

The Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies presents:

"Nomos and Narrative"

**2022 Schwartz-Reisman Graduate Student Conference
in Jewish Studies**

Featuring presentations by advanced PhD Students in the
Granovsky-Gluskin Collaborative Graduate Program in Jewish Studies

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2022 Schwartz-Reisman Graduate Student Conference in Jewish Studies

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Public Talk at 4pm ET

"Between the Sacred and Sacrilege"

Featuring:

David Zvi Kalman

Scholar in Residence and Director of New Media, Shalom Hartman Institute of North America

Adam Cohen

Associate Professor, University of Toronto Department of Art History and Undergraduate Director, Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies



To attend, [CLICK HERE](#) at 4:00pm ET on April 25th

Date: Monday, April 25th, 2022

Time: 12:45 - 6:00pm ET

Place: [Zoom Webinar](#)

This conference is free and open to the public.

No registration required.

TO ATTEND, [CLICK HERE](#) AT 12:45 PM ET ON APRIL 25TH



Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

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12:45 - 14:30

Panel, "**(Un)common Law**"

Moderated by Dikla Yogev

Ph.D. Candidate, Centre for Criminology & Sociolegal Studies

Katie Maguire

Ph.D. Candidate, Department for the Study of Religion

Marinka Yossifon

Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations

Chaim Grafstein

Ph.D. candidate, Department of Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations

Noy Namaan

SJD candidate, Faculty of Law

14:30 - 14:40

Break

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14:40 – 15:50

Panel, "**Re(source)fulness**"

Moderated by Naomi Seidman

Chancellor Jackman Professor in the Arts, University of Toronto

Camila Collins Araiza

Ph.D. Student, Department of History

Rotem Raz

Ph.D. Candidate, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, Department for Curriculum, Teaching and the Language and Literacies Education Program

Ido Moses

Ph.D. Student, Department of Comparative Literature

Miriam Schwartz

Ph.D. Student, Department of Germanic Languages & Literature

15:50 – 16:00

Break

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16:00 – 17:30

Public Talk, ***"Between the Sacred and Sacrilege"***

David Zvi Kalman

Scholar in Residence and Director of New Media, Shalom Hartman Institute of North America

Adam Cohen

Associate Professor, University of Toronto Department of Art History and Undergraduate Director, Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies

17:30 – 17:40

Closing Remarks


Ido Moses

Ph.D. Student, Department of Comparative Literature




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 Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies

Co-organizers

Maria Dawson is a second year PhD student in the History Department at the University of Toronto, with collaborative specialisations in Food Studies and Jewish Studies. Her research focuses on Jewish foodways in early twentieth century Boston.

Ido Moses is a second year PhD student at the Centre for Comparative Literature and in the Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish studies collaborative program at the University of Toronto. His Research focuses on combatant narratives in Hebrew and other Literatures throughout the 20th century.

Panel 1: "(Un)common Law"

Dikla Yogev

Moderator

Dikla Yogev is in her fifth year of doctoral studies at the University of Toronto and will defend her dissertation this summer. She is well-versed in quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods, and gave courses in Israel Studies, Religion, and Criminology for undergraduate students at the University of Toronto. She serves as the research manager for Dr. Naomi Seidman's "Bais Yaakov Project", and her work focuses on the school leadership network. Additionally, she is published in peer-reviewed journals of Criminology and Jewish Studies, in which she has recently written about the Haredim, the police, and COVID-19.

Katie Maguire

Katie Maguire is a 5th year PhD Candidate at the Department for the Study of Religion and Center for Jewish Studies at the University of Toronto. Her primary research interests are Dead Sea Scrolls and Hebrew Bible. She is also interested in ancient science, Hebrew linguistics, Assyriology, and Rabbinics. Her dissertation explores the themes of wilderness and covenant in relation to the experience of time in sectarian rule texts from Qumran.

Abstract:

Breaking and (Re)Making the Covenant- The Relationship between History, Eschatology, and Curses in Qumran Serakhim

What does it mean for a sectarian community to curse at the end of days [אַחֲרֵי הַיָּמִים]? In this paper, I explore this question by independently examine the cursing portions of different Qumran serakhim, with the goal of understanding how the presentation of historical time impacts the content, range, and potency of sectarian curses. I find that the demarcated periods of time such as the אַחֲרֵי הַיָּמִים [end of days] can be fruitfully understood as a kind of wilderness period, where the wilderness functions simultaneously a spatial and temporal concept. In scripture, the wilderness period is a typological time of sin and rebellion, of punishment and repentance, a time of covenant breaking and (re)making. The Qumran serakhim adapt the scriptural motif of the wilderness rebellions in order to characterize their present as a potent and dangerous time. The influence of demonic Others is heightened in liminal wilderness space-time, which actively encourage the sectarian community to stray from God's commandments. The consequences of covenant violation are also enacted in the wilderness, which serves as the setting of the punishments of the covenantal curses. The sectarian reimagination of the terms and conditions of a new covenant is understood as a path out of the wilderness to the glory of the eternal temple. By understanding their present as a wilderness period where an eternal covenant is made, located at the end of historical time in the אַחֲרֵי הַיָּמִים, the various sectarian communities represented by the Qumran serakhim radically transform the significance and function of cursing, which extends the potency and duration of cursing effects towards eternity.

Marinka Yossiffon

Marinka Yossiffon holds a J.D. equivalent from Universidad Torcuato di Tella, Buenos Aires. Her background is in human rights specializing in women's and children's rights. Her dissertation explores women's standing in Beit Din litigation in light of their financial autonomy.

Abstract:

According to rabbinic law, women can sometimes access an advance on their marriage separation payments sooner than the regular ketubbah payment upon the end of the marriage. The Talmud Bavli mentions such alternative mechanisms in chapter nine of masekhet Ketubbot. While these mechanisms allow women some financial autonomy in managing their economic affairs, the procedural requirements involved create obstacles and raise the legal costs for these women when they try to obtain the balance owed them through the ketubbah. "The Impaired Ketubbah" considers such alternatives mechanisms for women to obtain partial ketubbah payments and possible implications such transactions will have for them.

Chaim Grafstein

Chaim Grafstein is a fifth-year doctoral candidate in the Department of Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations and part of the Anne Tannenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies collaborative program. His research centres on the writing of Rabbi Yosef Messas (1892-1974) and its role in the North African Rabbinic tradition.

Abstract:

According to rabbinic law, women can sometimes access an advance on their marriage separation payments sooner than the regular ketubbah payment upon the end of the marriage. The Talmud Bavli mentions such alternative mechanisms in chapter nine of masekhet Ketubbot. While these mechanisms allow women some financial autonomy in managing their economic affairs, the procedural requirements involved create obstacles and raise the legal costs for these women when they try to obtain the balance owed them through the ketubbah. "The Impaired Ketubbah" considers such alternatives mechanisms for women to obtain partial ketubbah payments and possible implications such transactions will have for them.

Noy Naaman

Noy Naaman is an SJD candidate and Ontario Trillium Scholar at the University of Toronto Faculty of Law in the collaborative program for Jewish Studies. He holds degrees in law from Columbia Law School as a Human Rights Scholar and from Tel Aviv University. His research focuses on family law and theory, with the emphasis on procreation and parenthood, as well as queer legal theory. His work has been published in leading Israeli law journals, Washington University Law Review, Arkansas Law Review, and Yale Journal of Law and Humanities.

Abstract:

Bordering Legal Parenthood

Why should borders matter to the legal field of parenthood? The sustained reification of the institution of Family requires borders—spatial, legal, and symbolic—that demand the exclusion of those who fail to adhere to its norms. Yet, as the present article exposes, this institution's borders can also become a terrain in which new forms of agency and beneficial processes emerge, inviting a reconsideration of the traditional paradigms that sustain that institution. This work examines this dual understanding of the role of borders and assesses the transformative costs and trade-offs of crossing them. To pursue this inquiry, it focuses on the longstanding struggle of gay Israeli men to become parents via surrogacy, and contextualizes the trajectory of this struggle across different geopolitical scales, through the lens of "border-as-process". The uniqueness of the Israeli case lies in its contradictory confluence of the longstanding prohibition of gay surrogacy, on the one hand, and the de-facto endorsement of this phenomenon via the global market, on the other. Such a contradictory stance provides a valuable platform to examine the interplay between different borders that surrounds the evolution of the legal category of parenthood and to consider how these borders—in their opening, closing, and transgressing—create new possibilities for legal and institutional change.

Panel 2: "Re(resource)fulness"

Professor Naomi Seidman

Moderator

Professor Seidman is the Jackman Humanities Professor at the University of Toronto in the Department for the Study of Religion and the Centre for Diaspora and Transnational Studies. Her most recent book, *Sarah Schenirer and the Bais Yaakov Movement: A Revolution in the Name of Tradition*, was awarded a National Jewish Book Award. Professor Seidman is presently working on a study of the Hebrew and Yiddish translations of Freud's writings.

Camila Collins Araiza

Camila Collins Araiza is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of History and at the Centre for Jewish Studies at the University of Toronto. Her general research interests include the early modern Caribbean and Atlantic World, the history of trans-Atlantic slavery in the Caribbean, and Jewish populations in the early modern British Caribbean. Before beginning her doctoral studies, Camila held the position of Research Assistant for the Montgomery Collection of Caribbean Photographs at the Art Gallery of Ontario; she has also held research positions in the Department of History, the African Studies Program and Caribbean Studies Program (New College) at the University of Toronto.

Abstract:

Clause XVII of the "Act"

From its enactment in 1688 to its repeal in 1706, Clause XVII of the "Act for the Governing of Negroes" targeted, and restricted, the ability for Jewish settlers in colonial Barbados to participate in the institution of slavery. This presentation examines Clause XVII from a combined legal, gender, and social perspective(s). It proposes that by legally preserving certain economic and social acts for white Christians, Jews were kept at the fringes of settler colonial society. This presentation focuses on the legal and social gendering of enslaved African men and women, and Jewish masculinity as revealed in the Clause. Brief historical context for the "Act", as well as socio-legal definitions relevant to the Clause will be provided during the presentation. The main analysis will follow the written structure of the "Act" and will focus on the first fourteen lines of Clause XVII.

Rotem Raz

Rotem Raz (RAZ) is a 3rd year Ph.D. candidate at the Ontario Institute for Studies In Education (OISE), the department for Curriculum Teaching (CTL), and the Language and Literacies Education (LLE) program. He is also a student in the collaborative program with the Centre for Jewish Studies (CJS). Raz's dissertation aims at articulating concerns for allyship, good relations and supporting Indigenous language and knowledge systems revitalization, through interviews and art-based autoethnography. Raz uses textiles to reflect on his Israeli identity and heritage - the quilted patchwork of identity, memory, and belonging - and relationship and reciprocity with Indigenous Knowledge Keepers and community.

Abstract:

Tzav, Tzvi, and Language revitalization: A Study of Asymmetries

How can one strive to be an ally or good relation concerning the revitalization of Indigenous languages and knowledge systems? The researcher of this dissertation answers this question from his position as an artist, an Israeli Jewish descendant of Hebrew revitalizers, an immigrant, and a Hebrew language teacher, who is working with Lunaapeew and Anishinaabe Knowledge-Keepers to support their language and cultural knowledge. Building from key participants' interviews, the analysis will apply an arts-based autoethnography to place the Indigenous revitalization projects in dialogue with stories of the researcher's Israeli-Hebrew familial heritage and its part in the successes and failures of language and culture revitalization and reclamation. The research design follows a specific Anishinaabe theoretical framework shared by the Knowledge Keepers. Arts-based research and storytelling are integral to the framework. Through the integrated methodology, theoretical framework, and art creation, the study weaves together the threads, themes, and initial study findings. Additionally, by applying that specific Anishinaabe theoretical framework, the research explores what the framework offers to revitalization and ally-ship in the context of language and culture revitalization and the wider research literature.

Ido Moses

Ido Moses is a second year PhD student at the Centre for Comparative Literature and in the Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish studies collaborative program at the University of Toronto. His Research focuses on combatant narratives in Hebrew and other Literatures throughout the 20th century.

Abstract:

In March of 2020, a Facebook group named "Stories from Lebanon - What Happened in the Outposts", spread like wildfire among Israeli Facebook users. The group soon became a media event in and of itself, mentioned in TV news broadcasts, newspapers, and public discourse. Israeli society became fascinated with the sharing of experiences by veterans of the Israeli armed forces that had served in the Israeli "Security Belt" in Southern Lebanon between 1985 and 2000. My talk will address these "Stories" and outpour of new archival materials appearing in Facebook posts, and shed a light on how new media allows for a democratization of memory discourse on the one hand and yet contain policing forces that shape a new meta-narrative.

Miriam Schwartz

Miriam Schwartz is a PhD student in the Department for Germanic Languages and Literatures and in the collaborative program with the Anne Tanenbaum Center for Jewish studies at the University of Toronto. Her research focuses on Hebrew and Yiddish literature at the beginning of the 20th century. Before coming to Toronto, she earned her BA in Literature and MA in Yiddish Literature, both at Tel Aviv University.

Abstract:

While working on my MA thesis about the poetic connection between the Hebrew author Y. H. Brenner and the Yiddish author Lamed Shapiro, I found an illuminating footnote in Anita Shapira's biography of Brenner. This footnote mentions a letter sent by Lamed Shapiro who was in New York, to Brenner who was in London. Shapiro ends the letter with the proclamation "Come here! Write in Yiddish!". Immediately I contacted Gnazim Archive, in which according to the footnote the letter was, asking to see it. To my great amazement, the response I received from the archivist was: "which letter do you wish to see? There are six letters".

My primary source includes these six letters (three full letters, and three postcards) written by Shapiro, to his friend and colleague Brenner. The two authors met in London, in 1905, and developed an intimate friendship. The letters were written by Shapiro after he immigrated to America, and are dated between 1906-1909. In my quick presentation I wish to share an overview of the content of the letters, and share some of the questions that I had to face in the process of translating this source. I argue that their relationship, which included reading and critiquing each other's work, while sharing the hardship of writing with each other, illuminates the poetic relations between the two.

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David Zvi Kalman's work as a writer, publisher, and artist crosses the boundaries between Jewish history, contemporary material culture, and the technological future.

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*Scholar in Residence and Director of New Media, Shalom Hartman
Institute of North America*

Adam S. Cohen

*Associate Professor, University of Toronto Department of Art History and
Undergraduate Director, Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies*



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 Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies

Dr. David Zvi Kalman

Dr. David Zvi Kalman is Scholar in Residence and Director of New Media at Shalom Hartman Institute of North America, where he was also a member of the inaugural cohort of North American David Hartman Center Fellows. David Zvi leads the Kogod Research Center's research seminar on Judaism and the Natural World.

David Zvi holds a PhD from the University of Pennsylvania and a BA from the University of Toronto. His research touches on Jewish law, the history of technology, technology and ethics, material culture, and Islamic jurisprudence. He is the owner of Print-O-Craft Press and the KLMNOPS art house. His work can be found at www.davidzvi.com.

Dr. Adam S. Cohen

Dr. Adam S. Cohen is Associate Professor in the Department of Art History at the University of Toronto and Undergraduate Coordinator for the Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies. He received his Ph.D. from the Johns Hopkins University and is a specialist in the history of European illuminated manuscripts from the Middle Ages. He has written and edited numerous books and articles on both Christian and Hebrew subjects. For the general public, he has written *Signs and Wonders: 100 Haggadah Masterpieces* (Jerusalem: Toby Press, 2018), a history of the illustrated haggadah from the Middle Ages to the present.

Acknowledgements

We would like to express our deepest gratitude to our donors, Gerald Schwartz, Heather Reisman, Ira Gluskin, and Maxine Granovsky-Gluskin for their generous support for the graduate program at the Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies and this graduate student conference.

We would like to give special thanks to Professor Naomi Seidman, the graduate director at the Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies and the co-organizers Maria Dawson and Ido Moses for putting together the conference.