The Bible in the Renaissance

May 22-24, 2017

All lectures will take place at the Israel Institute for Advanced Studies, on the Edmond J. Safra, Givat Ram Campus

Organizer:

Yaakov Akiva Mascetti (Bar-Ilan University)

Scientific Committee:

Noam Flinker (University of Haifa)
Chanita Goodblatt (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)
William Kolbrener (Bar-Ilan University)
Jenn Lewin (University of Haifa)
Program

Monday, 22 May

09:00 - 09:30  Registration

09:30 - 10:00  Opening Speeches and Acknowledgments

Michal Linial (Institute of Advanced Studies, Israel)

Yaakov Mascetti (Bar-Ilan University)

James Kugel (Bar-Ilan University)

10:00 - 11:00  Keynote Lecture I

Chair: Elliott Simon (University of Haifa)

John Monfasani (State University of New York - SUNY)

"In Defense of Erasmus's Critics"

11:00 - 11:15  Coffee Break

11:15 - 12:30  Historical Perspective I: The Jews and the Bible in the Renaissance

Chair: Serena Di Nepi (Universita' "Sapienza" Roma)

Sara Offenberg (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)

"'When in Rome, Do as the Romans Do:' On Some Hebrew Illuminated Manuscripts of the Bible in Renaissance Italy"

Debra Kaplan (Bar-Ilan University)
"The Bible, Gender, and Early-Modern Solicitations for Charity"

Anna Nizza Caplan (The Israel Museum, Jerusalem)
"Between King David and the Woman of Valor: On Some Biblical Illustrations in the Rothschild Miscellany"

12:30 - 13:30  Lunch

13:30 - 15:00  Historical Perspectives II

Chair: Euan K. Cameron (Union Theological Seminary – Columbia University)

Jeffrey Miller (Montclair State University)
"Drafting the King James Bible"

Judith Maltby (University of Oxford)
"'Hearing the Word': the Bible and Public Worship in Post-Reformation England"

Alec Ryrie (Durham University)
"Reason, Inspiration and Doubt in Protestant Views of Scripture's Authority"

Bruce Gordon (Yale Divinity School)
"Antichrist and History, 1550-1650"

15:00 - 15:15  Coffee Break

15:15 - 16:45  Historical Perspectives III

Chair: Jeffrey Shoulson (University of Connecticut)

Gordon Campbell (University of Leicester)
"The Renaissance Bible and Channels of Influence"

Raz Chen-Morris (The Hebrew University of
"Allegories Lost': Reading the Bible and Observing Nature in Early-Modern Europe"

**Serena Di Nepi** (Università degli Studi di Roma "La Sapienza")

"The Ghetto and the Bible: Jewish Books and Libraries in the Age of Censorship (Rome, 16th-17th century)"

16:45 – 17:00  *Coffee Break*

17:00 – 18:30  *Renaissance and Early-Modern Translations of the Bible*

**Chair:** Tamar Hess (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

**Yaacov Deutsch** (David Yellin College)


**Chava Turniansky** (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

"'Vayoymer -- un er hot gezogt': The Yiddish Translations of the Bible"

**Claudia Rosenzweig** (Bar-Ilan University)

"Between Tradition and Counter-Reception: Uses of the Bible in Early-Modern Yiddish Culture"

19:00 - 21:00  *Reception*
Tuesday, 23 May

09:00 - 09:15  Coffee and Cake

09:15 - 10:15  Keynote Lecture II

  Chair: Jenn Lewin (University of Haifa)

  James Nohrnberg (University of Virginia)

  "Witness and Allusion: Re-narrativizing and Re-plotting Scripture in the Italian and English Poets, from Dante to Milton"

10:15 - 10:45  Coffee Break

10:45 - 12:15  Historical Perspectives IV

  Chair: Daniel Feldman (Bar-Ilan University)

  Jon Whitman (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

  "Reversing the Roles in Early-Modern Christian Thought: Jews, Christians, and the 'Literal Sense' of Scripture"

  Neil Forsyth (Université de Lausanne, Switzerland)

  "How Milton coped with Biblical Corruptio"

  Jonathan Stavsky (Tel Aviv University)

  "Scripture and Literature: Biblical Memes and Their Medieval Afterlives"

  Kirsten Macfarlane (University of Oxford)

  "Translating the 'Hebraeo-Hellenic Apostles': Hugh Broughton (1549-1612) and the Intellectual Contexts of the English New Testament."

12:15 - 13:30  Lunch

13:30 - 15:00  Shakespeare and the Bible

  Chair: David Malkiel (Bar-Ilan University)
Thomas Fulton (Rutgers University)  
"Political Theology on the Pulpit and the Stage"

Kirsten Poole (University of Delaware)  
"Hamlet's Puns and Allegorical Hermeneutics"

Steven R. Marx (California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo)  
"Shakespeare Reading Paul: Heavenly Fraud in The Winter’s Tale"

15:00 - 15:15  Coffee Break

15:15 - 16:45  The Bible in Late-Medieval and Renaissance Drama

Chair: Peter C. Herman (San Diego State University)

Chanita Goodblatt (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)  
"Monarch, Maiden, and Fool: The Book of Esther in Early-Modern English, German and Yiddish Drama"

Sharon Aronson-Lehavi (Tel Aviv University)  
"Performing Biblical Women: The Convention of Cross-Dressing on the Medieval Stage"

Yair Lipshitz (Tel Aviv University)  
"From Text to Textile: Biblical Allusion and Stage Costumes in Leone de' Sommi's 'Comedy of Betrothal"

16:45 - 17:05  Coffee Break

17:05 - 18:30  John Milton and the Bible

Chair: Yaakov Mascetti (Bar-Ilan University)

Noam Reisner (Tel Aviv University)  
"Rethinking Milton's Hebraic God"
Tzachi Zamir (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
"Paradise Lost and Contemporary Philosophy of Literature"

Jason Rosenblatt (Georgetown University)
"Synthesizing Imaginations: John Selden and John Milton"

20:30 - 22:45  Biblical Dinner at "Eucalyptus"
Wednesday, 24 May

09:00 - 09:15  Coffee and Cake

09:15 - 10:15  Keynote Lecture III

Chair: William Kolbrener (Bar-Ilan University)
Debora Shuger (University of California, Los Angeles)
"Elizabethan Bibles, Platonic Forms, and Book History"

10:15 - 10:30  Coffee Break

10:30 - 12:15 The Bible in English Renaissance Literature and Early-Modern Political Thought and Theology

Chair: Jason Rosenblatt (Georgetown University)
Martin Elsky (Brooklyn College & Graduate Center – CUNY)
"The Literary Uses of Biblical Typology: The Emergence of Typological Criticism in the Wake of the Second World War"

Rocco Coronato (Universita' degli Studi di Padova)
"'Head Carrier': Shakespeare and the Baroque Judith"

William Kolbrener (Bar-Ilan University)
"Party Politics and the Art of Lying: Shaftesbury and Acts 19"

Travis DeCook (Carleton University)
"The Origins of the Bible and Early-Modern Political Theology"

12:15 - 13:15  Lunch
13:15 - 14:45  The Bible in English Renaissance Literature I

Chair: Martin Elsky (Brooklyn College & Graduate Center – CUNY)

Peter C. Herman (San Diego State University)
"Back to Basics: Samson Agonistes and the Book of Judges Revisited"

David Marno (University of California, Berkeley)
"Psalm Translations and Devotional Poetry in Early-Modern England"

Noam Flinker (Haifa University)
"Homer and the Rewriting of the Hebrew Bible: George Chapman and John Bunyan"

14:45 - 15:00  Coffee Break

15:00 - 16:30  The Bible in English Renaissance Literature II

Chair: Rocco Coronato (Universita' degli Studi di Padova)

Feisal Mohamed (Graduate Center at the City University of New York)
"Uzzah, Hobbes, and the Plight of the Modern Subject"

Beatrice Groves (University of Oxford)
"The Destruction of Jerusalem in Early-Modern English Literature"

Jeffrey Shoulson (University of Connecticut)
"Holy Land Maps and Jewish History in Early-Modern Bibles"

16:30 - 16:45  Coffee Break

16:45 - 18:30  Scriptures on the Stage and Beyond
Chair: Thomas Fulton (Rutgers University)

Tovi Bibring (Bar-Ilan University)
"The Art of Biblical Phrasing in the Service of the Art of Seduction: Imanu'el Ha-Romi as a case study"

Jenn Lewin (Haifa University)
"Shakespeare and the Psalms"

Abigail Marcus (University of Chicago)
"'Songs in the Night': Henry Vaughan's Variations on Job"

Shiran Avni (University College London)
"Hebraism, Imagination, and Biblical Perception in the Sermons of Lancelot Andrewes and John Donne"

19:00 – 20:30 Closing Event

Choral concert by "Voices of the Renaissance – Tel Aviv"

Lecture by Rev. Dr. Euan K. Cameron:

"The Bible and History: Exploring the Paradoxes"
Thursday, 25 May

Excursions - Old City of Jerusalem and Galilee