

ASSOCIATION FOR CANADIAN JEWISH STUDIES
2008 FINAL PROGRAM
 JUNE 1-3, VANCOUVER, BC

(THE CONFERENCE OF THE CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR JEWISH STUDIES (CSJS) WILL COMMENCE ON MONDAY JUNE 2/08. SEE PAGE 9.)

Sunday June 1/08: New views on Canada's Jews: A Day of Exploration (in conjunction with the annual conference of the Association for Canadian Jewish Studies)

Location: The Jewish Community Centre of Vancouver
 950 West 41st Ave (Just east of Oak Street), Vancouver

9:00 am

Registration for participants at Annual General Meeting
 (Jewish Museum & Archives, 3rd Floor)

9:15-10:45 am

ACJS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
 (Omansky Learning Studio, Jewish Museum and Archives, 3rd Floor)

10:30 am

General Registration
 (Jewish Museum & Archives, 3rd Floor)

Session 1

11:00 am – 12:30 pm

Please choose one of the following:

- 1. *The Yiddish Writer in Canada*** (To be held in Yiddish)
 (Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre, Basement)

Chair: Al Stein

Pierre Anctil
 Translating Jacob-Isaac Segal's *Foun mayn velt* (1918)

Rebecca Margolis
 A Portrait of a Canadian Yiddish Writer: Poet Esther Segal-Shkolnikov

Faith Jones
 The Poetess' Mixed Blessing: Esther Shumiatcher-Hirschbein and the Gender of Writing

Seymour Levitan
 'To the World as you are to yourself': The Voice of Rokhl Korn

2. Canadian Jewish Music

(Dayson Board Room, 2nd Floor)

Chair: Ronnie Tessler

Moshe Denburg
Jewish Music and the Intercultural Context

Messod Salama
Musical vestiges in the Liturgy of Judeo-Spanish Canadian Sephardim

3. Archival Developments Forum –Recent Trends in Collecting and Making Collections Available at Canada’s Jewish Archives

(Omansky Learning Studio, Jewish Museum & Archives, 3rd Floor)

Roundtable discussions convened by Janice Rosen (Canadian Jewish Congress Charities Committee National Archives, Montreal)

With the participation of:

Janine Johnston (Jewish Historical Society of BC, Vancouver)
Agi Romer Segal (Jewish Historical Society of Southern Alberta, Calgary)
Debby Shocter (JAHSENA, Edmonton)
Vanessa Harari (Jewish Heritage Center of Western Canada, Winnipeg)
Ellen Scheinberg (Ontario Jewish Archives, Toronto)

12:30-2:30 pm

Lunch

Session 2

2:30-3:30 pm

Please choose one of the following:

1. Current Jewish Affairs

(Dayson Boardroom, 2nd Floor)

Chair: Cynthia Ramsay

Eric Vernon
The View from Ottawa

Romy Ritter
The View from the West Coast

2. Genealogy Workshop

(Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre, Basement)

Chair: Catherine Youngren

Earl Lesk

Doing Jewish Canadian Genealogical Research

Session 3

3:45 pm – 5:15pm

Please choose one of the following:

1. New Research in Canadian Jewish Education

(Dayson Boardroom, 2nd Floor)

Chair: Abba Brodt

Seymour Epstein (The Centre for Enhancement of Jewish Education, Toronto)

Quantity and Quality in Jewish Education: Capacity Building Re-defined!

Randal Schnoor (York University)

Schools That Work: What We Can Learn from Good Jewish Supplementary Schools

2. History of Jews in B.C.

(Vancouver Holocaust Education Center, Basement)

Chair: Richard Menkis

Ronnie Tessler

Living in Yehupetz: Constructing Jewish Identity in the West Kootenays

Barb Schober

'Put up or shut up': Vancouver's National Council of Jewish Women

5:30 pm

Dinner (By reservation only)

(Wosk Auditorium)

7:00 pm
Award Ceremony & Literary Evening
 (Wosk Auditorium)

Welcome: Richard Menkis

President's Remarks: Randal Schnoor

Presentation of Louis Rosenberg Award to **Seymour Levitan**: Pierre Ancil

Remarks: Seymour Levitan

Literary Reading by:

Norman Ravvin, Nancy Richler, Joe Rosenblatt

The local organizing committee expresses its thanks to the Jewish Foundation of Greater Vancouver for being a major sponsor for the day, and appreciates the generous support of other organizations (in alphabetical order):

Association for Canadian Jewish Studies

Institute for Canadian Jewish Studies at Concordia University;

Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver;

Jewish Museum & Archives of B.C., with special thanks to Marcy Babins

Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre

The following individuals have also provided much-appreciated support for speakers and sessions:

Gary Averbach, Elliott Belkin, Faith Jones, Mel Kotler, Richard Menkis, Betty and Irv Nitkin, Ruth Ross, and Ronnie Tessler.

The local organizing committee consists of Richard Menkis (Chair), Faith Jones, Betty Nitkin and Ronnie Tessler. The Administrative assistant is Landon Braverman

Monday June 2/08

All sessions will be held at the University of British Columbia

Room: Lasserre 104

Session 1

9:00-11:00 am

David Rome and his Legacies for Canadian Jewry. Appraisals and Reappraisals.

Chair: Pierre Anctil

Richard Menkis (University of British Columbia)

David Rome: The BC Connection

Janice Rosen (CJC Charities Committee National Archive, Montreal)

The Omnivore of Jewish Canadiana. David Rome as archivist

Chantal Ringuet (Ottawa University)

Fragment as Legacy. Canadian Intellectual Jewish Life as compiled by David Rome

Sharon Gubbay Helfer (Montreal)

The Vital Interests of the Jewish People. David Rome and Intercultural Dialogue

Session 2

11:15 – 12:15 pm

Yiddish Writers in Montreal

Chair: Barbara Weiser

Ira Robinson (Concordia University)

A Shohet's Spare Time: Chaim Kruger, Yiddish Journalism, and Jewish Studies in Montreal in the Interwar Period

Esther Frank (McGill University)

The Other Side of the Poem: Visions of home in the writings of Rokhl Korn

Lunch

Session 3

1:45 – 3:15 pm

The Narrative of Visual ArtsChair: Carmen McCarron

Lilian Falk (Halifax)

Israel Zangwill, *The King of Schnorrers*, and its Canadian Illustrator.

Phil Gold (Librarian, Toronto)

The Life of Joe Shuster and the Canadian Connection to Superman

Barbara Weiser (Concordia University)

Synagogue Art in British Columbia: Beyond the Wilderness

Session 4

3:30 – 5:00 pm

Exploring Diasporic Identities: Expressions in Canadian Jewish Art, Joint Session with the Canadian Society for Jewish StudiesChair: Shelly Nixon

Stephanie Tara Schwartz (University of Ottawa)

Double Diaspora: Examples in Arab Jewish Literature

Shayn Smulyan (Brown University)

Drop That Beat: SoCalled's Canadian Yiddish Hip Hop as Musical Translation

Hernan Tesler-Mabe (University of Ottawa)

A Jewish Maestro, a Rotten Individualist, and a Delicate String: The Musical Life of Heinz Unger

Dinner

7:00-8:15 pm

Jewish Canadians: The Making of a FilmChair: Randal SchnoorToronto Filmmaker Leonard Pearl will be discussing his upcoming film entitled *Jewish Canadians*. A trailer of the film will be presented.

Tuesday June 3/08: University of British Columbia,

Room: Lasserre 104

9:00-10:45 am

ACJS Open Board Meeting

Session 1

Social Justice

11:00 – 12:30 pm

Chair: Sharon Gubbay Helfer

Solomon Littman (University of Arizona)
Emma Goldman and her Final Years in Canada

Ruth A. Frager (McMaster University) & Carmela Patrias (Brock University)
Jewish Human Rights Activists and the Question of Sex Discrimination in Ontario of the
Second World War

Jonathan Lyon Schwartz (CJC, Toronto)
An Informal History of Education Advocacy in Ontario

Lunch

Session 2

Stories of Migration: Fiction & History

2:00 – 3:00 pm

Chair: Solomon Littman

Isa Milman
History in Poetry: *Prairie Kaddish* - The Story of Jewish Immigration to the Canadian
Prairies (Illustrated lecture with poetry)

Lara Rabinovitch (New York University)
'What to do with Roumanian Jews?' The Migration of Roumanian Jews to Canada in the
Early 20th Century

Session 3***Children and the Holocaust***

3:15 – 4:15 pm

Chair: Stephanie Tara Schwartz

Belarie Zatzman (York University)

Performing *Hana's Suitcase*

Carmen McCarron (University of Western Ontario)

Finding a Voice: Child Holocaust Survivors Writing in Canada

Monday June 02/08: University of British Columbia
Presentations under the auspices of the Canadian Society for Jewish Studies (CSJS)
Please note the room change

Room: Lasserre 105

9:30 – 11:00 am

Annual Meeting for the Canadian Society for Jewish Studies (CSJS)**Lunch**Session 1

1:45 – 3:15 pm

Status and Liminality

Harry Fox (University of Toronto)

The Embarrassment of Slavery

Tirzah Meacham (University of Toronto)

On the Margins of Jewishness: The Status of the Convert

Laliv Clenman (University of Toronto)

Within and Without: Rabbinic Identity Categories and Marital Rules

Room: Lasserre 104

Session 2

3:30- 5:00 pm

Exploring Diasporic Identities: Expressions in Canadian Jewish Art, Joint Session with the Association for Canadian Jewish Studies

Chair: Shelly Nixon

Stephanie Tara Schwartz (University of Ottawa)
Double Diaspora: Examples in Arab Jewish Literature

Shayn Smulyan (Brown University)
Drop That Beat: SoCalled's Canadian Yiddish Hip Hop as Musical Translation

Hernan Tesler-Mabe (University of Ottawa)
A Jewish Maestro, a Rotten Individualist, and a Delicate String: The Musical Life of Heinz Unger

Tuesday June 03/08: University of British Columbia

Presentations under the auspices of the Canadian Society for Jewish Studies (CSJS)

Room: Law 201

Session 1

9:00-10:15

Joint Plenary Session with the Canadian Society of Medievalists

"Bovo rides again: An Old Yiddish romance, its author, and its hero," Sheila Delany, Emerita Professor of English, Simon Fraser University

Session 2

10:30-11:45

The Heroic Feminine in Medieval Jewish Sources / Le féminin héroïque dans les sources juives médiévales, Joint Session with the Canadian Society of Medievalists

Harry Fox (University of Toronto)
Judith and the Amazons: Their Up and Down Reception History in Jewish, Christian and Pagan Sources

Tirzah Meacham (University of Toronto)
A Modern Heroine in Medieval Eyes: Intertextuality and Independence in Medieval Commentaries

Justin Jaron Lewis (Queen's University)
'Oh Terrifying Mother': Kali and Shekhinah,

Lunch

Room: Lasserre 105

Session 3

1:15 – 2:45 pm

Mystical and Rational Thought: From Early Judaism to the Medieval Period

Andrea Gondos (Concordia University)

The Role of Charisma in the Transmission of Mystical Knowledge: The Circle of Shimon bar Yohai in the *Zohar*

Ira Robinson (Concordia University)

Repentance in the Thought of Rabbi Moses ben Nahman

James Diamond (University of Waterloo)

Nahmanides on Power and the State: Exegete as Political Theorist

Session 4

3:00 – 4:30 pm

Jewish Community: Nineteenth through Twentieth-First Century Europe and Asia

Benjamin M. Baader (University of Manitoba)

Creating Self and Creating Community: Jewishness, Gender, and Class in Nineteenth-Century German-Jewish Family Life

Justin Jaron Lewis (Queen's University)

Performing Hasidism in Uman

Hannah Mayne (York University)

The Diverse Ways Jews and Israel are Viewed by Indonesian Muslims