The Zionist Ideal in Israeli Culture: Dream and Reality

November 17 – 19, 2013

INAUGURAL ISRAEL STUDIES CONFERENCE
Co-Sponsored by:

The Judd A. and Marjorie Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences
The Crown Family Center for Jewish and Israel Studies
The Israel Institute, Washington, D.C.
The Henry and Leigh Bienen School of Music
The Buffett Center for International and Comparative Studies
Department of History
The Center for Global Culture and Communication
The Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
Evanston Campus
The link between ideology and culture has been characteristic of human societies since ancient times. The growth of modern nationalism globally has accentuated the many cultural forms in which ideological concerns are expressed. This connection between ideology and cultural production is of paramount scholarly interest today.

This conference examines the relationship between Zionist ideology and the contents of modern Israeli culture. Areas covered will include the visual, literary, and performing arts, as well as popular culture.

Co-chairs:
Professor Barry Wimpfheimer
Professor Elie Rekhess

All conference sessions are free and open to the public. No advance tickets or RSVP required to conference sessions.
Sunday, November 17, 2013
Lutkin Hall – 700 University Place

Opening Session 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
(Doors open at 3:40 p.m. - Program begins promptly at 4:00 p.m.)

Chairperson
Barry Wimpfheimer, Northwestern University

Greetings
Sarah Mangelsdorf, Dean, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, Northwestern University

Introductory Remarks
Elie Rekhess, Northwestern University

Keynote Speaker
Yael Zerubavel, Rutgers University
Memory and Identity in Israeli Culture:
Historical Reflections

Musical Performance
Introduction: Toni-Marie Montgomery, Dean, Bienen School of Music, Northwestern University

The Tel-Aviv University MultiPiano Ensemble

Aryeh Levanon, Land of Four Languages
Paul Ben-Haim, Pastorala and Toccata
Bedrich Smetana, Rondo in C
Monday, November 18, 2013
Hardin Hall – 633 Clark Street

Session One: Music and Dance 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Chairperson
Inna Naroditskaya, Northwestern University

Speakers
Yossi Klein Halevi, Jewish Theological Seminary
Merging Jewish *Piyutim* into Israeli Rock Music: Meir Ariel as a Precursor

Assaf Shelleg, University of Virginia
Diluting the National Allegory: on the Agency of Jewish Musical Traditions in Israeli Art
Music of the 1950s

Amy Horowitz, Indiana University
Sound Barriers and their Transgression: Mediterranean Israeli Music 1970s – 1990s

Nina Spiegel, Portland State University
Performing Nationalism: The Development of Folk and Contemporary Dance in Israel

Lunch Break: 12:00 – 1:00
Session Two: Theater  1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Chairperson
Hendrik Spruyt, Northwestern University

Speakers
Freddie Rokem, Tel Aviv University
Representations of Violence on the Hebrew/Israeli Stage: Hanoch Levin and Bertolt Brecht

Adi Barak, University of Chicago
On War and Soldiers: The Israeli Ethos on Stage

Lee Perlman, America-Israel Cultural Foundation, Tel-Aviv University
Shared Space: Zionist and Palestinian Narratives in Israeli Theater Collaborations (2000-2010)
Monday, November 18, 2013
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Session Three: Visual Arts  3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Chairperson
Shaul Mitelpunkt, Northwestern University

Speakers
Carol Zemel, York University
Landscape and Territory in Israeli Art:
Y. Bartana, S. Landau, M. Rovner

Dalia Manor, Negev Museum of Art, Ben Gurion University
First Person Plural: Israeli Artists Between the Self and the Nation, 1950s – 1980s

Elie Rekhess, Northwestern University
“Soldiers” by Adi Nes:
Revisiting the Model of Israeli Masculinity

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Session Four: Literature  9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Chairperson
David Shyovitz, Northwestern University

Speakers
Rachel S. Harris, University of Illinois
Rethinking Zionism: Changing Perspectives in Israeli Fiction (B. Tammuz, A.B. Yehoshua, A. Hilu)

Erik Zakim, University of Maryland
The Reemergence of Israeli Poetry in the 21st Century

Hannan Hever, Yale University
Israeli Poetry and the Palestinian Nakba – an Overview

Yigal Schwartz, Ben Gurion University
Hebrew Literature as a Melting Pot – the Case of Ashkenazi Narratives

Lunch Break: 12:00 – 1:00
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Session Five: Cinema 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Chairperson
Barry Wimpfheimer, Northwestern University

Speakers
Miri Talmon, Smith College, Tel-Aviv University
From Zionist Visions to Israeli Realities:
The Cinematic Chronicles

Nitzan Ben-Shaul, Tel-Aviv University
Siege Mentality Refractions in Israeli Cinema:
A Historical Overview

Yaron Shemer, University of North Carolina
Time and Space in Mizrahi Cinema:
The Limits of the Zionist Reach

Special Session: Interview 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Guest
Dror Moreh, Director, The Gatekeepers

Interviewers
David Tolchinsky and Debra Tolchinsky, Northwestern University
Co-Sponsored by the Department of Radio, TV and Film,
Northwestern University
Inaugural Israel Studies Conference - 2013

Tuesday, November 19, 2013
Lutkin Hall – 700 University Place

**Concert:**  7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

The Tel-Aviv University MultiPiano Ensemble

Professor Tomer Lev,
Daniel Borovitzky,
Berenika Glixman,
Nimrod Haftel-Meiry

The Tel-Aviv University “MultiPiano” Ensemble is a unique keyboard performance group, presenting Israel’s future generation of virtuoso pianists in a celebration of pianos in ever-changing combinations – one and two pianos, for four, six and eight hands.

Its repertoire ranges from original masterworks to dazzling virtuoso arrangements and showpieces. The project was launched in the 2010-2011 concert season under the umbrella of the Buchmann-Mehta School of Music at Tel-Aviv University and of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra. It features three of Israel’s most promising young pianists and their mentor, Tomer Lev, one of Israel’s most celebrated musicians.

In 2011, the group successfully toured the Far East, with performances in Beijing, Taipei, Kaohsiung and Taiwan, including the gala opening of the Kuandu Festival in Taiwan. In summer 2012, the group performed in major concert halls in Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay, including Teatro Colón and the Gran Rex in Buenos Aires, Teatro del Sodre in Montevideo and a performance broadcasted live for Argentina’s Radio Nacional.

In fall 2013, the MultiPiano ensemble will embark on a North American tour, including performances at New York City’s Merkin Hall and Northwestern University, opening and closing the inaugural Israel Studies conference on Israeli culture.

For more information, visit:
www.music.northwestern.edu/concerts/index.html

Sponsored by the Henry and Leigh Bienen School of Music
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CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS
Barak, Adi, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, University of Chicago
Borovitsky, Daniel, Tel-Aviv University MultiPiano Ensemble
Ben-Shaul, Nitzan, Professor, Department of Film and Television Studies, Tel-Aviv University
Glixman, Berenika, Tel-Aviv University MultiPiano Ensemble
Haftel-Meiry, Nimrod, Tel-Aviv University MultiPiano Ensemble
Harris, Rachel S., Assistant Professor of Israeli Literature and Culture in Comparative and World Literature, University of Illinois
Hever, Hannan, Jacob and Hilda Blaustein Professor of Hebrew Language and Literature, Yale University
Horowitz, Amy, Senior Fellow in Israeli Cultural Studies, International Studies Program, Indiana University
Klein Halevi, Yossi, Visiting Professor of Israel Studies, Jewish Theological Seminary
Lev, Tomer, Tel-Aviv University MultiPiano Ensemble, Professor, The Buchmann-Mehta School of Music, Tel-Aviv University
Manor, Dalia, Art Historian, Critic and Curator, Ben Gurion University of the Negev
Mangelsdorf, Sarah, Dean, Judd A. and Marjorie Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, Northwestern University
Mitelpunkt, Shaul, Post-Doctoral Fellow, Crown Family Center for Jewish and Israel Studies, and Department of History, Northwestern University
Montgomery, Toni-Marie, Dean, Henry and Leigh Bienen School of Music, Northwestern University
Moreh, Dror, Director, The Gatekeepers
Naroditskaya, Inna, Associate Professor, Program of Musicology, Northwestern University
Perlman, Lee, Executive Director of the America-Israel Cultural Foundation and Research Fellow, Tami Steinmetz Center for Peace Research, Tel-Aviv University
Rekhess, Elie, Professor and Visiting Crown Chair in Middle East Studies, Department of History, Northwestern University
Rokem, Freddie, Professor Emeritus, Department of Theatre Studies, Tel-Aviv University

Schwartz, Yigal, Professor, Department of Hebrew Literature, Ben Gurion University of the Negev

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Shemer, Yaron, Assistant Professor, Department of Asian Studies and Hebrew Program Advisor, University of North Carolina

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Spiegel, Nina, Rabbi Joshua Stampfer Assistant Professor of Israel Studies, Portland State University

Spruyt, Hendrik, Norman Dwight Harris of International Relations, Former Director, Buffett Center of International and Comparative Studies, Northwestern University

Talmon, Miri, Schusterman Visiting Professor for Israel Studies, Smith College, Tel-Aviv University

Tolchinsky, David, Chair, Department of Radio, Television, and Film, Northwestern University

Tolchinsky, Debra, Associate Professor of Radio, Television, and Film, Northwestern University

Wimpfheimer, Barry, Associate Professor of Religious Studies and Director of the Crown Family Center for Jewish and Israel Studies, Northwestern University

Zakim, Eric, Associate Professor, Graduate Field Committee in Film Studies Program in Modern Hebrew, University of Maryland

Zerubavel, Yael, Founding Director, the Allen and Joan Bildner Center for the Study of Jewish Life, Professor of Jewish Studies and History, Rutgers University

Zemel, Carol, Professor of Art History and Visual Culture, Department of Visual Arts, York University
The Conference Takes Place on the Evanston, IL Campus

DRIVING DIRECTIONS

**Lutkin Hall** is located at 700 University Place.

**Hardin Hall** is located in the basement of the west block of the Rebecca Crown Center, 633 Clark Street, directly next to the University Clock Tower, at the intersection of Clark and Orrington Avenue.

Parking garages can be accessed either at 1800 Maple Avenue, or at the Church and Chicago Self-Park facility accessible directly across from 555 Clark Street.

For directions to campus, please visit the following link:
[www.northwestern.edu/campus-life/campuses/index.html](http://www.northwestern.edu/campus-life/campuses/index.html)