

CULTURE & ARTS FALL 2017

GUIDE

SEPTEMBER

September 13
Wednesday, 7:15 pm
Rosenthal Library, Room 230

JEWISH LECTURE SERIES/ BOOK TALK

Distinguished Professor
Samuel Heilman, will discuss his
latest book, *Who Will Lead Us?*
The Story of Five Hasidic Dynasties
in America.

OCTOBER

October 30
Monday, 12:15 pm
Rosenthal Library
President's Conference Room #2
(fifth floor)

JEWISH LECTURE SERIES/ BOOK TALK

Professor Abi Doukhan
Biblical Portraits of Exile:
A Philosophical Reading

NOVEMBER

November 6
Monday, 2:15 pm
Rosenthal Library, President's
Conference Room #2 (fifth floor)

JEWISH LECTURE SERIES/ BOOK TALK

Dr. Vera B. Moreen
Judeo-Persian Epic Literature
and Persian Miniature Paintings

November 12
Sunday, 2 pm
Goldstein Theatre

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

Keynote Speaker Noah Isenberg,
Professor of Culture and Media
at the New School's Eugene Lang
College of Liberal Arts
"Casablanca, the Refugee
Question, and the Fateful
Summer of 1938" (film clips
included)

DECEMBER

December 14
Thursday, 7 pm
LeFrak Concert Hall

MUSIC AND THEATRE SERIES

A Chanukah Celebration
Featuring Ricky Pen and
Her Band

CONTENTS

Director's Letter	3
Review of Center's 2016–17 Culture & Arts Programming	4
Memorial Tribute	12
Jewish Lecture Series	13
Judeo-Persian Slide Lecture	14
Jewish Book Talk Series	15
Annual <i>Kristallnacht</i> Commemoration	16
Music & Theater Performance Series	17
Faculty Speakers Bureau	18
Achievements & Distinctions	19
About the Center	25
Friends of the Center	28
New Member Benefits	29
Important Reasons to Give	30
Parking & Transportation	31

Once again we would like to thank Mark Podwal
for making available his beautiful art that graces
our cover: *Hebrew Zodiac* by Mark Podwal from
REIMAGINED: 45 Years of Jewish Art by Mark Podwal.



A Letter from the Director The Year in Review

Arnold Franklin
Director



Dear Friends,

It's hard to believe that the fall semester and the Jewish holidays are once again upon us, and as you begin

to make plans for the upcoming year, it's my pleasure to invite you to the many exciting programs taking place at the Queens College Center for Jewish Studies.

Our mission is to promote learned conversation and informed debate on the broadest range of topics concerning Jews and Judaism. Through conferences, lectures,

performances, book talks, and film screenings—almost all of which are free and open to the public—the Center for Jewish Studies strives to be a bridge between the college and the wider community, making the insights of leading scholars, writers, and artists available and accessible to general audiences and specialists alike. Located in one of the most diverse neighborhoods in the U.S., the Center for Jewish Studies is in a unique position to showcase the breadth and diversity of the Jewish experience itself.

The Center also encourages the academic study of Jews and Judaism through its support of the interdisciplinary Jewish Studies Program at Queens College. With faculty drawn from departments across the university, the Program offers students the opportunity to pursue both a major and a minor in Jewish Studies, and enrolls hundreds of undergraduates in over thirty courses each year.

The Center depends on the support of many individuals, both on and

off campus. In particular, we wish to thank President Félix V. Matos Rodríguez and Provost Elizabeth F. Hendrey for their keen interest and active participation in many of our events. We also acknowledge the dedication and hard work of the Jewish Studies Advisory Board and the members of its executive committee: Bernie Spear, Pearl Halegua, Arthur Anderman, and Gary Sazer.

We thank you, too, for your support, and hope that you will take a few moments to fill out the enclosed envelope and renew as a Friend of the Center for Jewish Studies, or join us as a new member.

Very best wishes for a happy and healthy new year.

*Above clockwise:
A lively book signing following a lecture with author Devin Naar.
Students in the audience at the Tizmoret performance.*

Professor Arnold Franklin and Rabbi Moshe Tessone, Director of the Sephardic Community Program, Yeshiva University

Photos: Leo Correa

Review of Center's 2016–17 Culture & Arts Programming

Diane Spielmann
Associate Director

From the start of our fall programming to its finish in the



spring, innovation and creativity are the hallmarks of our programming.

With new beginnings each fall season as the academic year

unfolds, so too the coming of the Jewish holidays.

We opened our season with a spectacular multifold presentation given by Rabbi Moshe Tessone, Director of the Sephardic Community Program and a distinguished faculty member at Yeshiva University. The event was sponsored by Elsi Levy and the Levy Family. Rabbi Tessone's talk, "The Jewish New Year: Spiritual Inspiration for the High Holidays and Beyond," began with a demographic summary of world Jewry from

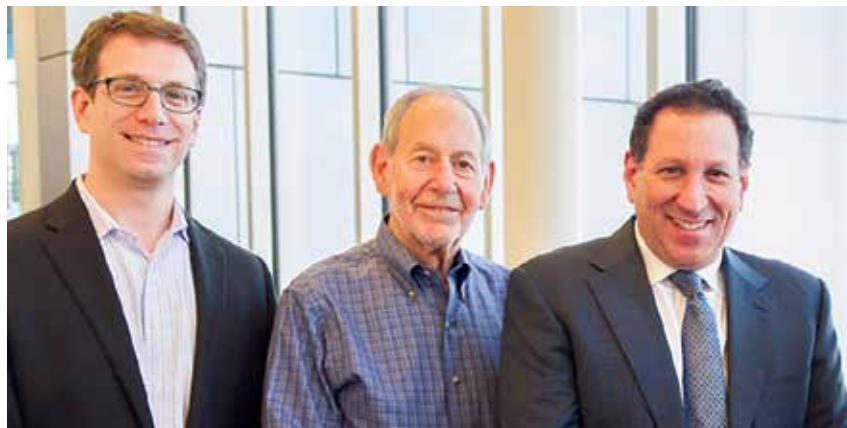


Ashkenazim to a focus on Sephardim, which he mentioned is even more diverse than those of Ashkenazi heritage.

And indeed it was borne out in his PowerPoint presentation with a breakdown of Spanish/Portuguese to northern Africa to the Levant and the Russo-Asian population. With further breakdowns of each region, indeed the Sephardi numbers were exponentially beyond those from Ashkenaz. Thereafter came the poignant segment leading to "spirituality," in which he emphasized that "All Jews are One!" Referring to the Talmud, Rabbi Tessone spoke of allegory in understanding how the community becomes one, especially during the holiday period. And what would be a spiritual experience without music? Hence Rabbi Tessone,

also a trained cantor, turned to music. Accompanied on piano by Cantor Eric Freeman of the Belz School of Music at Yeshiva University, both delivered a truly spiritual experience in music. From the ancient Avino Malkanu to a selection from contemporary Jerusalem, the audience was indeed "One" in the spirit of the evening.

In our next program Devin Naar, a historian from Washington University, presented a dynamic talk based on his groundbreaking new book, *Jewish Salonica: Between the Ottoman Empire and Modern Greece*. Prof. Naar captivated his audience, beginning with his own memories from childhood. He had internalized the stories from his paternal grandfather, who was born in Salonica speaking Judeo-Spanish, and whose father was a revered rabbi there. Simultaneously, young Devin also learned from his family that the once-thriving Jewish community ended in death and destruction during the Holocaust, which included his ancestors. From that moment on he was determined to not only find vestiges of his own family, but also to make known the history of Jewish Salonica to celebrate the once-thriving Jewish community.



In pursuing his childhood inclinations, Prof. Naar became an expert in Judeo-Spanish and Hebrew as he searched the world over for the scattered archives in a number of repositories, which led to the publication of his book. Throughout the lecture he passionately included amazing facts and figures to an audience that was riveted to his every word. As he concluded, Prof. Naar stated that it was not his desire to write about the destruction, but to celebrate and make known the legacy of Jewish life during the time between the Ottoman Empire and modern Greece, and that he did! Today, Prof. Naar is recognized as one of the top scholars in his field.

With the holidays over, we reopened our programming as we do each year, with the Annual Leon and Morris Levy Memorial Lecture endowed by the Levy Family. This year we began with noted Rabbi Hayyim Angel, national scholar of the Institute for Jewish Ideas and Ideals, who serves as the rabbinic scholar at Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun in New York. He has published over 120 scholarly articles, and is the author or editor of 14 books. For this lecture Rabbi Angel presented “The Chosen People in an Age of Political Correctness.”

If you think the topic only covered today’s political correctness, think again! Instead of the contemporary scene, he began from the beginning, starting with Adam and Eve, and on to Genesis, Exodus, Amos Hosea, Isaiah, and Jeremiah, with each period covering the covenant with God. In this relationship Rabbi Angel used contemporary comparisons and metaphors—e. g., the covenant of marriage between two people or a teacher and his/her students—to

Thanks to Our Friends. Your Support is Our Future.

Our latest grant from the U.S. Department of Education has helped us through these difficult economic times. No doubt, however, you continue to read in the Jewish press and elsewhere that like all institutions—for profit and not-for-profit—CUNY and Queens College were seriously impacted by the recent great recession and very fragile 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.

Few institutions of higher education in the United States 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 reasons why we are excited and proud.

address good and evil throughout the ages, with “dignity of difference” as we relate to “a people,” or “a nation,” all of which is a part of “humanity.” With much food for thought, the bottom line is “the basics are the basics,” realizing that within the human sphere there is nothing new under the sun, “simultaneously particularistic and universalistic” for all time!

From the Bible to the Middle Ages with Elisheva Carlebach, the Salo Wittmayer Baron Professor of Jewish History, Culture, and Society at Columbia University. Professor Carlebach was invited back to Queens College under the auspices of the Alumni Association, History Department, and Jewish Studies. Not only did she come back to Queens College, but so too did many of her students from years past. What a reunion it was with a reception, cocktails, and refreshments, highlighted by her compelling talk on “Images of Jews in the Early Age of



Above: Arthur Anderman, Center for Jewish Studies Executive Board Chair Emeritus and his wife, Carole Anderman, attending the lecture, “The Chosen People in the Age of Political Correctness,” given by Rabbi Hayyim Angel, presented by the Annual Leon Morris Levy Memorial Lecture endowed by the Levy Family. Photo: Adrian Chafloque

Page 4. Top right: QC Professor Frank Warren and Columbia University Professor Elisheva Carlebach, who spoke on “Images of Jews in the Early Age of Print” at the joint History and Jewish Studies Lecture. Photo: Adrian Chafloque

Lower left: Professor Arnold Franklin; Bernie Spear; Chairman of the QC Center for Jewish Studies Advisory Board; and Michael Resnick of Sinai Chapels, sponsor of Annual *Kristallnacht* Program. Photo: Leo Correa



Print,” which included an intriguing PowerPoint presentation.

An expert on Jews during the medieval period, Professor Carlebach delved into her subject on the note that the advent of print was for that time analogous to “technology.” Her main thrust was on the portrayal of Jews to Christians. Was this a turning point for the relationship? Beginning with the first such woodcuts in the 13th century from German sources, Jews were portrayed as disfigured with “hook noses,” while Jesus was not. This was followed by images of Jews sucking

on a pig, known as “*Judensau*,” that evoked utter disgust that set the stage for creating Jews as “the other,” with violence to follow, leading up to Luther in the 16th century. While no longer depicting physical characteristics such as large noses, Jews were increasingly depicted as “the other,” illustrated with strange garb such as the pointed hat. During the question-and-answer period moderated by History Professor Frank Warren, Prof. Carlebach answered all the intriguing questions. For example, as relatively inexpensive

books became ubiquitous, so too did a booming industry. Did this industry, Prof. Carlebach asked, spur on the vehement hatred that pervaded into the last century with the cataclysm of the Holocaust?

This past year’s Annual *Kristallnacht* Commemoration and Recommitment to Combatting Anti-Semitism and Hatred, sponsored by Michael Resnick of Sinai Chapels in Fresh Meadows, was outstanding. After opening remarks by Prof. Arnold Franklin, Director of the QC Center for Jewish Studies, the Pledge of Allegiance was conducted by Hannah Deutch, who served in the British Army after her experience as part of the Kinder Transport. Elizabeth Tasch, a master of music candidate at the Aaron Copland School of Music, gave a beautiful rendition of the American and Israeli National Anthems, accompanied on piano by Dr. Mariko Sato Berger, a music teacher at Townsend Harris High School.

The next phase of the program highlighted our multicultural invocation, with Dr. Ali Mermer of Queens College, Fr. Patrick Griffin of St. John’s University, and Rabbi Manes Kogen of Hillcrest Jewish Center. Annette Insdorf, an internationally renowned educator and author and professor of Film Studies at Columbia University’s School of the Arts, was the keynote speaker. A distinguished alumna of Queens College and the daughter of Holocaust survivors, Prof. Insdorf brilliantly and eloquently delivered the keynote address, “The Holocaust in American Film,” in QC’s Goldstein Theatre. With deftly chosen film clips, she discussed three different periods of film production by highlighting one of the first

such films in 1944, entitled *None Shall Escape*, which for the first time addressed genocide, attempted resistance in the camps, and, astoundingly, Philo-Semitism among clergy, who were also incarcerated. The next segment featured the 1964 film *The Pawnbroker*, starring Rod Steiger as a survivor of the camps depicting for the first time the mental anguish of the survivors. The final segment featured the 1993 film *Schindler's List*, with Liam Neeson as Oskar Schindler. Here Prof. Insdorf discussed the special effects that subtly questioned the so-called motivations of Schindler's actions, again a first in casting doubt about the hero of the film.

Following the keynote address, three survivors—Hannah Deutch, Lena Goren, and Claire Heymann—each lit memorial candles after giving a brief description of their experiences during the Holocaust. Students from the Center for Ethnic, Racial, and Religious Understanding (CERRU) also spoke of their encounters with hatred and how they are committed to fighting anti-Semitism and hatred. The other three candles were lit by the second generation on behalf of their families: keynote speaker Annette Insdorf, Cynthia Zalisky, Director of the



Queens Jewish Community Council, and Dr. Diane Spielmann, Associate Director of the QC Center for Jewish Studies. To end on a note of hope, Elizabeth Tasch, accompanied by Dr. Mariko Berger, sang “Over the Rainbow.”

It takes a born-and-bred New York boy growing up in the Bronx in the 1960s with an authentic dialect to tell it like it is for Jewish New York City over the course of the past century. And that Professor Jeffrey Gurock of Yeshiva University delivered, based on his most recent book, *The Jews of Harlem: The*

Rise, Decline, and Revival of a Jewish Community (NYU Press, 2016) and his previous publication, *Jews in Gotham: New York Jews in a Changing City, 1920–2010* (NYU Press, 2013). He opened the book talk with the statement, “I have always had a love affair with Harlem.” Peppered in his native Bronx dialect, he captured his audience from start to finish as he delivered an historical lecture of the Jewish demographics of New York, with a focus on Harlem. Beginning with the 1860s and running through to today, he discussed the ebb and

Legend for opposite collage:

Center: Keynote speaker at the annual *Kristallnacht* Commemoration Prof. Annette Insdorf, an internationally renowned educator and author, is a professor in the Graduate Film Program of Columbia University's School of the Arts, where she served as Director of Undergraduate Film Studies for 27 years. She is the daughter of two Holocaust Survivors deported from France to the camps, including Auschwitz.

Clockwise from upper left:

A. Claire Heymann, Auschwitz Survivor, lighting a memorial candle with a memorial dedication. B. Lena Casuto Goren,

Holocaust Survivor from Salonika, Greece, hidden in Greece, lighting a memorial candle with a memorial dedication. C. Cynthia Zalisky, Executive Director of the Queens Jewish Community Council, is the daughter of two Holocaust Survivors of the camps, with a memorial dedication. D. Diane Spielmann, Associate Director of the QC Center for Jewish Studies, is the daughter of two Holocaust Survivors deported from Germany to the camps, including Auschwitz. E. Dr. Ali Mermer, Queens College Muslim Chaplain, at the multicultural invocation. F. Rabbi Manes Kogan, Hillcrest Jewish Center, Fresh Meadows, NY, at the multicultural

invocation. G. Fr. Patrick Griffin, C.M., Executive Director, Vincentian Center for Church and Society, at the multicultural invocation. H. Hannah Deutch, a child survivor of the “Kindertransport” to England, is the Past Commander, D. E. C. Jewish War Veterans of the USA.

Upper right: Elizabeth Tasch, Master of Music student, Aaron Copland School of Music, QC, in a musical interlude at the 2016 *Kristallnacht* Commemoration, accompanied by Dr. Mariko Sato Berger, piano, Townsend Harris High School teacher of music and Japanese.

Photos: Leo Correa

flow of the Jewish population in various parts of New York City, to and from and back to Harlem with all of the whys and wherefores. In a most scholarly and yet entertaining way, he touched on black and Jewish relations throughout; businesses that flourished; parks that bloomed; and real estate from urban (e. g., Delancey Street) to suburban (Queens and later Westchester) and back to urban, i. e., Harlem!

We go now from one program based on the “hard knocks” of contemporary reality to a program grounded in the celestial sphere. Our next speaker, Mark S. Smith, addressed “The Three Bodies of God in the Hebrew Bible” for our Biblical Archaeology Slide Lecture. Professor Smith is the Helena Professor of Old Testament Literature and Exegesis at Princeton Theological Seminary and former Skirball Professor of Hebrew Bible and Ancient Near Eastern Studies at New York University.

Delving into the subject, Prof. Smith’s opening statement took us back to the literal “beginning,” when God was a celestial phenomenon first known to humankind as being spiritual with no form, shape, or body, and yet had attributes of nonphysical human characteristics. It was only with the advent of Genesis that humankind would attribute bodily descriptions to God. Accompanied with a PowerPoint presentation of text and images, Prof. Smith listed the three types of “body” for God. The first image was a body of a human; next the “superhuman size” of about 60 or 70 feet tall; and finally the “cosmic,” with the body up in Heaven. To further illustrate these definitions within the Bible, Prof. Smith expanded the descriptions in which the deity is the guest of

humans at their homes as written in Genesis. For the “superhuman” size, the tables turned, with humans going to the temple. There, paradoxically, humans do not see God as he is sovereign of the levels of the heavens. A lively question-and-answer period with the audience yielded further discussion of the “human likeness on earth of God,” and “human creation on earth,” with God as “Cosmic King.”

For our fourth annual Chanukah Celebration, *gvure*—the Yiddish word for extraordinary strength and fortitude—is the perfect word to describe the performance by the internationally known and award-winning Yiddish entertainer, singer, choreographer, and actor, Eleanor Reissa. One of the giants of the

Yiddish stage, she was accompanied throughout by another such giant, Sir Frank London (knighted in Hungary for his work in Jewish music) and his Klezmer Brass Allstars, each thrilling the audience throughout the hour-plus performance. Prior to every vocal selection sung in Yiddish, Reissa described the nuances and history of each piece in English. In *kheyn* (charm and style) she enacted all the pieces along with dances and gestures from popular selections to those not as well known. Another fall season successfully ended with a standing ovation and encore.

Opening the Spring 2017 season on the Ides of March—in the aftermath of a spring blizzard!—the Center for Jewish Studies weathered the snow and ice with *Tizmoret*: Queens



College's Jewish a cappella group in a post-Purim spring concert. The award-winning group, under the direction of Daniel Henkin, warmed the hearts and souls of the multigenerational audience on a cold and windy evening. The performance included classic Jewish melodies, American pop music as well as contemporary Israeli tunes and Yiddish melodies of yesteryear. The audience was enraptured with not only the exquisite harmony of voices blending together, but also by their professionalism, friendly laid-back informality, and vigor and grace. It is no wonder that arranger and conductor Daniel Henkin is considered a pioneer in the contemporary Jewish a cappella movement today!

The next program featured Dr. Roger Horowitz, an historian of American business and expert on the nation's food. He delivered a lecture along with a PowerPoint presentation on his latest award-winning book, *Kosher USA: How Coke Became Kosher and Other Tales of Modern Food*. Dr. Horowitz began with a somewhat unconventional introduction. He declared that this book was more than just scholarship; it was prompted by a question from his uncle when he referred to Horowitz's previous book on the American meat industry: Why wasn't kashrut mentioned in the book? After all, his family was kosher. And thus *Kosher USA* was born! Dr. Horowitz's book includes

Page 8. Eleanor Reissa, award-winning performer, vocalist, and author, singing at the annual Chanukah Celebration at QC, sponsored by Arthur and Carole Anderman.

Right: *Tizmoret*: Queens College Jewish a cappella group in a post-Purim Spring Concert directed by Daniel Henkin.

Photos: Leo Correa



the history of the kosher industry in America, beginning with various rabbis questioning the manufacture of foods that could or could not be kosher, which in turn prompted the food industry to seek approval from the rabbis. Hence the story of the "OU" stamp of approval and "K" for kosher. Dr. Horowitz compared the two trademarks along with their "whys" and "wherefores," engaging the audience in a lively question-and-answer period.

On a beautiful Sunday, the Center for Jewish Studies Cinema on Sundays featured the award-

winning Israeli film *Footnote* by Joseph Cedar. Reminiscent of Chaim Potok's novel *The Chosen*, *Footnote* addressed the relationship of father and son, who were academic rivals in the Talmud Department at Hebrew University. Billed as a comedy, the film was much more than that, delving into the lives and accomplishments of father and son that not only highlighted their relationship, but also their distinctly different personalities, which affected everyone in their family, including the son's relationship with his own son! A timely piece, the storyline

offered much food for thought, as reflected by the audience's varied interpretations. Indeed, *Footnote* is the kind of movie one must see time and time again to uncover all its nuances—a truly stimulating and intricate picture of life itself.

The next program was our annual Yom HaShoah Lecture, supported for a number of years by Marvin and Celina Zborowski, both Holocaust survivors. With a PowerPoint presentation, this year's speaker was Jan Grabowski, Professor of History of the Holocaust at the University of Ottawa. He addressed his most recent research, *Tracking the Last Jews in Hiding: Polish Police and the Hunt for Emanuel Rigelblum, 1943–44*. Prof. Grabowski is an award-winning author of several monographs, including *Hunt for*

the Jews: Betrayal and Murder in German-Occupied Poland (Indiana University Press, 2013), which received the 2014 Yad Vashem International Book Prize. What made the presentation especially poignant was that Prof. Grabowski highlighted not only the facts, but also described the individual victims and their fate, including images of the victims' documentation along with their photos. By so doing, the historical facts became ever more poignant to the audience (which also included a Queens College class on the Holocaust), as was noted in the question-and-answer period following the lecture.

Our final spring program could not have been more timely. Especially after learning about the nadir of history, the final lecture featuring

Rabbi David Saperstein, former ambassador-at-large for International Religious Freedom, brought out the importance of "A Jewish Social Justice Agenda in the U.S. and Across the Globe," made possible through the Rabbi Israel and Libby Mowshowitz Endowment, supported by Sylvia Mowshowitz Orenstein, Esq., and Solomon Mowshowitz, PhD.

In his beautifully orated address, Rabbi Saperstein presented an intersection of religion and politics as well as the history of ideas and ideals balancing religion with social justice, much of which was first brought to the fore by the late Rabbi Mowshowitz in the modern period beginning shortly after the Holocaust. Rabbi Saperstein pointed out that religion cannot stand alone without





Page 10. Celina and Marvin Zborowski (center), Holocaust Survivors who have endowed the annual Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day) Lecture, with their son (left) and Professor Jan Grabowski, University of Ottawa (right), delivering the lecture for 2017: "Tracking the Last Jews in Hiding: Polish Police and the Hunt for Emanuel Ringelblum, 1943–1944."

Above: Special lecture with Rabbi David Saperstein, former Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom, addressing "Being the Hands of God: A Jewish Social Justice Agenda in the U.S. and Across the Globe," made possible through the Rabbi Israel and Libby Mowshowitz Endowment, supported by Sylvia Mowshowitz Orenstein, Esq., and Solomon Mowshowitz, PhD. At the pre-lecture cocktail hour (l–r): Sylvia Mowshowitz Orenstein; Prof. Deborah Mowshowitz (Columbia Univ.); Prof. Solomon Mowshowitz (Columbia Univ.); Bernie Spear, Chair of the QC Center for Jewish Studies Advisory Board; Ambassador David Saperstein; Rabbi and Prof. Moshe Shur; Prof. Arnold Franklin, Director of the QC Center for Jewish Studies; and QC Provost Elizabeth Hendrey.

Bottom: Biblical Archaeology Slide Lecture with Prof. Mark S. Smith, Princeton Theological Seminary, delivering a Powerpoint lecture on "The Three Bodies of God in the Hebrew Bible," pointing to an ancient temple.

Photos: Leo Correa

social justice, as can be documented from time immemorial. "No one group can stand alone; one cannot retreat from universalism." From the point of view of religion, our world from yesteryear through to today is the result of God's creation. As an example, Rabbi Saperstein spoke about the environmental agenda of today bringing thousands of years together, for "Earth is our Garden."

He also addressed the future as he spoke of children and refugees, medical care, and the Zionist Congress, to mention a few issues. And in his phenomenal talk and in the question-and-answer session, he continued to invoke the prophetic voice of Rabbi Mowshowitz. The audience gave a thumbs-up for this very special concluding program.





MEMORIAL TRIBUTE

Commemoration of First Yahrzeit of Elsi Levy

Elsi Levy, a distinguished Advisory Board member of the QC Center for Jewish Studies who served as Vice President for Cultural Affairs, passed away on October 23, 2016. She was also an alumna of Queens College. Her illustrious professional career included program director and staff pianist for WNYC, the New York City radio station, and radio programmer and writer for MUZAK. Since childhood and throughout her career as a pianist, she accompanied dancers, violinists, violists, and singers. Elsi had been the primary sponsor of the Levy Family Foundation.

In addition to her professional career she was a leader and great supporter of the Center for Jewish Studies throughout the years along with her late husband, Leon Levy. At the time of his passing she established the Annual Leon and Morris Levy Memorial Lecture on Sephardic Studies, endowed by the Levy Family, that now graciously continues with her family. In addition through her talents, organizational skills, and sound judgment, she had created an outstanding Culture and Arts Series for the Center, including the Cantors Concerts, throughout her tenure on the Board. Her warmth and compassion also led her to extraordinary

service to the community at large as well, which included the Queens Symphony Orchestra; the Central Queens YM-YWHA; the Sephardic Synagogue of Forest Hills; and the American Sephardi Federation. We will all miss her dearly.

This year, in addition to the Annual Leon and Morris Levy Memorial Lecture, the Center for Jewish Studies will honor her memory during a lecture that will be given by Dr. Vera B. Moreen on “Judeo-Persian Epic Literature and Persian Miniature Paintings.” See information about the lecture on page 14.

The above photo was taken in Fall 2013 when Rabbi Hayyim Angel, National Scholar of the Institute for Jewish Ideas and Ideals, was the guest speaker for the then-annual Leon and Morris Levy Memorial Lecture sponsored by Elsi Levy and the Levy Family. (L-r) Elsi Levy, Rabbi Hayyim Angel, and Elsi's daughter, Mimi Frank.

Photo: Leo Correa

Presenting Distinguished Professor
Samuel Heilman

Who Will Lead Us? *The Story of Five Hasidic Dynasties in America*

Wednesday, September 13, 7:15 pm
Rosenthal 230
Free and open to the public



For the opening of the 2017 fall programming prior to the high holidays, the Center for Jewish Studies is honored to present Distinguished Professor Heilman, who will discuss his most recent book:

*Who Will Lead Us?:
The Story of Five*

Hasidic Dynasties in America, which explores the paths of the five dynasties in the Hasidic world.

Samuel Heilman holds the Harold Proshansky Chair in Jewish Studies at the Graduate Center and is Distinguished Professor of Sociology at Queens College. Prof. Heilman's evolution from freshly minted PhD to world-renowned scholar began when he started teaching at Queens College in 1973. In 2008 he had gone to the Republic of China as a Fulbright Senior Specialist Professor to help academics set up Jewish studies programs.

He has also been a fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study in Jerusalem, a visiting professor at Shalom College at the University of New South Wales Australia, and at the University of Illinois at Chicago, among many other colleges and universities where he has been invited to teach. He is editor of the journal *Contemporary Jewry*, and has received, among other awards, the Marshall Sklare Memorial Award from the Association for the Social Scientific Study of Jewry for "a lifetime of scholarship."

One of the world's leading sociologists of Orthodox Judaism, Samuel Heilman is recognized as the foremost expert on modern Jewish Orthodoxy. He has written numerous books on the topic as well as studies and articles.

After the lecture there will be an opportunity to purchase *Who Will Lead Us?* and have it signed by the author.



JEWISH LECTURE SERIES

Judeo-Persian Epic Literature and Persian Miniature Paintings

Dr. Vera B. Moreen

A Powerpoint Presentation

Monday, November 6, 12 noon–2 pm

President's Conference Room #2, Rosenthal Library (fifth floor)

Free and open to the public



Vera B. Moreen is an authority on Judeo-Persian studies in the United States. She received her BA from Princeton University (Dept. of Near Eastern Studies) and PhD from Harvard University (Dept. of Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations). She has been a visiting associate professor at several colleges and universities, including Swarthmore College, Haverford College, Franklin & Marshall College, and the University of Pennsylvania, where she was also a fellow at the Center for Advanced Judaic Studies. She has taught primarily on Islam (religion), emphasizing a comparative approach.

Dr. Moreen's primary research areas are the cultural world of Iranian Jewry as depicted in medieval and pre-modern Judeo-Persian literature and history; the interface between Muslim and Jewish religious, literary, and artistic topoi; the influence of classical Persian literature and mysticism (Sufism) on the weltanschauung of Iranian Jewry; and Shi'i-Jewish relations in pre-modern Iran.

Dr. Moreen has received many research grants, including a two-year grant from the National Endowment for the

Humanities, visiting fellowships to the Institute for Advanced Studies, Princeton, two Skirball fellowships to the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Judaic Studies, and grants from the American Council of Learned Societies, IREX, and the American Philosophical Society. She has written six books, each a pioneering effort in Judeo-Persian studies. She also co-edited four volumes on various aspects of Muslim, Jewish, and Christian relations, and is section editor of the *Encyclopaedia of Jews in the Islamic World* (Leiden: Brill). *Miniature Paintings in Judaeo-Persian Manuscripts* (Cincinnati, 1985) was nominated for the National Jewish Book Award, and her *Catalog of Judeo-Persian Manuscripts in the Library of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America* (Leiden, 2015), won the award of the Association of Jewish Libraries (Bibliography), 2015. Dr. Moreen's latest book is *The Bible as a Judeo-Persian Epic: An Illustrated Manuscript of 'Imrānī's Faḥ-Nāma* (Jerusalem, 2016). She has also published numerous articles in peer-reviewed journals of both Islamic and Jewish studies, and has participated in many international conferences.

Presented by the Annual Leon and Morris Levy Memorial Lecture, endowed by the Levy Family and in special commemoration of Elsi Levy on the first *Yahrzeit* of her passing.

Light refreshments will be available after the lecture.

RSVP: 718-997-4530 or 5730 or email: pat.tortorici@qc.cuny.edu.

Please see page 31 for travel directions to Queens College.

Paid parking is available in the Student Union. For further information call 718-997-3964.

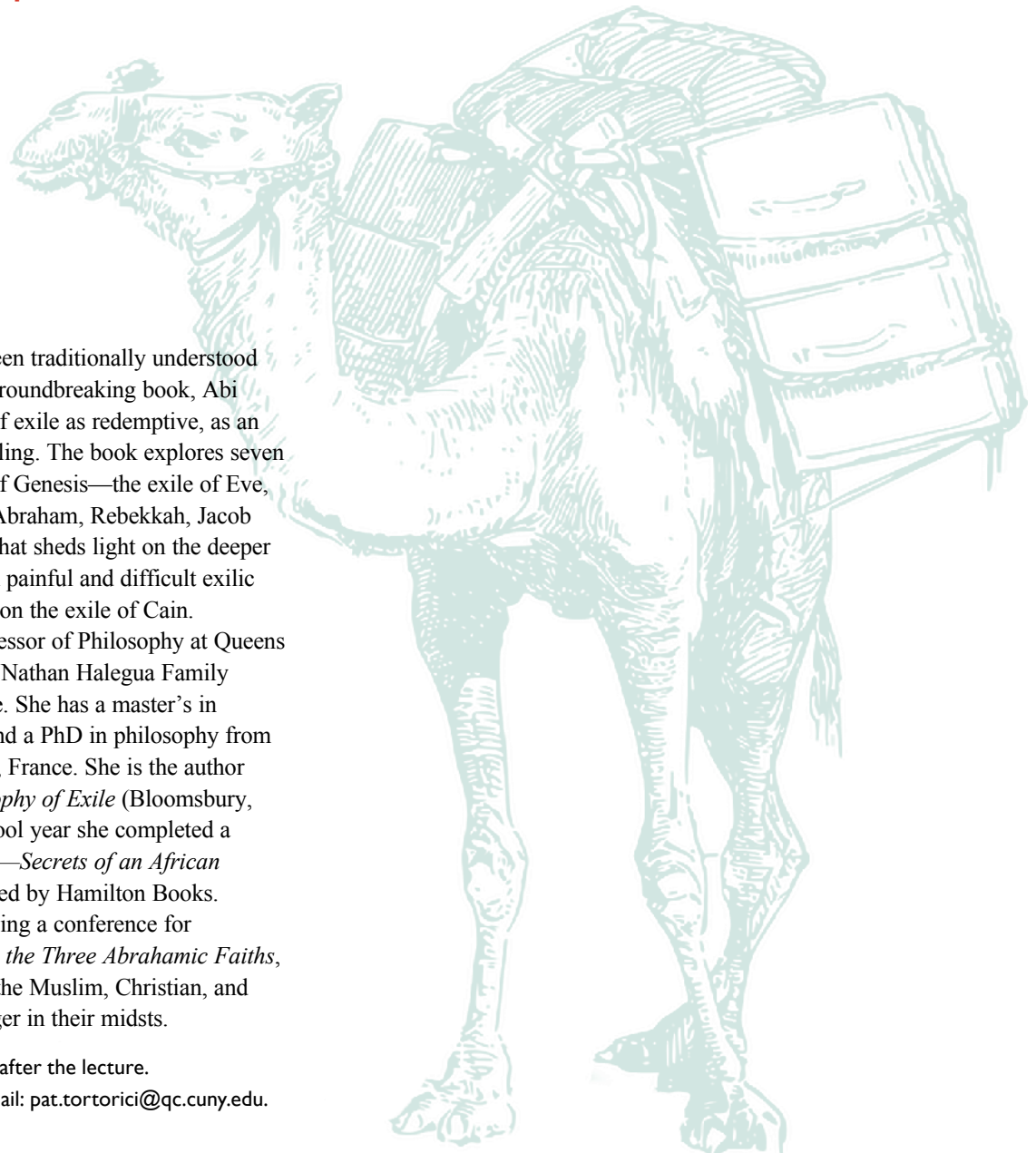
Biblical Portraits of Exile: A Philosophical Reading

Abi Doukhan

Monday, October 30, 12:15–1:30 pm

President's Conference Room #2, Rosenthal Library (fifth floor)

Free and open to the public



Exile in the Hebrew Bible has been traditionally understood as a punishment for sin. In this groundbreaking book, Abi Doukhan retells the experience of exile as redemptive, as an opening onto a higher ethical calling. The book explores seven exiles taking place in the Book of Genesis—the exile of Eve, Adam, Cain, the sons of Shem, Abraham, Rebekkah, Jacob and the sons of Levi—in a way that sheds light on the deeper ethical significance of their often painful and difficult exilic journeys. This lecture will focus on the exile of Cain.

Abi Doukhan is Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Queens College, and holds the Pearl and Nathan Halegua Family Initiative in Ethics and Tolerance. She has a master's in philosophy from the Sorbonne and a PhD in philosophy from the University of Nanterre, Paris, France. She is the author of *Emmanuel Levinas: A Philosophy of Exile* (Bloomsbury, October 2012), and this past school year she completed a manuscript on the *Song of Songs—Secrets of an African Princess*—which will be published by Hamilton Books. Prof. Doukhan is also co-organizing a conference for December 2017, *The Stranger in the Three Abrahamic Faiths*, which will explore the way that the Muslim, Christian, and Jewish faiths approach the stranger in their midsts.

Light refreshments will be available after the lecture.

RSVP: 718-997-4530 or 5730 or email: pat.tortorici@qc.cuny.edu.

Please see page 31 for travel directions to Queens College.

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KRISTALLNACHT COMMEMORATION

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

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Casablanca, the Refugee Question, and the Fateful Summer of 1938

Presentation will include film clips from *Casablanca*

Prof. Noah Isenberg, New School

Sunday, November 12, 2–4 pm

Goldstein Theatre

Free and open to the public



Noah Isenberg is Professor of Culture and Media at the New School's Eugene Lang College of Liberal Arts in New York City, where he also directs the Screen Studies program. His recent book *We'll Always Have 'Casablanca': The Life, Legend, and Afterlife*

of *Hollywood's Most Beloved Movie*, was published by W.W. Norton in February 2017 (and in November 2017 by Faber & Faber in the UK and by Európa, in Hungarian translation, in Hungary). He is also the author of *Edgar G. Ulmer: A Filmmaker at the Margins* (California, 2014), which the *New York Times* hailed as "a page turner of a biography" and was selected by the *Huffington Post* among its Best Film Books of 2014. Other publications include *Detour* (British Film Institute, 2008), a book-length study of Ulmer's acclaimed low-budget film noir; and, as editor, *Weimar Cinema: An Essential Guide to Classic Films of the Era* (Columbia, 2009), which was selected as a Choice Outstanding Academic Title. Most recently, his introduction to Vicki Baum's best-selling 1929 novel, *Grand Hotel*, has been published by the New York Review of Books Classics.

In support of his work, Prof. Isenberg has been awarded grants and fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Fulbright Commission, the International Research Center for Cultural Studies in Vienna, and the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation.

He serves as book review editor of *Film Quarterly*, is a fellow of the New York Institute for the Humanities, and was awarded a 2015–2016 NEH Public Scholar research grant. His writing has appeared in such diverse publications as *The Nation*, *The New Republic*, *The Daily Beast*, *Times Literary Supplement*, *Bookforum*, *New York Review Daily*, *Film Comment*, *Paris Review Daily*, *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *The Criterion Collection*, *Threepenny Review*, *Film Quarterly*, *New German Critique*, *Partisan Review*, *Raritan*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *The New York Times*. Prior to his current appointment at the New School, he taught at Wesleyan University in Connecticut from 1995 to 2004, and was a visiting professor at both the University of Pennsylvania and Dartmouth College.

The program includes a candle-lighting ceremony with Holocaust survivors, escorted by Queens College students, each of whom makes a commitment to combat anti-Semitism and hatred. In addition, there will be a multicultural invocation and audiovisual and musical interludes.

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



Organized by Queens College's Center for Jewish Studies, the Queens Jewish Community Council, and others.

For Goldstein Theatre, there is free parking in Lot 15 on Reeves Avenue (behind the Music Building). Walk east to the corner of Kissena Boulevard and the Long Island Expressway to enter the campus for the Goldstein Theatre.



MUSIC & THEATER PERFORMANCE

A Chanukah Celebration Featuring Ricky Pen and Her Band

Thursday, December 14, 7 pm
LeFrak Concert Hall
Free and open to the public

A reception to meet and greet the performers with holiday refreshments will follow the performance. To RSVP call 718-997-4530 or 5730 or email: pat.tortorici@qc.cuny.edu.

“Israeli singing sensation with a unique style and great voice.”

–*Jewish Week*

“Ricky touches the hearts of her audiences with her voice.”

–*Long Beach Herald*

Come and celebrate Chanukah with the entire family at the Center for Jewish Studies with this dynamic international performer and her band!

Israeli-born singer Ricky Pen performs in 16 languages and plays six instruments in a variety of styles. From Las Vegas to Atlantic City, Florida to the Catskills, Europe to the White House: she has performed all over the world! Ricky Pen appears regularly on Israeli television and radio.

This program has been made possible through the Carole and Arthur Anderman Fund, supported by the Andermans. The Queens College Center for Jewish Studies is deeply grateful to Carole and Arthur (Advisory Board Chair Emeritus) for their generosity and dedication to Queens College and the center throughout the years.

Faculty Speakers Bureau

HIGHER EDUCATION FOR THE COMMUNITY

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/centerforjewishstudies. Speakers must be booked at least six weeks in advance.

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.

RIKKI ASHER

Secondary Education

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

ELISSA BEMPORAD

History



Elissa Bemporad is Associate Professor of History and the Jerry and William Ungar Chair in East European Jewish History and the Holocaust at Queens College and the CUNY Graduate Center. Her research focuses on Russian and Soviet Jewish history, as well as on questions of gender and genocide. She is the author of *Becoming Soviet Jews: The Bolshevik Experiment in Minsk* (IUP, 2013), winner of the National

Jewish Book Award and of the Fraenkel Prize in Contemporary History. The Russian edition was published this fall with ROSSPEN in the History of Stalinism Series. She is finishing a book entitled *Legacy of Blood: Jews, Pogroms, and Ritual Murder in the Lands of the Soviets*, which will be published with Oxford University Press. Elissa is the co-editor of *Women and Genocide: Survivors and Perpetrators* (forthcoming with IUP), a collection of studies on the roles played by women in different genocidal contexts during the twentieth century. She recently received an NEH Fellowship and a Fellowship at the Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC. In fall 2016 she presented her work at Harvard University, Connecticut College, and NYU. Elissa's projects in progress include research for a biography of Ester Frumkin, the most prominent Jewish female political activist and public figure in late Imperial Russia and in the early Soviet Union.

FRANCESCA BREGOLI

History



Francesca Bregoli is Associate Professor of History at Queens College and the CUNY Graduate Center. She also holds the Joseph and Oro Halegua Chair in Greek and Sephardic Studies at QC. Her research focuses on the cultural and social history of Italian and Western Sephardic Jews in the eighteenth century. She is currently working on a project about kinship and

emotional ties in transnational Jewish merchant families. During the past academic year, Francesca presented her research in Berlin, Warwick, and Venice, as well as at Yale and Hofstra, and co-organized the international conference *Rethinking the Ghetto: Jews and the Mediterranean in the Age of the Medici* at the Center for Jewish History. She also delivered the 17th Annual Biderman Lecture at Princeton University. Francesca is the author of *Mediterranean Enlightenment: Livornese Jews, Tuscan Culture, and Eighteenth-Century Reform* (Stanford University Press, 2014, finalist for the National Jewish Book Award in the categories of Sephardic Studies and Writing based on archival materials). She is co-editing, with David Ruderman, *Connecting Histories: Jews and Their Others in the Early Modern Period*, to appear from Penn Press. She is a book review editor for the *AJS Review*, and serves as acting director of the Center for Jewish Studies at the CUNY Graduate Center.

SAMI S. CHETRIT

Classical, Middle Eastern & Asian Languages & Cultures



A Moroccan-born Jew raised in Israel, Sami Chetrit is the advisor and coordinator of the Hebrew Studies Program. He writes and publishes poetry, prose, and research, and produces documentary films. Sami's book *Intra-Jewish Conflict in Israel: White Jews, Black Jews* was published by Routledge (London and New York, 2009). Other recent books 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. Sami's second documentary film, *Azi Ayima* (Come, Mother, Israel, 2009), is 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. The film was 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

Harriet Davis-Kram has 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.

ABI DOUKHAN

Philosophy



Abi Doukhan is Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Queens College and holds the Pearl and Nathan Halegua Family

Initiative in Ethics and Tolerance. She has a master's in philosophy from the Sorbonne and a PhD in philosophy from the University of Nanterre, Paris, France. Her recent publications include *Emmanuel Levinas: A Philosophy of Exile* (Bloomsbury, 2012) and *Biblical Portraits of Exile* (Routledge, 2016). Abi has completed a manuscript on the Song of Songs—*Secrets of an African Princess*—which will be published by Hamilton Books. She is also co-organizing a conference for December 2017, *The Stranger in the Three Abrahamic Faiths*, which will explore the way that the Muslim, Christian, and Jewish faiths approach the stranger in their midsts. She is also preparing a new class entitled “Responses to Nietzsche,” which will explore contemporary responses from Buber, Levinas, Jaspers, and Marcel to the Nietzschean critique of religion.

LIBA H. ENGEL

Elementary & Early Childhood Education



Liba H. 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”; and “Experiment in Democratic Education: Dewey's Lab School and Korczak's Children's Republic,” in *Jewish Social Studies*.

ARNOLD FRANKLIN

History



Arnold Franklin is an Associate Professor in the History Department and Director of the Center for Jewish Studies

and the Program in Jewish Studies. His research focuses on the history of the Jews in the medieval Islamic world. In August he presented a paper on his current research project on the 14th-century Egyptian scholar and communal leader David ben Joshua Maimuni, at the Conference of the Society for Judeo-Arabic Studies in Nashville, TN. Last October he gave a talk at the University of Warsaw, and in December he spoke at the annual meeting of the Association for Jewish Studies in San Diego. Arnold recently visited the site of Huqoq, an ancient village being excavated by Jodi Magness of UNC, Chapel Hill, where he gave a talk about Jewish settlement in the Galilee in the Middle Ages.

NORA GLICKMAN

Hispanic Languages & Literatures
and CUNY Graduate Center



Nora Glickman is president of the American Association of Professors of Yiddish, Associate Editor of *Modern Jewish Studies*, and co-editor of the *Latin American Jewish Studies Association Bulletin* and a member of its executive board. She 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. Nora's book reviews include "El tiempo y las palabras: Literatura y cultura Judeo-hispanoamericana contemporaneas," 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; "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 her monologue *Lot's Wife* were performed at the Hasimta Theatre in Jerusalem in 2008. Nora 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



Distinguished Professor Samuel Heilman won the Marshall Sklare Memorial Award for his lifetime of scholarship from the Association for the Social Scientific Study of Jewry, and is the Harold Proshansky Chair in Jewish Studies at the CUNY Graduate Center. He also serves as the editor-in-chief of *Contemporary Jewry*, the premiere scholarly journal in the social scientific study of Jewry. He is the author of *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, he gave the keynote address at the Bar Ilan University Conference on *Cultural Vitality and Jewish Education*. Samuel lectures widely on various topics, and gave an extensive interview on religion and ethics for PBS, focusing on the difficulties of leaving the ultra-Orthodox Jewish community. This past year he lectured as a Fulbright Senior Specialist in Poland, delivering talks at the University of Wroclaw, Warsaw University, Jagellonian University, Krakow, as well as in South Africa. Samuel recently presented "Generations and Succession in Hasidism: New Aspects" at the annual Association for Jewish Studies in Boston.

SARI KISILEVSKY

Philosophy

Sari Kisilevsky is an Associate Professor of Philosophy, and holds the Pearl and Nathan Chair in Ethics and Tolerance. In addition to her affiliations with Jewish Studies, Sari is an affiliated scholar with the CUNY School of Law. Her areas of teaching include philosophy of law, political philosophy, and ethics. In 2010 she received the Teacher Scholar Award for Innovation in Teaching from Queens College, and received the Faculty Publication Program Fellowship Award for the spring 2011 semester. Additional achievements include a workshop on Arthur Ripstein's *Force and Freedom: Kant's Moral and Legal Philosophy*, organized with Martin Stone, Cardozo/New School; a presentation of Lon Fuller's *The Case of the Speluncean Explorer* to Honors in Social Science 200. Sari served as Program Committee Chair (with Jonathan Peterson, University of Toronto) of Philosophy of Law and Social and Political Philosophy for the 2010 Congress of the Canadian Philosophical Association. In 2011 she presented "Security, Liberty, and Procedural Justice: Rethinking the Balance," at Nassau Community College, and "Easy Cases and Social Sources: Toward a New Defense of Legal Positivism," at *The Nature of Law: Contemporary Perspectives*, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. She contributed a paper on "Equity, Necessity and the Rule of Law," *Proceedings of the 10th International Kant Congress*, published by de Gruyter Publishers,

Berlin. In 2017 Sari co-edited with Martin Stone of Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University, *Freedom and Force: Essays on Kant's Legal Philosophy* (Bloomsbury Publishing).

STEVEN KRUGER

English

Steven Kruger is the author of *The Spectral Jew: Conversion and Embodiment in Medieval Europe* (University of Minnesota Press, 2006).

KRISTINA RICHARDSON

History



Kristina Richardson's book, *Difference and Disability in the Medieval Islamic World: Blighted Bodies* (2012) appeared in paperback

from the Edinburgh University Press in August 2014. The book is being distributed in North America with Columbia University Press. During the 2014–2015 academic year, she served as a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Bonn in Germany, where she worked on an autograph manuscript from historians of 15th- and 16th-century Mamluk and Ottoman Syria. Kristina recently completed a two-year fellowship (2012–2014) from the Gerda Henkel Foundation, based in Düsseldorf, Germany. She also worked at the Institut für Arabistik und Islamwissenschaft in Münster, Germany, where she began her second book project, a history of blue- and green-eyed peoples of the medieval Islamic world.

DAVID RICHTER

English



David Richter's essay "Keeping Company in Hollywood: Toward an Ethics of the Nonfiction Film," focusing largely on

Steven Spielberg's *Munich*, 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 Robert 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, David 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

Alan Rosenberg has focused his scholarly work on philosophical issues relating to the Holocaust and 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 also is 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 Prof. Rosenberg 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).

MIRYAM SEGAL

Classical, Middle Eastern & Asian Languages & Cultures



Miryam Segal is Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Classical, Middle Eastern & Asian Languages & Cultures, and director of the Religious Studies program. She recently gave a talk on law and narrative at a Jewish Law Association conference in Toronto, and also presented two biblical texts at the Text Study Series for the Center for Jewish Studies at the CUNY Grad Center. Her piece on Hebrew sound, “From Hatikvah to KISS (or, the Sounds of a Jewish Nation),” appeared in the spring 2016 issue of the *AJS Perspectives*.

ARTHUR SHIPPEE

Religious Studies



Arthur Shippee gave the inaugural lecture for the Interpretations of Ancient Judaism Series in April 2013, extending the popular Biblical Archaeology Series, and in March, 2014 addressed the Jewish Studies Faculty Colloquium, analyzing how “anti-Semitic” misrepresents the ideas and history of the New Testament in a lively talk entitled “The Anti-Semitic New Testament: Really?” A Presbyterian minister, Arthur served as commissioner to the 220th General Assembly (GA), 2012, and was quoted in the *New York Times* after the divestment motion was defeated.

He has been working with local Jewish groups planning for the 221st GA and beyond. He also chairs the Ecclesiastical Relations Committee on the Council of the Presbytery of Southern New England. A winner of Queens College’s 2005 Presidential Excellence in Teaching Award for Adjuncts and chair of the selection committee for several years, he has taught at the college for 20 years. Arthur and Philip Culbertson edited *The Pastor: Readings from the Patristic Period*, which has been republished by Fortress Press.

MOSHE SHUR

History



Rabbi Moshe Shur has been both Senior Associate and Adjunct Professor of the Queens College Center for Jewish Studies since 2011, teaching his course on Jewish Mysticism and Kabbalah through the History Department. He received his rabbinic ordination in Jerusalem. Moshe has an MA in Near Eastern Languages and Literature, University of Michigan, a Juris Doctor cum laude, Wayne State University Law School, and a BS cum laude from Columbia University, and a BHL from JTS. Prior to his appointment to the Jewish Studies Program, Professor Shur served as Rabbi, Executive Director, and University Chaplain at Queens College Hillel from 1979 to 2011. During the high holidays he is a cantor in suburban Chicago, IL. In addition, Rabbi Shur is a noted musician and composer, founder of

the Diaspora Yeshiva Band, and is currently performing with the Moshe Shur Band and A Shur Thing. He has produced many recordings and CDs, has a YouTube channel, and his music is available on iTunes.

SHEILA SPECTOR

English

Sheila Spector is the author of *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 selected for inclusion in *Byron’s Transatlantic Influence and Reputation* (eds. Mathew Scott and Joel Pace). Her 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”* (Helen P. Bruder, ed.); and the forthcoming *I give you the end of a golden string: A Kabbalistic Guide to Blake’s “Jerusalem”* (manuscript completed). Sheila’s lectures and readings include “Objections to Objects,” a special session for the 2007 International Conference on Romanticism, “Romantic Objects,” held in Baltimore; “Byron and the Jews,” presented at a 2007 Queens College Center for Jewish Studies Faculty Colloquium, and “Byron and the Russian Revolution,” presented at the 2006 International Conference on Romanticism, “Engaged Romanticism,” held

at Arizona State University. She was 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 & Literatures**

Joseph Sungolowsky published a chapter entitled “André Neher (1918–1988) et Erets Israel” in *La Pensée Juive contemporaine* (Editions parole et Silence, 2008) and “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 Université Charles de Gaulle, Lille, France (Winter 2009).

IZABELLA TALER

Benjamin S. Rosenthal Library

Izabella Taler, the Library’s Jewish Studies bibliographer, is pleased to report that the Library’s collection of Holocaust publications, made possible via the generous support of a Lucius N. Littauer Grant, has been growing and now includes 369 titles. Her lengthy document entitled “Discovering Jewish Studies Collections In Academic Libraries:

A Practical Guide” was published in 2014 by ERIC, Institute of Education Sciences.

EVAN ZIMROTH

English



Evan Zimroth received the Medal of Honour of the 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 awarded 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.” In May 2011 Evan 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 later that year 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 devoted to Jewish-Lithuanian reconciliation. In June 2012 Evan 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. Additionally she published “Lithuania’s Jewish Issues as Seen in the U.S.: Problems and Advances,” Litvak Heritage Conference: “No Simple Stories,” University College London, December 2012, and “Virginia, Lydia and Foreignness,” 23rd Annual Virginia Woolf Conference, Vancouver, June 2013, a presentation on Virginia Woolf’s attitudes to foreigners and Jews. Text Rain, an interactive video-installation of Evan’s poem, “talk, YOU” was featured at the First Center for the Visual Arts, Nashville, TN, Feb.–May 2013.

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 preeminent 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.

Center for Jewish Studies Advisory Board

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Dr. Diane Spielmann,
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Associate Director

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Leonard & Eva Zimmerman

Staff

Pat Tortorici
Rita Shlisselberg

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

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Sponsors of the Cinema on Sundays Film/Dialogue Series

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About the Center for Jewish Studies

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Classical, Middle Eastern & Asian Languages & Cultures

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History

Rikki Asher
Art Education

Elissa Bemporad
History, Jerry and William Ungar Professor of Jewish Studies

Thomas E. Bird, Emeritus
European Languages & Literatures

Francesca Bregoli
History, Joseph and Oro Halegua Professor in Greek and Sephardic Jewish Studies

Sami S. Chetrit
Classical, Middle Eastern & Asian Languages & Cultures

Sarah Covington
History

Harriet Davis-Kram
History

Abigail Doukhan
Philosophy, Pearl and Nathan Halegua Family Professor in Ethics and Tolerance

Liba H. Engel
Elementary & Early Childhood Education

Arnold Franklin
History

Nora Glickman
Hispanic Languages & Literatures

Samuel Heilman
Sociology

Leo Hershkowitz*
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Sari Kisilevsky
Philosophy

Michael Krasner
Political Science

Benny Kraut*
History

Steven Kruger
English

Chava Lapin, Emerita
Classical, Middle Eastern & Asian Languages & Cultures

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History

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Copland School of Music

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History

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Classical, Middle Eastern & Asian Languages & Cultures

Arthur Shippee
Philosophy

Rabbi Moshe Shur
History

Joseph Sungolowsky
European Languages & Literatures

Izabella Taler
Jewish Studies Bibliographer
Benjamin Rosenthal Library

Evan Zimroth
English

QC Students in the Simon and Roslyn Gold Jewish Studies Library in the Center for Jewish Studies Suite, Jefferson Hall.

New Professorships and Teachers

The Jerry and William Ungar Professorship in Jewish Studies Endowment, supported by Jerry* and William Ungar: Dr. Elissa Bemporad

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

The Pearl and Nathan Halebua Family Professorship in Ethics and Tolerance, supported by the Pearl and Nathan Halebua 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

The Grace Dessau Endowment Fund, established by her children in memory of their mother, a Holocaust Survivor, and alumna of Queens College

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

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

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

Shulamit Lisa Gabow Scholarship Endowment Fund, supported by Jack and Lisa Gabow

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

Friends of the Center

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 29.

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.

*Deceased

Friends of the Center

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 July 31, 2017.

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) 997-4530.

The gifts identified below only include those who have provided financial assistance to the Center as of July 2017.

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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 the *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

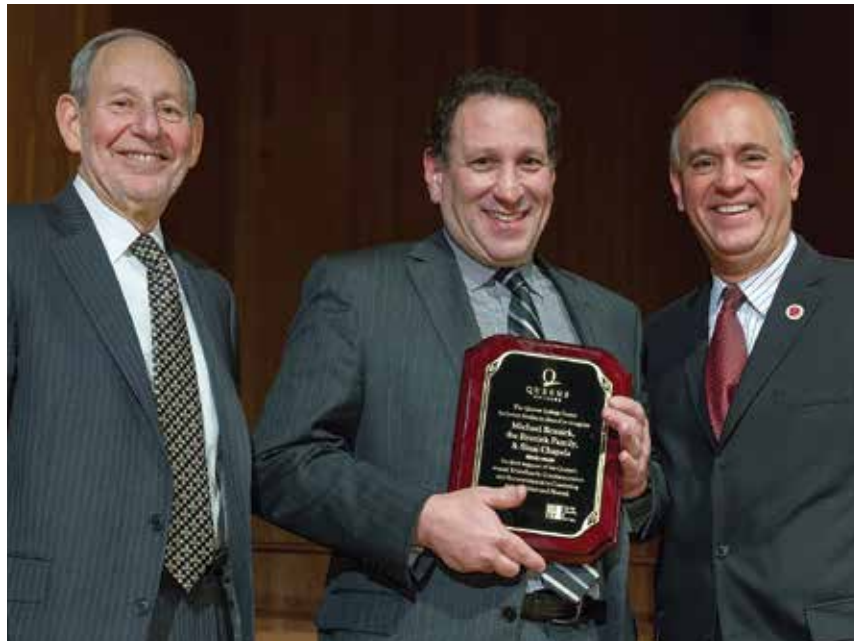
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- A copy of Nasser D. Khalili's spectacular book *Visions of Splendor in Islamic Art and Culture*.



- 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 the *Culture & Arts Guide*.
- A copy of the renowned author and illustrator Mark Podwal's beautiful children's book, *Jerusalem Sky: Stars, Crosses, and Crescents*.

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- 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 the *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 the *Culture & Arts Guide*.

SUPPORTER
(\$36–\$99):

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

Above: Michael Resnick, Sinai Chapels, center, receiving recognition for his support throughout the years of the Annual Kristallnacht Program, bestowed at the 2015 commemoration, with Bernie Spear, Chair of QC Advisory Board and President Félix Matos Rodríguez.

Photo: Leo Correa

Important Reasons Why Your Contribution Is a Wise Investment



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."

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.

We 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 Important Reasons why we are excited and proud.

Parking and Transportation

Free parking available on campus in the evenings and on Sundays 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

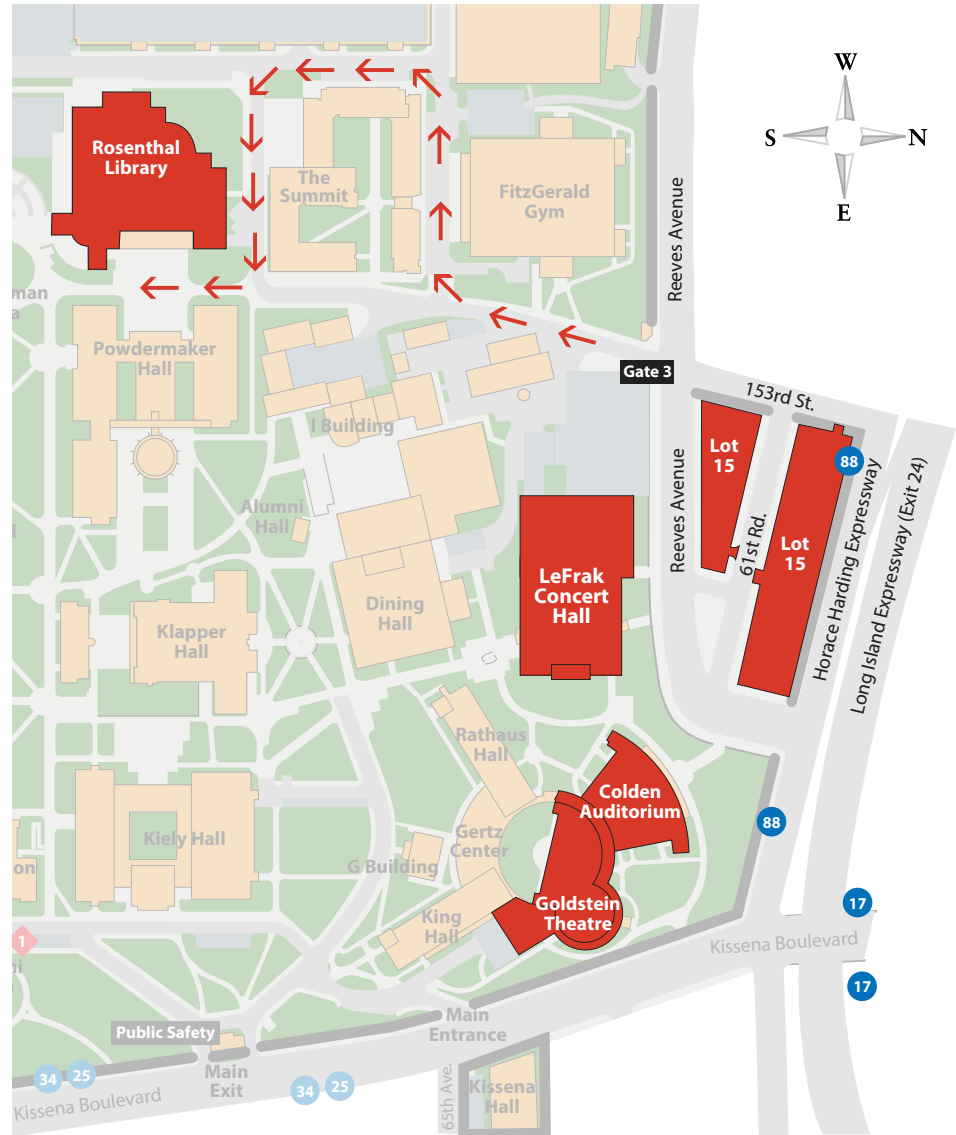
Take the Q17, Q25-Q34, or Q88 bus to the corner of Kissena Blvd. and Horace Harding Expressway (L.I.E. service road). Buses can be coordinated with E, F, M, R, or #7 subway trains.

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.



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