Western Jewish Studies Association
Annual Conference
March 26-27, 2017
Claremont McKenna College, Claremont, CA

Sunday, March 26

9:00-9:30  Registration and continental breakfast  
(Kravis Center, Lower Level, Courtyard)

9:30-9:45  Welcome  
(Kravis Center, Lower Level, Freeberg Forum)
Gary Gilbert  
Associate Professor of Religious Studies and  
Director of the Jewish Studies Sequence, Claremont McKenna College  
Hiram Chodosh, President, Claremont McKenna College

9:45-11:15  Session I

1A.  The Shaping of Modern Israel  
(Kravis Center 102)
Chair: Nadav G. Molchadsky, UCLA, nadavm@ucla.edu

“Lucian Wolf and the Road to the Balfour Declaration”  
Barry Shapiro, Allegheny College, bshapiro@allegheny.edu

“Why and How the Zionist Organization Initiated the 1947 UN Partition Resolution”  
Aviva Halamish, The Open University of Israel, Avivaha@openu.ac.il

“Ever Onward to Eretz Israel:” Filmic Depictations of Brichah Activities in Post-WWII Europe.”  
Uta Larkey, Goucher College, uta.larkey@goucher.edu

1B.  Fleeing from the Nazis: Jewish Refugee Experiences  
(Kravis Center 103)
Chair: Paul Bartrop, Florida Gulf Coast University, pbartrop@fgcu.edu

“Jewish Refugees in Australia”  
Lauren Cruz, Chapman University, cruz126@mail.chapman.edu

“Jewish Refugees in Neutral Switzerland”  
Monica Freeman, Chapman University, freem132@mail.chapman.edu

“Jewish Refugees in Mexico”  
Mary Murphy, Chapman University, murph211@mail.chapman.edu

“Homeless in Shanghai: Jewish Refugees in World War II China and the Desire to Leave”  
Maci Reed, Chapman University, reed163@mail.chapman.edu
1C. Modern Judaisms
Chair: Oona Eisenstadt, Pomona College, oonaeisenstadt@gmail.com

“Each One Blowing its Own Horn: Sounding the Shofar in American Mahzorim”
Joel Gereboff, Arizona State University, Joel.Gereboff@asu.edu

“The Rosenzweigs, Mother and Son: A Rapprochement Through Memoir”
Amy Hill Shevitz, Arizona State University, amy@shevitz.net

“Exile and a Post-Modern Kabbalah”
Ilana Maymind, Chapman University, maymind.3@osu.edu

11:15-11:30 Break

11:30-1:00 Session II

2A. Popular Culture and the Jewish Experience
Chair: Lynn Rappaport, Pomona College, lynn.rapaport@pomona.edu

“Death Eaters and Nazis: The Holocaust and the Harry Potter Universe”
Danielle J. Drew, Florida Gulf Coast University, djdrew9704@eagle.fgcu.edu

“What’s With All the Swastikas? Rock and Roll Stars and Third Reich Post-Memory”
Jeffrey Demsky, San Bernardino Valley College, jdemsky@sbccd.cc.ca.us

“Golems on Television in the 21st Century”
Mara W. Cohen Ioannides, Missouri State University, maraioannides@missouristate.edu

“Pop Goes the Professor: Brands, Stands and Reprimands in the Teaching of Jewish American Texts”
Audrey B. Thacker, California State University, Northridge, audrey.thacker@csun.edu

2B. Picturing the Holocaust
Chair: David M. Desser, Chapman University, desser@chapman.edu

“The war will be continued until it’s won, that’s our destiny:” None Shall Escape (1944) and Operation Eichmann (1961) as Predictive Movies about the Holocaust”
Paul R. Bartrop, Florida Gulf Coast University, pbartrop@fgcu.edu

“Water the Flowers with Your Tears: The Revolt of Job”
Lawrence Baron, San Diego State University, lbaron@mail.sdsu.edu

“Childhood Memories from the Jado Detention and Labor Camp in Libya: Fragments from the Oeuvre of Artist Nava T. Barazani”
Yvonne Kozlovsky-Golan, University of Haifa, yvonnek8@gmail.com
2C. Jewish Identities and Interactions in the Medieval and Early Modern Periods

Chair: Lawrence Baron, San Diego State University, lbaron@mail.sdsu.edu

“Eschatology and Millenarianism in Medieval European Judaism”
Natalie E. Latteri, University of New Mexico, nlatteri@unm.edu

“Armenian and Jewish Interactions from the Young Turk Revolution to the Present”
Michael Bishku, Augusta University, mbishku@augusta.edu

“Transmitting Crypto-Jewish Identity”
Seth Ward, University of Wyoming, sward@uwyo.edu

1:00-2:30 Lunch and Roundtable Discussion (Kravis Center, Lower Level, Courtyard and Freeberg Forum)

Ethnic Encounters: Jews and the Multicultural Matrix of Southern California
Ellen Eisenberg, Willamette College, eeisenbe@willamette.edu
Max Baumgarten, UCLA, maxdavidbaumgarten@gmail.com
Rachael Anne Greenberg, UCLA, r.greenberg@ucla.edu
Caroline Luce, UCLA, carolineluce2@gmail.com
Bruce Phillips, Hebrew Union College-Los Angeles, bphillips@huc.edu
Karen Wilson, UCLA, kswilson@ucla.edu

2:30-2:45 Break

2:45-4:15 Sessions III

3A. Commemorating and Remembering the Holocaust (Kravis Center 102)

Chair: Holli Levitsky, Loyola Marymount University, holli.levitsky@lmu.edu

“Revisiting Lawrence Langer’s Preempting the Holocaust”
Timothy Pytell, California State University, San Bernardino, tpytell@csusb.edu

“Portraits of the Post-Holocaust ‘Home’ in Second Generation Holocaust Video Archives.” Lucas Wilson, Florida Atlantic University, wilsonlf74@gmail.com

“The 75th Anniversary of the Babi Yar Massacre and the Problems of Commemoration of the Holocaust in Modern Ukraine”
Victoria Khiterer, Millersville University, vikahistory@gmail.com
3B. Aliyah as Advocacy, Image, and Literature  (Kravis Center 103)
Chair: Anat Gilboa, UCLA, anatgilboa10@ucla.edu

“Dreams of an Alternative Homeland? Literary Depictions of Israel as Part of Contemporary Jewish Identity in Germany”
Lydia Helene Heiss, University of Arizona, lheiss@email.arizona.edu

“Teaching the History of Aliyah through Images”
Dr Shira Klein, Chapman, sklein@chapman.edu

“The Intifada-ing”: Filming Jewish-American Israeli Advocacy”
Rebecca Ora, UC-Santa Cruz, ora.rebecca@gmail.com

3C. Ancient Israel (Kravis Center 164)
Chair: Tammi J. Schneider, Claremont Graduate University, tammi.schneider@cgu.edu

“The Role of the Priesthood in Times of War: Sacerdotal and Militaristic Functions”
Mike DeVries, Azusa Pacific University, mdevries@apu.edu

"Did Ancient Israelites Drink Beer?"
Elaine Goodfriend, California State University, Northridge, elainegoodfriend@gmail.com

“Why Moses was Barred from the Land of Israel: A Reassessment of Numbers 20 in Literary Context”
Marvin A. Sweeney, Claremont School of Theology, msweeney@cst.edu

4:15-4:30 Break

4:30-6:00 Session IV

4A. Israel Since the Six Day War  (Kravis Center 102)
Chair: Nadav G. Molchadsky, UCLA, nadavm@ucla.edu

“Politics, Wars and History: The Influence of the Memory of ‘The Six-Day War’ on the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict”
Shlomo Abramovich, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, shlomo23@gmail.com

“The Settlers Come Home: Fifty Years of Transformation”
Richard D. Hecht, University of California, Santa Barbara, ariel@religion.ucsb.edu

“Fifty Years After the Six Day War: Israel and Iran: From Strategic Ally to Strategic Threat.” Oded Brosh, San Diego State University, obrosh@sdsu.edu
4B. The Impact of the Shoah in Literature (Kravis Center 103)
Chair: Sharon B. Oster, University of Redlands, sharon_oster@redlands.edu

“Books are the Place in the World Where Both the Thing and the Loss of it Can Co-exist: Places of Memory in Third-Generation Holocaust Narratives” Victoria Aarons, Trinity University, vaarons@trinity.edu

“Excremental Aesthetics and the Maternal Bond: Andrew Grof’s The Goldberg Variations” Holli Levitsky, Loyola Marymount University, holli.levitsky@lmu.edu

“The ‘Found’ Shoah Manuscript and its Effect on French Collective Memory” Leticia N. Villaseñor, University of Southern California, lnvillas@usc.edu

4C. Visualizing the Diaspora (Kravis Center 164)
Chair: Arie Galles, Soka University of America, www.ariegalles.com

“Visualizing Eugenics and Euthanasia in the Third Reich” Arie Galles, Soka University of America, agalles@soka.edu

“The Drive to Reconstruct the Lost Past in a New Land - a Case Study” Anat Gilboa, UCLA, anatgilboa10@ucla.edu

“Visualizing Diasporism – Jewish Experience in the Art of the 20th Century (Jewish Museum, New York, 1975)” Osnat Zukerman Rechter, Hebrew University, osnat.rechter@mail.huji.ac.il

6:00-8:30 Reception, Dinner, and Keynote Speaker (Kravis Center, First Floor Courtyard)
Speaker: Steven Spiegel, Professor of Political Science and Director of the Center for Middle East Development at UCLA, “Trump, the Jews, and Israel”
Monday, March 27

7:45-8:15 Registration and continental breakfast (Roberts Pavilion)

8:15-9:45 Session V

5A. California Jews (Roberts Pavilion A03)
Chair: Hal S. Barron, Harvey Mudd College, barron@g.hmc.edu

“Agora estamos en America” – Now we are in America: Sephardim in Los Angeles”
Max Daniel, UCLA, maxedaniel@gmail.com

"Let's talk about tolerance, baby:" Hollywood's Rabbi Marvin Hier in Late 20th Century Los Angeles”
Max Baumgarten, UCLA, maxdavidbaumgarten@gmail.com

“Which Stories Are Rescued? Why? The Case of the Judah Magnes Museum”
Ava F. Kahn, Independent Scholar, akahn@alum.calberkeley.org

5B. Jewish and Gay Resistance During the Holocaust (Roberts Pavilion 211)
Chair: Cora Granata, California State University, Fullerton, cgranata@exchange.fullerton.edu

“I Know One Day a Miracle Will Happen: Bruno Balz and the Position of the Gay Artist in Nazi Germany”
Jeffrey Blutinger, California State University, Long Beach, jbluting@csulb.edu

“Defying Deportation: 'Underground' Experiences and the Construction of Masculinity Among Jewish Men in Wartime Germany”
Sebastian Huebel, University of British Columbia, sebhuebel@hotmail.com

5C. Judaism and the Jewish State (Roberts Pavilion 249)
Chair: Jody Myers, California State University, Northridge, jody.myers@csun.edu

“The Sages as an Ideological Tool in the Formative Years of the State of Israel”
Alexander J. Tal, University of Haifa, msaltal@gmail.com

“Zionism as an Ethical Framework: Toward a New Jewish Civil Rights Activism”
Timothy Quevillon, University of Houston, chipq05@gmail.com

“New Zionist Theory”
Louis Gordon, California State University, San Bernardino, LouGordon@aol.com

9:45-10:00 Break
10:00-11:30 **Session VI**

**6A. The Golden Land in Literature** *(Roberts Pavilion A03)*  
Chair: Stella Setka, West Los Angeles College, professorsetka@gmail.com

“A Woman Out of Place: Marie Melmotté’s Quest for a Homeland in *The Way We Live Now*”  
Ashley Johnson-Ingels, Claremont Graduate University, ashley.johnson-ingels@cgu.edu

“The Melting Pot and Progressive Reform: Mary Antin, Anzia Yezierska, and the Jewish American Future”  
Sharon B. Oster, University of Redlands, sharon_oster@redlands.edu

“The Russians are coming! The Russians are coming!” How Russian Immigrants Are Revitalizing Jewish-American Fiction”  
Henry Gonshak, Montana Tech, hgonshak@mtech.edu

**6B. Children of the Holocaust** *(Roberts Pavilion 211)*  
Chair: Ken Waltzer, Michigan State University, waltzer@msu.edu

“The Struggles of Jewish Refugee Children in American Society”  
Bijan Kazerooni, Chapman University, kazer103@chapman.edu

“Buchenwald Boys in the Palmach After World War II”  
Ken Waltzer, Michigan State University, waltzer@msu.edu

“The Stories Behind the Pictures: U.S. Jewry's Campaign to Bring Child Survivors to America”  
Beth Cohen, California State University, Northridge, beth.cohen@csun.edu

**6C. Screening Israel** *(Roberts Pavilion 249)*  
Chair: Yvonne Kozlovsky-Golan, University of Haifa, yvonnek8@gmail.com

“The Portrayal of the State of Israel in French Feature Films from 1950 to Present-Day”  
Serge Bokobza, University of Alabama, Birmingham, sbokobza@uab.edu

“1967 Revisited: the Cinematographic Chronicles of the Six Day War”  
Miri Talmon, Tel Aviv University, miri.talmonbohm@gmail.com

11:30-11:45 Break

11:45-1:15 Lunch and Discussion *(Marian Miner Cook Athenaeum)*  
Dana Ivgy, award-winning actress and star of the Israeli film *Zero Motivation* (2014)