti Center for Ladino Studies, Bar-Ilan University, Israel. The conference will follow its usual format of three full days of papers and accommodation has been reserved on campus. The official Call for Papers will be sent out in October 2009.
CALL FOR PAPERS

RAPHAEL PATAI PRIZE IN JEWISH FOLKLORE AND ETHNOLOGY

The Jewish Folklore and Ethnology Section of the American Folklore Society and the Committee on the Anthropology of Jews and Judaism of the American Anthropological Association invite submissions for their Raphael Patai Prize in Jewish Folklore and Ethnology for 2009. The Prize is awarded for the best unpublished essay in Jewish folklore and ethnology by a student completed 2008 or 2009.

The winners for 2007 were Gabrielle Berlinger (Folklore, Indiana University) for "770 Eastern Parkway: Brooklyn Brownstone, Sacred Space," and Irit Koren (Gender Studies, Bar-Ilan University) for "The Power of Discourse: Issues of Gender and Social Control Regarding Changing the Jewish Wedding Ritual." Berlinger's paper will appear in volume 2 ("Jews at Home") and Koren's will appear in volume 3 ("Re-Visioning Ritual") of the Jewish Cultural Studies series for Littman Library of Jewish Civilization (littman.co.uk/jcs).

Submissions are reviewed by an international committee and notifications will be made by October 2009. Papers sent for the Prize are considered submissions to the book series Jewish Cultural Studies (Littman Library of Jewish Civilization, Oxford, UK, http://www.littman.co.uk) and should not be under review with any other publication. The winner of the prize receives $200 and a citation from the American Folklore Society.

Criteria for submission:

1. Approaches to the subject must cover folkloristic and ethnological perspectives and Jewish content

2. The length of papers must be of publishable essay length, usually 8,000-12,000 words

3. The preferable citation style is in-text citation style with a reference list at the end

4. The submitted unpublished paper must have been written by a student in 2008 or 2009, and not submitted for publication

5. Submitters must identify the university and department where the paper was prepared, and provide contact information, including postal and email addresses.

LAJSA’s web site <http://www.utexas.edu/cola/orgs/lajsa/>, on the University of Texas at Austin Liberal Arts server, is coordinated by Naomi Lindstrom. It contains not just a PDF copy of the latest issues of the newsletter, but also a registry of LAJS dissertations and theses, bibliographies, information on past and future conferences, and educational materials such as syllabi and course descriptions for LAJS courses. Please contribute to this valuable resource by sending your LAJS syllabi and course descriptions to Naomi Lindstrom <lindstrom@austin.utexas.edu>.
CALL FOR PAPERS

Journal of Jewish Identities 4: 2 (July 2011)

Theme:

Jewish Latin American Identity and Cultural Production

Monique R. Balbuena & Adriana Brodsky (editors)

The coupling of the terms “Jew” and “Latino,” or “Jewish” and “Latin American” still elicits surprise, especially among those who grew accustomed to identifying “Jewish” with “Eastern European,” and those who imagine Latin America as a homogeneous Catholic region. In the United States this tends to be the trend, in a move that simultaneously downplays the experience of non-Ashkenazi Jews in the country, and the heterogeneous Jewish presence in the Americas. But a growing corpus of Jewish and Latin American works increasingly demands that we acknowledge and confront both the Jewish contribution to the make-up of the Latin American cultural fabric, and the relevance of Latin American realities in shaping a distinctive Jewish identity.

This special issue of the Journal of Jewish Identities will focus on representations of Jewishness and Jewish identity in Latin America, observing socio-cultural practices and cultural production among Latin American Jewish communities, and in the larger co-territorial context as well.

We especially welcome comparative and interdisciplinary essays. Also encouraged are essays that address intra-Jewish difference, multilingualism and use of Jewish languages, Jewish and national identities, use of adopted genres, transnational experiences, and representations of the Holocaust. We invite submissions from any discipline within the Humanities and Social Sciences.

SUBMISSIONS

Papers should be sent electronically to guest editor Monique R. Balbuena at balbuena@jewishidentities.org as Word e-mail attachments, indicating “Journal of Jewish Identities: Call for Papers” in the subject line. Manuscripts should be prepared using the Chicago Manual of Style. The preferred length for article manuscripts is 7,000 – 10,000 words. Manuscripts will be reviewed following the Journal's standard process. Please include an abstract of no more than 150 words and a biographical note. All articles are anonymously reviewed. Submissions must be in American English and are considered for publication on the understanding that the author(s) offer the Journal of Jewish Identities the exclusive option to publish, and that the paper is not currently under consideration for publication elsewhere.

It is the responsibility of the author to obtain permission for using any previously published material. Accepted manuscripts become the permanent property of the journal. Authors may, of course, use the article elsewhere after publication without prior permission from the Journal of Jewish Identities, provided that acknowledgement is given to the Journal as original source of publication, and that the Journal is notified so that our records show that its use is properly authorized.

BOOK REVIEWS AND REVIEW ESSAYS

Individuals interested in writing book reviews (750-1,000 words) of individual works of recent scholarship on the subject or longer review essays (3,000 words) on multiple works should contact the book review editor (dmagilow@utk.edu) to propose specific titles. The editorial board of the Journal of Jewish Identities in turn evaluates these proposals for appropriateness.
The 9th Congress of the European Association for Jewish Studies (EAJS) will be celebrated in Ravenna next year 2010 on July 25-29. The opening session will be held on Sunday, July 25th, 2010 afternoon, and the conference will end on Thursday, July 29th evening. The first call for papers will be launched soon by the end of July 2009, with all details concerning the structure, the organization and the opportunities to participate in the event. The Executive Committee decided to articulate the congress in 16 thematic sections, each of them chaired by two leading scholars in the field of Judaic Studies.

For more information, please contact the EAJS President, Mauro Perani, at mauro.peran...@unibo.it or visit the European Association for Jewish Studies website at: http://www.eurojewishstudies.org

XXXIX Latin American Studies Association Congress
October 6-9, 2010
Toronto, Canada

Proposal forms and instructions are available on the LASA website, <http://lasa.international.pitt.edu>. The deadline to submit proposals is September 15, 2009. No submissions by regular mail will be accepted. The Secretariat will send confirmation of the receipt of the proposal via e-mail. All participants will be required to pre-register for the conference.

HaLapid: Journal for the Society for Crypto-Judaic Studies welcomes news notes and articles on crypto-Judaism in the Americas and related Sephardic experiences. Submission deadlines are March 1, June 1, September 1, and December 1. Articles are usually in the range of 1000 to 2000 words. Articles should be submitted by e-mail to:

ronjosseph@gmail.com. Membership in the Society is $35.00 per year, paid to SCJS (Attn: Art Benveniste), 333 Washington Blvd., # 336, Marina del Rey, CA 90292.
Standing ideas of "Jewish" languages by examining cultural and material conditions of belonging and displacement under which Jews have lived and created with particular regard for theories of language structure and oral performance and relationships among vernacular, spoken and elite literary tongues.

Questions regarding language, as affect and effect, are as old as Israelite and Jewish civilization itself. Jewish Languages asks what are the social and historical forces that underlie the politics of language choice among Jews? What, in fact, does it mean to call the use of a language a "choice?" The languages of the Ancient Near East, of Judaism in the Greco-Roman world, and of translations of the Bible first announced by the Septuagint open new discussions between translation studies and critical Jewish texts. How do perspectives on Talmudic discourse shift when it is read as emerging from multilingual milieus whose hermeneutics are also translational practices? In this framework, Jewish polyglotism encompasses not only distinct languages used for divergent purposes and locations, but also the emergence of hybrid idioms in oral and written cultures devised for diverse speech situations. Medieval Jewish language practices, especially the art of writing under persecution, address performative and political dimensions of mystical and heterodox speech. Mixed languages of Ashkenazim and Mizrahim in modern periods—not only Yiddish and Ladino, but also Judeo–Arabic, Judeo–Italian, Judeo–Persian and many others—draw upon dissonance between "the Holy Tongue" and "la'az," the many languages of the “strange peoples” among whom Jews have dwelt, to spark liturgical, cultural, and historical conflicts and innovations.

Since language clashes are frequently interpreted as symbolic struggles over power, belief, and social change, scholars in fields as diverse as sociolinguistics, literary and film criticism, biblical archeology, anthropology, performance studies, and history have considered how changing speech forms index social and ideological conflicts. Renderings of Jewish experience have drawn upon verbal strangeness and recombinant vernaculars to articulate speech situations as various and contradictory as alienation and assimilation, patriarchy and feminist critique, popular consumerism and revolutionary utopias. Moreover, recently language studies have expanded to include work on performance, globalization, new media and digital cultures, migration, and national language politics.

The theme of Jewish Languages will bring scholars from diverse disciplines to consider overlapping questions and controversies: What, in the 21st century, is a Jewish language? What isn’t? Do such distinctions signify substantive boundaries? What forms of complex affinities and dissonances exist among mixed Jewish languages of diverse times and locations? What are the implications of linguistic conservation, revival, and extinction for global Jewry? What are the politics and aesthetics of translation and typography in Jewish cultures? What is the sociology of knowledge of bilingual books and bridge languages?

Under the rubric of Jewish language practices, the Frankel Institute invites scholars and artists to consider how the questions and implications of Jewish tongues motivate collaborative and interdisciplinary approaches to narrative and literary form, biblical and Talmudic studies, gender and sexuality studies, historical and political studies, performance and orality, and visual culture.

For more information, visit: [http://www.lsa.umich.edu/Judaic/html/frankel_institute_3_0.htm](http://www.lsa.umich.edu/Judaic/html/frankel_institute_3_0.htm)
CALL FOR PAPERS

AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH STUDIES
22ST ANNUAL CONFERENCE
JUDAISM AND THE OTHER
14-15 FEBRUARY 2010
MANDELBAUM HOUSE, UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

The Annual Conference of the Australian Association of Jewish Studies provides a meeting place for tertiary academics, Jewish educators, researchers, students and others devoted to the study of Jewish life, thought and culture.

With the conference theme for 2010, “Judaism and the ‘Other’” we are seeking to create a forum in which to explore how Jewish traditions, texts and cultures, and vision(s) of the ‘Other’ influenced relationships, social and economic conditions, cultural output and the like of Jewish communities in Israel and across the diaspora.

Papers from a variety of disciplines are welcome, and these may discuss the relationship of Judaism to paganism in biblical times, the emergence of Christianity and Islam, and of the Eastern religions. They can also see how modern developments, such as the Enlightenment, socialism and communism impacted on Judaism and vice versa.

Papers on other topics will be considered but preference will be given to those bearing directly on the conference theme.

Submissions to present papers must be made by 7 September 2009. Acceptance of papers will be notified by email no later than October 2009. Submissions must include author’s name, postal and email address, institutional affiliation, abstract of the paper to be presented and short biographical note. The abstract must be 200-300 words and the biographical note no more than 50 words.

The AAJS encourages students who are engaged in academic research to submit proposals based on their work to the program committee. Authors should clearly indicate their student status with their submission.

Presenters are invited to submit written articles for consideration for publication in the Australian Journal of Jewish Studies.

Proposals should be sent either electronically or by post to:

A/Prof Suzanne Rutland, suzanne.rutland@usyd.edu.au

Department of Hebrew, Biblical & Jewish Studies
University of Sydney
NSW 2006
Australia

PROPOSALS MUST ARRIVE BY 7 SEPTEMBER, 2009

Modern Jewish Studies (Nora Glickman, Associate Editor; Kenya Dworkin y Méndez and Naomi Lindstrom, Consulting Editors), is seeking submissions for it yearly special issue of YIDDISH [Joseph Landis, Editor]. Articles or reviews may be in English, Spanish or Portuguese on Jewish Latin American, Spanish and Sephardic literatures, languages, or cultures. Manuscripts should be submitted to Professor Nora Glickman, Kiely 243, Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, Queens College, 65-30 Kissena Blvd., Flushing, N.Y. 11367, or electronically to Nora Glickman nglickman@aol.com, Kenya Dworkin kdworkin@andrew.cmu.edu and/or Naomi Lindstrom lindstrom@austin.utexas.edu.
BOOK REVIEW


Julia Lieberman states in her preface that this book was written in response to her considerable experience in teaching Sephardic studies, and that it is aimed primarily towards students of Spanish who have not received a Jewish education, but are interested in learning about the Jews of Spain. The editor hopes that this publication will contribute to the inclusion of Sephardic studies both at undergraduate and graduate levels. Her rationale for writing it in Spanish is that to date there is an insufficient analytic material published in this language, that a large proportion of studies on Sephardic Jews in the United States are written in English, and that most of the studies available on Sephardic Jews only go up to the expulsion of the Jews from Spain in 1492.

Aside from the author’s two chapters, the book includes contributions from three other scholars, David Graizbord, Ronnie Perelis, and Pilar Romeu Ferré. Since much of the information available is still scattered in doctoral theses and monographic studies, this book makes for easy access to analytic material on the Jews of Spain. It also responds to increased interest on the part of Sephardic (and I might add, Ashkenazi) Jews to learn about their past. By editing this book the author hopes to ease the task of teachers in search for material for college courses, not only in Sephardic writings, but also in Hispanic literature and history.

In her introduction, Lieberman declares her intention to explore the nature of Sephardic Studies (referring to the development of the culture, life and religion of Sephardic Jews and their descendents, from their expulsion in 1492 to the end of the seventeenth century). In planning her book, she suggests how much material should be covered in one semester, and how much time should be devoted to each chapter. The structure of the book is clear, as it follows a chronological order and is devoted to a particular geographical area, and to specific period. In addition to the preface and introduction, Lieberman wrote the second and the fifth chapters. The selection of the three additional authors demonstrates the author’s wise choice of scholarly, well documented articles that complement her own.

Chapter one is divided into two parts, the first of which, written by David L. Graizbord, and entitled “Los judíos de la España musulmana,” is about the Jews of the Iberian Peninsula when it was under Muslim control. It deals with the Jews under the Christian kingdoms until the Edict of Expulsion in 1492. The second part of this chapter, authored by Julia Lieberman, “Los judíos en la España de la Reconquista,” follows the Jewish exodus of the fifteenth century to Italy, and from there to Salonika and Constantinople, from the eighth to the fifteenth centuries. It centers on the theological disputations under King Alfonso X “El Sabio” in Middle Ages century, on the Kabbalah, the mystical conflicts, and the massive conversions of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries under the Catholic Kings.

The second chapter, written by Pilar Romeu Ferré, centers on the experience of those Jews who remained in Spain in and after 1492, and those who moved to Portugal and were forced to convert five years later.

The third chapter, also written by David Graizbord, examines the life of New Christians, or “conversos,” in the Iberian Peninsula after 1492, and the harshest persecution in Europe, from 1478-1530. Ronnie Perelis, in charge of the fourth chapter, depicts the return of Sephardic Jews to Judaism and the Crypto Judaic experience in the New World during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and on the particular case of the Carvajal family in Mexico. In her last and also longest chapter of the first section, “Los sefardíes occidentales,” Julia Liberman writes about the diaspora of Spanish and Portuguese Jews to London, Hamburg, Amsterdam, Bayonne and Burdeos, and reviews the roles of dissidents like Baruch Spinoza and Uriel da Costa, as well as the input of writers like Miguel de Barrios and José Penso de la Vega.

The last section of the book provides a rather short number of primary sources and documents expressly related to a corresponding chapter. This serves as an excellent pedagogical tool. Some of the selections, written in Ladino, provide interesting linguistic discussions, just as do those that reproduce sixteenth-century, Spanish writings, and transliterated versions into modern Spanish.

In addition to the bibliographical entries that cover the material of all the chapters, Julia Lieberman adds a list of books that may be useful to students for additional research on the subject. The glossary of foreign words at the end of the book presents in alphabetical order those words that are difficult to understand. Altogether, this a much needed, accessible, and useful text.

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GEMELA (Grupo de Estudios sobre la Mujer en España y las Américas, Pre-1800 [Group for the Study of Women from Spain and the Americas, Pre-1800]) is holding its biennial conference from September 23 to 25, 2010, at Mount Holyoke College, organized by Professor Nieves Romero-Díaz. The conference promises to bring together a multitude of scholars of early modern and medieval Spain as well as colonial Latin America for a three-day event focused on Hispanic women’s culture.
Después de haber desarrollado mi proyecto LA PIEL DE LA MEMORIA (The Skin of Memory) me encuentro en este momento haciendo una diversificación de aquel proyecto. La Piel de la Memoria fue presentado en el Centro Cultural Recoleta en Buenos Aires en junio de 2007 como una video-instalación performance. Estaba acompañada por un texto de Marianne Hirsch y Leo Spitzer *

Las obras que estoy desarrollando en este momento parten de esa misma búsqueda, para plantear ahora una relación entre los tatuajes y los bordados. También éstos forjaron mi paisaje cotidiano infantil, ya que la casa de mis padres abunda en bordados de todo tipo recibidos como herencia cultural que decididamente marcó mi estética personal.

El próximo mes de junio presentaré en Buenos Aires una muestra en donde planteo esta relación, y la mezcla de culturas que aparecen a partir de las migraciones.
Bordado en mi piel
30 x 30 cms
2009

Herencia
30 x 30 cms
2009
* The Skin of Memory

How does one rid oneself of something buried far within: memory and the skin of memory. It clings to me yet.

Charlotte Delbo

Häftling: I have learnt that I am a Häftling. My number is 174517: we have been baptized, we will carry the tattoo on our left arm until we die. ... Only much later, and slowly, a few of us learnt something of the funereal science of the numbers of Auschwitz, which epitomized the stages of destruction of European Judaism.

Primo Levi

The number tattoo is the predominant, perhaps even the singular signifier of the Shoah. This one small part of the story of persecution, humiliation and dehumanization -- no more than a stage in the Nazi process of genocide -- has assumed the status of the very emblem of the event. This perhaps because it makes permanently visible how prisoners were stripped of their names, their identities, their past lives -- how human beings were turned into bureaucratic ciphers, Häftlinge. Survivors who have chosen to keep the number “until [they]die” do so to bear witness to their own victimization and on behalf of those who have not survived to testify. Those who live with the Auschwitz tattoo live inside bodies that are memorials and media of defiance. Their arms are signposts alerting against the dangers of historical forgetting. But how is the number tattoo seen and received? How does it intervene in our present? How does it signify at a time when ornamental tattoos have become ever more popular forms of bodily display, carrying very different kinds of personal and cultural messages?

These are the questions that Mirta Kupferminc -- a daughter of Auschwitz survivors who grew up, as she says, “embraced by my parents’ tattooed arms” -- raises in this memorial installation. Her parents could not hide their traumatic past from their children: it was literally inscribed onto their skin. And so their daughter also came to live inside the skin of memory.

But, with her artwork, she breaks out of this inherited trauma to provoke us, as visitors, into an act of co-witness. We are invited to look at the two kinds of tattoos, and to reflect on the differences between decorative choice and coerced numbering. We are asked to stop within the flow of everyday life and to sit, for a brief moment, on winged chairs that create a symbolic space of remembrance and contemplation. Voices surround us in a constant murmur, and if we just stop to listen, individual accounts of tattooing and being tattooed reach our ears.

And then, something else is being asked of us as well, something more troubling. Shall we extend our arm, offer it up to be marked? Will we get a decorative design or a number? Who will determine which and by what logic? And how, in the context of the memory of Auschwitz, can we live inside a body that has been marked in this way, even for a transient moment?

Here the daughter artist is performing a daring provocation. Staging the scene of the tattoo, she asks each of us to ponder what it might have been like, had we been there. Is this empathy? Identification? Appropriation of the trauma of the survivor? Those who respond to the call will have to decide for themselves.

Marianne Hirsch & Leo Spitzer