

האקדמיה הלאומית הישראלית למדעים  
المجمع الوطني الإسرائيلي للعلوم والآداب  
THE ISRAEL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES



THE HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES FUND  
CONFERENCE ON

IMAGINING THE RENAISSANCE  
/ DEFINING THE JEWS

January 12-15 2020

The National Library of Israel, Jerusalem

*Conference funded by:*

**The Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities  
Rothschild Foundation Hanadiv Europe**

**The Lechter Institute for Literary Research, Bar-Ilan University  
Vice-President for Research, Bar-Ilan University**

*Conference organized by:*

**The National Library of Israel, Jerusalem**

**PRIN 2015 - The Long History of Antisemitism**

**The Joseph and Rebecca Meyerhoff Center for Jewish Studies and the  
Department of History - University of Maryland**

**Johns Hopkins University**

**EMODIR - Early Modern Religious Dissents and Radicalism**

**UNESCO Chair in Religious Pluralism and Peace, Fondazione Giovanni XXIII per  
le Scienze Religiose**

## Sunday, January 12

16:00 – 16:30

Registration

16:30 – 17:30

**Conference Opening**

On Behalf of the Scientific Committee:

Yaakov Mascetti (Bar-Ilan University)

Elhanan Reiner (National Library of Israel, Jerusalem)

Fabio Ruggirello (Director, Istituto Italiano di Cultura Tel Aviv)

Stefano Ventura (Scientific Attaché, Italian Embassy of Tel Aviv)

*Cataloguing Old Hebrew Books in Italian Libraries*

Rothschild Foundation Hanadiv Europe

Unione delle Comunità Ebraiche Italiane

National Central Library of Rome

Caron Sethill (National Library of Israel)

Chiara Camarda (Ca' Foscari University of Venice)

17:30 – 18:30

**Keynote Lecture**

Chair: Stefano Villani (University of Maryland)

**Nicholas Terpstra** (University of Toronto)

*Finding Cracks in the Wall: Exclusion, Engagement, and Position for Early Modern History*

19:00 – 22:00

Reception and Accompanying Exhibition

## Monday, January 13

8:30 – 9:00

Reception

9:00 – 10:00

### **Keynote Lecture**

Chair: Bernard Cooperman (University of Maryland)

**Filippo de Vivo** (Birkbeck – University of London)

*Communication, Circulation, Construction: Old and New Paradigms in the History of Early-Modern Cultural Mobilities*

10:00 – 11:30

### **Renaissance Challenges of Otherness**

Chair: Gur Zak (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Nirit Ben-Aryeh Debby (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

*Peaceful Coexistence or Violent Clash in the Venetian-Ottoman Encounter in Early Modernity*

Stefano Villani (University of Maryland)

*Modes of Conversions and Acculturation Strategies in Early Modern Italy*

Tamar Herzig (Tel Aviv University)

*Jews, Converts, and the Visual Arts in Renaissance Italy*

11:30 – 12:00

Coffee Break

12:00 – 13:30

### **Imagining the Jews: The Catholic Point of View**

Chair: Philip M. Soergel (University of Maryland)

David Malkiel (Bar-Ilan University)

*Jewish-Christian Relations in Renaissance Italy: Resolving a Historiographical Debate*

Emily Michelson (University of St Andrews)

*Layers of Imaginary Others in Conversionary Rome*

Michael Sherberg (Washington University in St. Louis)

*Writing Renaissance Jews into History: Tiraboschi's Storia della Letteratura Italiana*

# IMAGINING THE RENAISSANCE / DEFINING THE JEWS

January 12-15 2020

13:30 – 14:30

Lunch

14:30 – 16:00

## **Imagining the Jews: The Protestant Point of View**

Chair: Yaacov Deutsch (The David Yellin College of Education)

Bruce Gordon (Yale University)

*Teachers, Rabbis and Books: Jews in the Autobiographical and Exegetical Works of Konrad Pellikan*

Martin Rothkegel (Elstal Theological Seminary)

*Jacobus Palaeologus from Chios (ca. 1520-1585) and the Marrano Dilemma*

Federico Zuliani (University of Turin)

*Jewish Thessaloniki as cité de refuge for Italian Protestants in the Sixteenth Century*

16:00 – 16:30

Coffee Break

16:30 – 18:00

## **Reframing the Jewish Renaissance**

Chair: Alessandra Veronese (University of Pisa)

Giuseppe Veltri, (University of Hamburg)

*Redefining Qabbalah and Skeptical Tradition: Simone Luzzatto as Reader of Dante Alighieri*

Fabrizio Lelli, (University of Salento)

*The Hebrew Bible as the Primary Source for Jewish-Christian Intellectual Relationships in the Italian Renaissance*

Edoardo Angione (Roma Tre University)

*Thinking the Unthinkable: A Sephardic Agent between Rome and Istanbul (1605-1610)*

## Tuesday, January 14

8:30 – 9:00

Coffee

9:00 – 10:00

**Keynote Lecture**

Chair: Germano Maifreda (University of Milan)

**Tamar Herzog** (Harvard University)

*Religious and Civic Neophytes: Iberian Conversos from an Italian Perspective*

10:00 – 10:30

Coffee Break

10:30 – 12:00

**Cultural Borders, Inquisition and Neophytes**

Chair: Yoel Finkelman (National Library of Israel)

Katherine Aron-Beller (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

*Defining the Jew in Inquisitorial Strategy in 16th-Century Italy*

Martina Mampieri (Lichtenberg-Kolleg - The Göttingen Institute for Advanced Study - University of Göttingen)

*Neophytes, Slanderers, and Jewish Dogs: Imagining and Defining the Jews at the Outskirts of the Papal States (16th Century)*

Germano Maifreda (University of Milan)

*The Neophyte as Informant: Emic/Etic Descriptions, and the Strange Case of the Abraded Tombstones in the Jewish Cemetery of Ancona (17th Century)*

12:00 – 13:30

**Textual Entanglements and Biblical Scholarship**

Chair: Pawel Maciejko (Johns Hopkins University)

Guido Bartolucci (University of Calabria)

*Self in Translation: David de' Pomis and the Place of the Jews in Renaissance Italy*

Margherita Mantovani (CNRS - French National Center for Scientific Research)

*Hebrew-Latin Translations of Averroes' Preface to Metaphysics A*

# IMAGINING THE RENAISSANCE / DEFINING THE JEWS

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Eric Lawee (Bar-Ilan University)

*Jeremiah's Blunders: Isaac Abarbanel's Renaissance Biblical Scholarship and Its Critics*

13:30 – 14:30

Lunch

14:30 – 16:00

## **Scribes, Copists and Printers**

Chair: William Kolbrener (Bar-Ilan University)

Emma Abate (CNRS - French National Center for Scientific Research)

*Jewish Scribes and Translators in the Renaissance Rome: Who Was in the Workshop of Egidio of Viterbo?*

J. H. Yossi Chajes (University of Haifa)

*The "Magnificent Parchment": Transcending Boundaries of Text, Image, Medium, and Community in Early Modern Italy*

Adam Shear (University of Pittsburgh)

*Books as Markers of Identity? Text and Paratext in the Shaping of (Imagined) Community*

16:00 – 16:30

Coffee Break

16:30 – 18:00

## **Poets, Musicians and Writers**

Chair: Yaakov Mascetti (Bar-Ilan University)

Lynn Westwater (George Washington University)

*"Stimando ciò esser concesso... ad una donna, e donna ebrea": Sarra Copia Sulam's Defense of Women and Jews in Early Modern Venice*

Piergabriele Mancuso (Medici Archive Project)

*Repertoires and Interactions: Music A-semanticism and Social Exchanges in Renaissance and Early Modern Italy*

Alessandro Guetta (INALCO)

*Yehuda Hayyim Carpi, a Forgotten Translator/Poet*

## Wednesday, January 15

9:00 – 9:30

Coffee

9:30 – 11:00

### **Jewish Intellectuals and the Sciences**

Chair: Raz Chen-Morris (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Avner Ben Zaken (Ono Academic College)

*Amatus Lusitanus and the Making of Science in Motion*

Ilana Wartenberg (Tel Aviv University)

*Bilingualism in Scientific Texts Written by Jews in Renaissance Italy*

Shulamit Furstenberg-Levi (New York University)

*The Missing Names: Links between Jewish Intellectuals and the Accademia Pontaniana in Naples during the Renaissance*

11:00 – 11:30

Coffee Break

11:30 – 13:00

### **Jews and/in Italian Cities**

Chair: Dov Stuczynski (Bar-Ilan University)

Evelien Chayes (Radboud University Nijmegen)

*Porous Libraries and Jewishness in Early Modern Italy. Studying Letizia Nahmias' Spectral Archives*

Tovi Bibring (Bar-Ilan University)

*"Would you have replaced your faith with my faith? And your religion with my religion?" Immanuel ha-Romi in the Streets of Fermo*

13:00 – 14:30

Lunch

14:30 – 16:00

### **Concluding Comments**

Chair: Serena Di Nepi (Sapienza University of Rome)

Marina Caffiero (Sapienza University of Rome)

Bernard Cooperman (University of Maryland)

Pawel Maciejko (Johns Hopkins University)

Germano Maifreda (University of Milan)

Yaakov Mascetti (Bar-Ilan University)

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## Scientific Committee

Marina Caffiero (Sapienza University of Rome)  
Bernard Cooperman (University of Maryland)  
Serena Di Nepi (Sapienza University of Rome)  
Tamar Herzig (Tel Aviv University)  
Pawel Maciejko (Johns Hopkins University)  
David Malkiel (Bar-Ilan University)  
Germano Maifreda (University of Milan)  
Yaakov Mascetti (Bar-Ilan University)  
Stefano Villani (University of Maryland)

## Organizing Committee

Gail Russell (University of Maryland)  
Helena Wangefelt Ström (Uppsala University / Umeå University)  
Federico Zuliani (University of Milan / University of Turin)

More details on our conferences can be found at  
<https://jewsitalylongrenaissance.wordpress.com/>

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