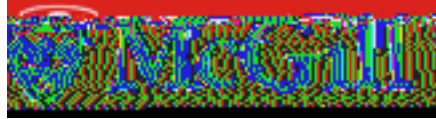


Jewish Studies T T



ANNUAL REPORT 2017

Department of Jewish Studies

Submitted by

Yael Halevi-Wise, Chair

June 1, 2018

Faculty

Professors

David Aberbach

Carlos Fraenkel (Joint appointment with Philosophy)

Gershon D. Hundert

B. Barry Levy

Associate Professors

Eric Caplan (Joint appointment with the Faculty of Education)

Yael Halevi-Wise (Joint appointment with English)

Lawrence Kaplan

Assistant Professors

Daniel K. Heller

Christopher Silver

Faculty Lecturers

Lea Fima

Esther Frank

Yuri Vedenyapin

1. Research and Publications

Two books were published this year by members of our department:

Nachman Krochmal, and the ‘Anxiety of Influence,’” in a volume dedicated to
, edited by B. Sommer, T. Staubli, and J. Jindo. (Academic
Press Fribourg). He also wrote on “The Ethos of Submission, Union with the Spirit of the Torah, and
Confronting the Challenges of the Time: R. Abraham Isaiah Karelitz, the Hazon Ish” in
, edited by Benjamin Brown and Nissim Leon (Magnes Press
and Van Leer Institute). Members of the department contributed as well to book reviews, dictionary
entries and scholarly forums, most notably Carlos Fraenkel’s review of Peter Adamson’s
(July 29, 2017), which became one of “Most-Read
Essays of 2017.”

In 2017, the members of our department presented their research in a variety of locations around the
world. Carlos Fraenkel waet

The Department of Jewish Studies continues to be committed to providing an excellent educational experience to McGill students. We offer, for example, concentrations in Biblical Studies (through Prof. Barry Levy), Jewish History (Profs. Dan Heller, Gershon Hundert, Christopher Silver), Jewish Thought (Profs. Carlos Fraenkel and Eric Caplan), Jewish Literatures (Profs. David Aberbach, Esther Frank and Yael Halevi-Wise), Rabbinic Studies (Prof. Lawrence Kaplan)

Since the summer of 2011, our department has offered an intensive seminar on Eastern European Jewish music in partnership with KlezKanada, Canada's largest annual festival of Jewish/Yiddish arts. Taught by Hankus Netzer, professor of music at the New England Conservatory, leader of the Klezmer Conservatory Band, and musical director for Itzhak Perlman's recent record of Jewish music—this course combines classroom instruction with introductory exposure to the field of ethnomusicology through personal encounters with important Jewish/Yiddish music. Plans for KlezKanada during the festival are by no means complete, but we will certainly be offering a two-day seminar for students and faculty during the event.

4. Other

This year our department underwent an onerous Cyclical Review process. Nevertheless, we found it to be a productive process, espebe a produc 0 00.2 (be) 0.2 (a)2 (a)2 (a)2 (a)2 (a)y 2 (a)476.5254 2 (a) 0.1

Appendix
Refereed Publications and other Scholarly Activities
2017

1) ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO RESEARCH

Books

Kaplan, Lawrence

“Yehezkel Kaufmann, R. Nachman Krochmal, and the ‘Anxiety of Influence,’” in
, edited by B. Sommer, T. Staubli,
and J. Jindo. (Academic Press Fribourg), 122-146.

! “The Ethos of Submission, Union with the Spirit of the Torah, and Confronting the Challenges of the
Time: R. Abraham Isaiah Karelitz, the Hazon Ish,” [Hebrew], in
, eds. Benjamin Brown and Nissim Leon (Jerusalem: Magnes Press and Van
Leer Institute), 479-519.

Dictionary Entries, Book Reviews, Published Interventions in Scholarly Forums

Aberbach

Invited Lectures

Fraenkel, Carlos, "Metaphysical Skepticism and the Sufi Alternative: al-Ghaz 1 , Maimonides, and Abraham ben Maimonides," **Maimonides-Lecture**, University of Hamburg, July 11, 2017

Fraenkel, Carlos, "Philosophy in a Divided World," **Elton Lecture**, Department of Philosophy, George Washington University, February 24, 2017

Fraenkel, Carlos, "How much moral guidance can philosophy offer?" University of St. Andrews, November 4, 2017

Fraenkel, Carlos, "Universalism, Pluralism, Exclusivism: Maimonides in the Context of Medieval Arabic Philosophy," Freie Universität Berlin, August 24, 2017

Fraenkel, Carlos, Discussion of with Wolfgang Büscher at the Phil. Cologne,
Cologne

Heller, Daniel, "Antisemitism and the Making of a Modern Tradition" Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond (April 26, 2017)

Hundert, Gershon, Jewish Social Spaces in Early Modern Poland – Lithuania. **Keynote Lecture.** Conference on "Space as a Category in Research on the History of Jews in Poland (16th-19th centuries)," sponsored by the Germ

3) OTHER ACTIVITIES AND HONOURS

Aberbach, David, Senior Research Visiting Fellow, London School of Economics, Department of International Development

Caplan, Eric, Vice-President of the Mordecai M. Kaplan Center for Jewish Peoplehood

Caplan, Eric, Steering Committee for the Reconstructionist Jewish Communities' Biennial Convention

Halevi-Wise, Yael, Advisory board member, "Israel and the Academy"

Halevi-Wise, Yael, boardmember

Heller, Daniel, **Principal's Prize for Excellence in Teaching** (Fall 2017)

Hundert, Gershon, Editorial Board, " (Jewish Historical Institute, Warsaw)

Hundert, Gershon, Editorial Board, (Association for Jewish Studies)

Hundert, Gershon, Editorial Board, Bloomsbury Studies in Central and Eastern Europe

Hundert, Gershon, President, American Academy for Jewish Research

