

**ELIE  
WIESEL**  
מרכז אלי ויזל ללימודי יהדות  
**CENTER FOR  
JEWISH STUDIES**

**2018  
2019  
ANNUAL  
REPORT**

**BOSTON  
UNIVERSITY**



## Dear Friends of the Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies:

I am pleased to present to you our sixth annual report. Reviewing our work at the end of each year has become an important moment in the life of the Elie Wiesel Center. It is a joy to look back at our accomplishments and imagine what's next.

Our mission remains the same.

We are an interdisciplinary center for Jewish studies with a strong component of public engagement.

We made strides in boosting our academic programs:

- through the revision of the Jewish studies minor and
- revamping many of our courses in line with the "BU HUB," the new general educational system that was rolled out this year.

This work continues and our faculty is hard at work adding more courses to the BU HUB.

We also

- increased the number of students minoring in Jewish studies;
- created new public events, such as the Elie Wiesel Memorial lecture series launched last fall and the "Black/s and Jew/s: Then and Now" panel discussion held this February;

- collaborated with many units on and off campus, including the new BU Lectures in the Arts and Ideas;
- and revised our postdoctoral program to emphasize research over teaching.

Thanks to our extraordinary faculty and staff we have become a visible fixture on the University's event calendar and a noted presence in the Boston event landscape.

Here are some more details.

### **Undergraduate news**

We completely revamped the minor in Jewish Studies. Changes will go into effect in Fall 2019. These include the introduction of a new JS numbering system. This means that the Elie Wiesel Center will be responsible for scheduling our own courses and sections. While most of our courses will still be cross-listed, we are now able – and required by the new rules – to offer free-standing courses as well. The newly required gateway course, JS 100 World Cultures of the Jews, will be offered in Spring 2020 for the first time. You will find a complete list of the newly numbered courses in this annual report.

In academic year 2018-19 we were able to increase enrollment in the minor. By the most recent count we had nine declared minors. This is the highest number in recent years. We believe that the new numbering system, the revised requirements, and continued efforts

to broadcast our offerings to incoming and on-campus students will grow the minor to the point where it will be feasible to offer a major in Jewish Studies, as most of our peer institutions already do. BU traditionally has had one of the largest numbers of undergraduate students of Jewish heritage of any four-year college or university in the US. There is no reason why we should not successfully offer a JS major in the future. Flip through this report for profiles of our wonderful current minors and other award-winning students.

To increase our visibility and relevance to undergraduates in the changing landscape of higher education we will look at the possibility of creating new joint degree programs in thematic or regional areas where our strengths can be combined with those of others, including African American Studies, Ethnomusicology, Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies, Muslim Societies and Civilizations, European Studies, and the like.

### **Faculty related news and trends**

Our core and affiliated faculty have been exceedingly productive this year. Collectively, we published six books, seventeen articles and book chapters, we gave fifteen research presentations, and offered 39 courses in Jewish Studies, enrolling 736 students. In comparison, in 2017-18 we offered 35 courses, enrolling 514 students.

A trend to note in our interdisciplinary program is the ratio of faculty with appointments in the humanities, 12 out of 15 core faculty (or 73%) and 14 out of 17 of affiliated faculty (or 87%) have their primary appointments in CAS. 9 out of these 12 CAS faculty (or 75%) have their primary appointment in a humanities department, whereas only 3 (or 25%) are at home in the social sciences. The ratio is even more slanted toward the humanities among our affiliated faculty. We are predominantly a humanities program. Why does this matter?

To stay relevant, grow in line with the field of Jewish studies more generally, and become an attractive option to satisfy HUB credit while working toward the minor concentration in Jewish Studies, we aim to enhance our offerings in the Social Sciences. Next spring, Professor Pnina Lahav (LAW) will be offering a course in the Political Science department, comparing Israeli and US American constitutional systems. Additionally, due to the high demand from our students, we will continue to offer the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict course in both semesters. Our Associate Director, Dr. Ingrid Anderson,

who was recently promoted to Senior Lecturer in the CAS Writing Program, kindly agreed to teach the course in the fall. Long-time Visiting Professor of Israel Studies Nahum Karlinsky will offer it in Spring 2020.

Unfortunately, we are losing Jewish historian Professor Simon Rabinovitch. While Dr. Rabinovitch was able to attain tenure and promotion to Associate Professor of History at BU, he received and accepted a position at Northeastern University. It will be important for us to find a way of rebuilding Jewish history at Boston University.

### **Elie Wiesel Memorial Lectures**

Last fall saw the launch of our new Elie Wiesel Memorial Lecture series. The series echoes Professor Wiesel's annual lectures that were a fixture on the fall calendar for thousands of people across the Greater Boston area. We started with modest expectations and were pleased by the encouraging response and solid attendance for all three lectures, which stood under the theme of "Kristallnacht 1938: What happened and what have we learned?" The fall 2019 series will be on the theme of "Writing From a Place of Survival." The first lecture, scheduled for September 18 and coinciding with the first night of BU Alumni Weekend, will be given by Rabbi Joseph Polak, child survivor and a long-time member of the BU community.

With the launch of this ambitious new series, we are redoubling our efforts to find ways of keeping the memory of Professor Wiesel alive and relevant for future generations. We will continue to look for ways of stimulating interest in Professor Wiesel's many contributions to Jewish thought and literature, to teaching the humanities in a Jewish key, and to the promotion of social justice and human rights.

Sincerely,

**Michael Zank, PhD**

Professor of Religion, Jewish Studies,  
and Medieval Studies  
Director, Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies



BEIT SHLOMOH V'SARAH WIESEL,  
147 BAY STATE ROAD;  
SILBER WAY BALCONY.

## About the Center

The Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies (EWCJS) is an academic program unit of the College of Arts and Sciences and serves as Boston University's hub for co-curricular and public events related to Jewish history, religion, and culture.

With currently fifteen core and seventeen affiliated faculty members, we offer a content-rich, interdisciplinary range of courses and events in Jewish studies and related fields. Our Center supports faculty and students through research and travel grants, scholarships, fellowships, and merit awards. Our lectures and events provide the campus community and the Boston-area public with opportunities to learn, exchange ideas, and encounter contemporary forms of Jewish intellectual life and artistic creativity.

*Named for **Elie Wiesel**, the  
1986 Nobel Laureate for Peace*

Named for Elie Wiesel, the 1986 Nobel Laureate for Peace and a member of the BU faculty for nearly forty years, our Center fosters excellence in teaching and scholarship, as well as meaningful public engagement. The Elie Wiesel Center is located at 147 Bay State Road, a former patrician building that once also served as the office of BU president John Silber. At its dedication in 2005, the building was renamed in honor of Elie Wiesel's parents Shlomo and Sarah Wiesel. It was renovated with the generous support of Ira and Ingeborg Rennert who also provided the founding endowment of the Center.

Please contact:  
Boston University  
Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies  
147 Bay State Road  
Boston, Massachusetts, 02215  
Phone: 617.353.8096  
Email: [ewcjs@bu.edu](mailto:ewcjs@bu.edu)

## Core Faculty

**Kimberly Arkin**, Assistant Professor of Anthropology

**Andrea Berlin**, Professor of Archaeology

**Alejandro Botta**, Associate Professor of Hebrew Bible

**Katheryn Darr**, Professor of Hebrew Bible and  
Harrell F. Beck Scholar of Hebrew Scripture

**David Frankfurter**, Professor of Religion and Aurelio  
Chair for the Appreciation of Scripture;  
Chair, Religion Department

**Abigail Gillman**, Associate Professor of  
German and Hebrew

**Michael Grodin**, Professor of Health Law, Bioethics &  
Human Rights and Professor of Family Medicine and  
Psychiatry

**Nancy Harrowitz**, Professor of Italian; Director of  
Undergraduate Studies, Dept. of Romance Studies;  
Director of Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights  
Minor

**Steven Katz**, Professor of Religion; Alvin J. Slater and  
Shirley Slater Chair in Jewish Holocaust Studies

**Jonathan Klawans**, Professor of Religion

**Deeana Klepper**, Associate Professor of  
Religion and History

**Pnina Lahav**, Professor of Law

**Diana Lobel**, Associate Professor of Religion

**Simon Rabinovitch**, Assistant Professor of History

**Michael Zank**, Professor of Religion;  
Director, Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies.

## Affiliate Faculty

**Ingrid Anderson**, Lecturer in the Arts and Sciences  
Writing Program; Associate Director,  
Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies

**Miriam Angrist**, Lecturer in Hebrew,  
Head of Hebrew Language Program

**John Bernstein**, Professor of Film

**Susan Bernstein**, Research Professor  
in the English Department

**Alicia Borinsky**, Professor of Latin American  
and Comparative Literature

**Jennifer Cazenave**, Assistant Professor of French

**Charles Dellheim**, Professor of History

**Aaron Garrett**, Associate Professor of Philosophy

**Nahum Karlinsky**, (Ben-Gurion University),  
Visiting Professor of Israel Studies

**Irit Kleiman**, Associate Professor of Romance Studies

**Margaret Litvin**, Associate Professor of Arabic  
and Comparative Literature

**Yair Lior**, Lecturer in Religious Studies

**Jeffrey Mehlman**, Professor of French

**Michael Prince**, Associate Professor of English

**Adam Seligman**, Professor of Religion

**Jeremy Yudkin**, Professor of Music

**Michael Zell**, Associate Professor  
of Art and Architecture

*Books published: 6*

*Articles/chapters published: 17*

*Research presentations given: 15*

*Classes taught: 23*

# Accolades

Assistant Professor of Anthropology **Kimberly Arkin** had two scholarly works published in 2018. In October, her article "Historicity, Peoplehood, and Politics: Holocaust Talk in Twenty-First-Century France" was featured in *Contemporary Studies in Society and History*, an international forum for new research and interpretation concerning problems of recurrent patterning and change in human societies through time and in the contemporary world. Her second article was published in *Jewish History*. Professor Arkin also participated in a roundtable discussion on Holocaust Memory in the Era of Extreme Nationalism at the 2018 Association for Jewish Studies conference. She rounded out the year by presenting at the 2018 American Anthropological Association meetings on her latest project on medical decision-making and Catholicism in Southern France.

politics and local cultures for five peoples living in the region: Tyrians, Sidonians, Samaritans, Judeans, and Idumeans. "I consider physical and written evidence as reflections of agency, opportunity, status, and authority, in order to reconstruct how people defined themselves, and how they jockeyed for position and security in a crowded region and a volatile world," Professor Berlin said of her latest work.

Assistant Professor of French **Jennifer Cazenave**, celebrated the release of her new book, *An Archive of the Catastrophe: The Unused Footage of Claude Lanzmann's Shoah* on June 1, 2019. The book serves as a comprehensive analysis of 220 hours of outtakes that impels readers to reexamine assumptions about a crucial Holocaust documentary. Professor Cazenave argues that the outtakes pose a major challenge to the representational and theoretical paradigms produced by the documentary, while offering new meanings of Shoah and of Holocaust testimony writ large. They lend fresh insight into issues raised by the film, including questions of resistance, rescue, refugees, and, above all, gender.

Professor **David Frankfurter**, Chair of the Department of Religion, produced the long-awaited *Guide to the Study of Ancient Magic* in April 2019, with chapters on Jewish magical texts and ancient Jewish notions of "magic." The volume seeks to sharpen the study of ancient magic and magical things and will receive a special session at the Society of Biblical Literature annual conference in November, 2019. Professor Frankfurter also taught "The Open Heaven," his course on ancient Jewish and Christian apocalyptic texts, during the spring 2019 semester to a wonderful mix of humanities graduate students, School of Theology students, and undergraduates from across the University. In spring 2020, he will offer his course "Ancient Magical Texts: Literature and Practice."

Associate Professor of Hebrew, German and Comparative Literature **Abigail Gillman** spoke on "The *Mashal* as Subversive Hermeneutic in Modernism" at a fall workshop on German Jewish Hermeneutics at Northwestern University. She also lectured on her new book, *A History of German Jewish Bible Translation* (Chicago University Press, 2018), at the Columbia University Seminar on Israel and Jewish Studies, and at a workshop at New York University. In early spring 2019, she spoke about "Memory and Futurity in Israeli-German Cinema" at a symposium on Globalization and Culture in Israel at Tulane University, and lectured on "The Task of Jewish Translation," at a conference



**PROFESSOR MIRA ANGRIST** PRESENTED THE HEBREW AWARD TO **ALEXANDRA JELLINGER** (CAS) AT THE JEWISH STUDIES MINOR CELEBRATION IN MAY 2019.

**Andrea Berlin**, James R. Wiseman Chair in Classical Archaeology and Professor of Religion, published "Land/Homeland, Story/History: the Social Landscapes of the Southern Levant from Alexander to Augustus," in *The Cambridge Social Archaeology of the Levant from Prehistory to the Present*. In this chapter, she offers a fresh overview of the Hellenistic period in Israel, while examining the social repercussions of the collision of international

devoted to “Moments of Enlightenment: German Jewish Interactions from the 18th Century to the Present” at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. On campus, she served as Convener of the German Section in the Department of World Languages and Literatures. As an area representative for the Gesellschaft für deutsche Sprache, she organized lectures by Dartmouth professor **Irene Kacandes** and German Jewish author **Esther Dischereit**. In April 2019, together with Professor of Persian **Sassan Tabatabai**, she organized the Newton Family Lecture featuring Dr. **Houman Sarshar**, an expert on Iranian Jewish history.

**Michael Grodin**, Professor of Health Law, Ethics & Human Rights and Health Law, Policy & Management in the School of Public Health and Professor of Psychiatry and Family Medicine at the Boston University School of Medicine, contributed to a number of scholarly works. In May 2019, he was quoted in a *BU Experts* article titled “Measles Outbreak: Getting Vaccinated is a Religious Obligation.” He published “The Politics of Immigrant and Refugee Health in the United States” in *The Health of Refugees: Public Health Perspectives from Crisis to Settlement* (2d Edition), “The Nazi Physician as Leader in Eugenics and Euthanasia: Lessons for Today” in the *American Journal of Public Health*, “The Nuremberg Doctors’ Trial: Lessons and Legacies on the 70th Anniversary” in the *American Journal of Public Health*, “Human Trafficking: A Health and Human Rights Agenda” in *Annals of Internal Medicine*, “The Complicated Legacy of the Nuremberg Code in the United States,” in a special issue of the *Central European Journal of Medicine*, and “Ethical Considerations in the Use of Pernkopf’s Atlas of Anatomy: A Surgical Case Study” in the *Journal of Surgery*.

In May 2019, Alvin J. Slater and Shirley Slater Chair in Jewish Holocaust Studies and Professor of Religion **Steven T. Katz** published a two-volume work on *The Holocaust and New World Slavery: A Comparative History* (Cambridge University Press), as well as a collection of fifteen essays on the Holocaust, including new work, entitled *Holocaust Studies: Critical Reflections* (Routledge). Professor Katz continued to serve on the Academic Committee of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum and the Research and Advisory Committee of the Conference for Material Claims against Germany, where he also chairs the Kagan Fellowship Committee. He was appointed by the U.S. State Department to serve as a member of the American Delegation to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, an organization of 33 countries. As part of the delegation he attended



**PROFESSOR STEVEN KATZ WITH HIS ALL HOLINESS BARTHOLOMEW I, THE ARCHBISHOP OF CONSTANTINOPLE AT “THE MARCH OF THE LIVING GATHERING” HELD IN POLAND IN MAY 2019.**

meetings in Rome and in Ferrara, Italy. As advisor to the March of the Living, an organization that aims to expand Holocaust knowledge and awareness by visits to Poland, Professor Katz led a group of college deans to Poland. In October 2018, he gave the plenary lecture at a conference entitled “Protecting the Future: 2nd Moscow Conference on Combating Antisemitism, Xenophobia, and Racism.” He also participated and lectured at a conference in Marrakech, Morocco, organized by Project Aladdin, together with UNESCO, the Moroccan Ministry of Islamic Affairs, and Mohammed V University. Project Aladdin is based in Paris, France, and works to introduce Holocaust education in moderate Muslim countries.

In the fall of 2018, Professor of Religion **Jonathan Klawans** published an article in *Jewish Quarterly Review*, entitled: "Deceptive Intentions: Forgeries, Falsehoods, and the Study of Ancient Judaism." In early April 2019 he traveled to Israel to participate in a conference on Josephus, jointly sponsored by Bar Ilan University and the Israel Academy of Science and Humanities. Professor Klawans's presentation, "Heresy, Forgery, Novelty: Condemning and Denying Innovation in Josephus," was based on his forthcoming book, *Heresy, Forgery, Novelty: Condemning, Denying, and Asserting Innovation in Ancient Judaism*.

Lecturer in Religious Studies **Yair Lior** published "A Comparative-Informational Approach to the Study of Religion: The Chinese and Jewish Cases," in the *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, while continuing to work on his forthcoming *Routledge Handbook for Evolutionary Approaches to Religion*. In March 2018, Dr. Lior served as the chief organizer of the "Confucianism in the Age of Globalization" workshop series, hosted by UMass Boston and Boston University. He also participated in a conference of the Institute for American Religious and Philosophical Thought around the central theme of "Evolution and Transcendence."

In March, 2019, Associate Professor of Arabic and Comparative Literature **Margaret Litvin** led a discussion following theatre artist **Ibrahim Miari's** one-man show "In Between" at the Boston Playwright's Theatre. The show portrayed the complexities and contradictions inherent in Palestinian-Israeli identity while recalling Mr. Miari's childhood memories and his struggle to shape and understand his own multifaceted identity. In April 2019, Professor Litvin participated in another post-performance discussion centering around the translation of Arabic theatre. Performing and Media Arts Professor **Rebeka Maggor** (Cornell University) is working to translate and produce "The Devil's Pink Cloak: a Hallucinatory Play in Two Acts and Thirteen Scenes." Professor Litvin joined Professor Maggor, playwright Mas'ud Hamdan (University of Haifa), and a group of 25 students for an open conversation on various scenes and how plays can acquire new meanings in translation.

Professor of French **Jeffrey Mehlman** worked on a review of *Modern French Jewish Thought: Writings on Religion and Politics*, edited by Sarah Hammerschlag

(Brandeis University Press). He continued to serve on the Honorary Committee of Oxford Literary Review and plans to spend the next few months putting the finishing touches on a second volume of memoirs, *Second Thoughts: Further Adventures in the French Trade*.

Professor **Simon Rabinovitch** was granted tenure and promotion to Associate Professor of History at Boston University. This year also saw the publication of his timely *Defining Israel: The Jewish State, Democracy, and the Law* (HUC Press, 2018), on the recent Israeli nation-state law. He also published "Jewish Politics: History and Historiographical Implications" in *The Routledge Companion to Jewish History and Historiography*, "The Quality of Being French v. the Quality of Being Jewish: Defining the Israelite in French Courts in Algeria and the Metropole," in *Law and History Review* vol. 36, no. 4, and "What is Wrong with Tolerance," in *Aeon*. Prof. Rabinovitch received and accepted a call to join the History faculty at Northeastern University as Associate Professor of History and Jewish Studies.

Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies Director and Professor of Religion **Michael Zank** celebrated the publication of his latest book *Jerusalem. A Brief History* (Wiley Blackwell). He also published two book chapters: "Emil Fackenheim: Die gebietende Stimme von Auschwitz" in *Alles wirkliche Leben ist Begegnung*, a Festschrift for "Studium in Israel," and "Mishpat Ivri: A Genre-Critical Approach" in *Grenzgänger: Festgabe für Michael Krupp*, and served as respondent and presenter for two different sessions at the December 2018 Association for Jewish Studies meeting in Boston.

Associate Professor of History of Art and Architecture **Michael Zell** reviewed three new books on Dutch painter Rembrandt Harmenszoon van Rijn— Nicola Suthor's *Rembrandt's Roughness*, the exhibition catalogue *Rembrandt and the Inspiration of India*, and Larry Silver's *Rembrandt's Holland — for Historians of Netherlandish Art Reviews*. He is now revising the manuscript *Rembrandt, Vermeer, and the Gift in Seventeenth-Century Dutch Art*, to be published by Amsterdam University Press, and writing an article titled "Rembrandt's Woman Bathing: The Poetics of the Mirror and the Image of the Beloved in Seventeenth-Century Dutch Painting."

# Farewell, Alexandra Zirkle!

Reflections from 2018-19 Postdoctoral Associate

## **Alexandra Zirkle:**

My tenure as the Elie Wiesel Center's Postdoctoral Associate was marked by substantial developments in my scholarship thanks to generous conversation partners, ample material support, and a hiatus from teaching responsibilities. Over the first seven months of this position, I thoroughly revised four of the six chapters of my monograph, titled *Biblical Interpretation and the Shaping of Modern German Judaism*. In the final three months of this position, I expect to revise the remaining two chapters. In addition to these revisions, I wrote three articles, one of which is forthcoming in *DAAT: A Journal of Jewish Philosophy and Kabbalah* and two of which are under review. I also completed revisions of three forthcoming publications: "Heinrich Graetz and the Exegetical Contours of Modern Jewish History," *Jewish Quarterly Review* 109.3 (Summer 2019); "Dismantling Orientalist Fantasies and Protestant Hegemony: German Jewish Exegetes and their Retrieval of Josephus the Jew" in *Josephus in Modern Jewish Culture*, ed. Andrea Schatz (Brill, 2019); and "Re-Forming Professions: Salomon Herxheimer and Ludwig Philippson on the Past and Future of Jewish Farmers" in *Deutsch-jüdische Bibelwissenschaft – Historische, exegetische und theologische Perspektiven*, eds. Daniel Vorpahl, Shani Tzoref, and Sophia Kähler (De Gruyter, 2019).

In concert with composing these publications, I delivered a series of public lectures and conference papers. In October, I introduced my work to the BU community with a BUJS Research Forum talk entitled "Biblical Exegesis as Political Critique," to which Susannah Heschel responded. Later that month, I delivered a presentation on Heinrich Graetz's biblical exegesis as part of the German Historical Institute's "Agents of Cultural Change: Jewish and Other Responses to Modernity" conference and gave an invited presentation on "De-Mythologizing: Biblical Hermeneutics as Jewish-Christian Dialogue" at the German-Jewish Hermeneutics Workshop at Northwestern University. In December, I offered a paper on Ludwig Philippson's Hegelian exegesis at a panel I organized on Jewish Hegelians at the AJS. In January, I presented "Tortured Readings: Hermeneutics



ALEXANDRA ZIRKLE

and the Authorization of State Violence" in the CURA colloquium. In February, I gave a job talk to the SUNY Buffalo community entitled "Re-Imagining Sex: World Building Exegesis and Graetz's Song of Songs." In March I joined Abigail Gillman and Michah Gottlieb at NYU's Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies to give an invited talk on "The Lost Discipline: Biblical Exegesis and Modern Jewish Thought." In April and May, I turned my attention from research and writing to welcoming my first-born son, Sosheyant Khafipour Zirkle.

Although I had no formal classroom responsibilities, I joined Ingrid Anderson, Michael Zank, and other faculty members in designing BU's new Jewish Studies 100 course, "World Cultures of the Jews." I designed two additional courses which I will be teaching this coming year as Irving M. and Marilyn C. Schuman Visiting Professor in SUNY Buffalo's Department of Jewish Thought: "Violence and Religion" and "Money and Ethics from the Bible to the Age of Billionaires." This year at the Center has been extraordinary and I leave with very best wishes for friends and colleagues here.



SULTAN DOUGHAN

## Re-introducing Sultan Doughan

During the academic year of 2018-19, **Sultan Doughan** served as a Visiting Research Scholar at the Elie Wiesel Center and will continue with the Center in 2019-2020 as Postdoctoral Associate. Doughan finalized her dissertation thesis in the past year and graduated from the department of Anthropology at UC Berkeley. As Visiting Research Scholar, Doughan concentrated on presenting aspects of her research in selected venues. In the fall 2018 semester she presented at three annual conferences: the American Anthropological Association, San Jose, the American Academy for Religion (AAR) in Denver and at the Association for Jewish Studies (AJS) in Boston. These conferences provided opportunities to probe arguments and explore interdisciplinary conversations. She joined the Law and Religion unit at the AAR and has been an active member. Her paper at the AJS dealt with the role of affects and silence in combating anti-Jewish hatred in Germany. In January 2019, Doughan gave two invited lectures “On the Paradox of Tolerance in German Citizenship” at two interdisciplinary anthropology venues at the University of Chicago and at McGill University.

At the BUJS Research Forum in January 2019, Doughan gave a talk on visiting Auschwitz with a multicultural group for a common humanity. The discussion and feedback provided by colleagues from the Elie Wiesel Center, Religious Studies, Anthropology and the Pardee School for Global Studies helped her to craft an improved version for publication. As a Postdoctoral Associate during the academic year of 2019-2020 Doughan is looking forward to deepening the conversations with scholars in Holocaust Studies, Anthropology and Jewish Studies.

# Visiting Scholar Lucas Fain

In January 2019, **Lucas Fain**, PhD, joined the Elie Wiesel Center as a Visiting Research Scholar.

Dr. Fain, a graduate of the Boston University Professor's Program, taught philosophy and social thought at Harvard University, Suffolk University, and the University of California-Santa Cruz. His scholarship leads from a critique of Martin Heidegger's philosophical and political legacies, through interdisciplinary work on Jean-Jacques Rousseau and the French psychoanalyst Jean Laplanche, back to a confrontation between Aristotle and Plato on the meaning and possibility of philosophy itself.

At the Elie Wiesel Center, Dr. Fain plans to work on a monograph to follow from his first book, *Primal Philosophy: Rousseau and the Seduction of Happiness*, which is in development for publication by Rowman & Littlefield International. In the spring of 2019, he presented papers at meetings of the Metaphysical Society of America at Seattle University and the Heidegger Circle at Nazareth College. In the fall and winter of 2019-2020, he is scheduled to give papers at meetings of the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy in Pittsburgh, the Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association in Philadelphia, and the Psychology and the Other conference at Boston College.



LUCAS FAIN



SONARI GLINTON

## Alumni Spotlight: Sonari Glinton

Sonari Glinton graduated from Boston University's College of Arts & Sciences in 1996. He is an award winning radio/podcast journalist, having spent nearly two decades in radio and public media. Sonari has served as a correspondent on NPR's *Business Desk* and *Planet Money*, a contributor to *Fresh Air*, and a producer for *All Things Considered*. A former student of Elie Wiesel, Sonari has remained involved with the Elie Wiesel Center as a member of the Center's advisory board.

In February, 2019, Sonari served as moderator for "Black/s and Jew/s Then and Now," a public conversation on the past and present of Black-Jewish

relations, the intersections of Black and Jewish identities, and the realities of racism in the United States today. Most recently, he contributed to *Moment Magazine* editor-in-chief Nadine Epstein's latest book, *Elie Wiesel: An Extraordinary Life and Legacy*.

Sonari began his career in Chicago's commodities industry, working for companies such as Cargill, Boeing, and Pepsico. His first forays into the world of journalism were his work as an intern at NPR member station WBEZ in Chicago, and his time at Boston University's student-led radio station WTBU.

He offers his reflections on his time as Elie Wiesel's student, and the community he says Professor Wiesel fostered at BU.

*I went to Boston University during an interesting time in our reckoning with World War II. The 50th anniversary celebrations were during my junior year. Senator Bob Dole, the personification of the American GI was running for President. And while I was taking a course with Elie Wiesel, Schindler's List premiered. I was a student in the religion department. What I remember most about my time with Elie Wiesel was that it was during this period that Francois Mitterand's work under Vichy France was receiving attention. Professor Wiesel flew to France during that period to meet Mitterand, thus missing a class. To make up for it he gave each student a copy of one of his books, and scheduled extra time for students during office hours. I remember talking to him about the Million Man March and Louis Farrakhan. I don't recall what we spoke about but I know I decided not to attend the march, a painful decision that I wrote about for the Daily Free Press.*

*Martha Hauptman and the TA's for Professor Wiesel's courses created a community. I struggled as a student at BU and in that decision phase shortly after school. It was that community that came to my aide when I needed support, a reference for Quickie jobs (I got a four year gig serving a Brookline family during passover), a referral to Admiral Johnson (the Dean of Students) or just a place to stop by to get away from the din of the city. Over the years, I found myself leaning on Boston University professionally and personally. Martha Hauptman, and my professors, Ray Hart, David Eckel, and Michael Zank never failed to answer a call, a query or email whether I was a student, an intern, a producer, or an NPR correspondent. I feel grateful that the Center has been part of my continuing education.*

## STUDENT MILESTONES

### Minor Celebration

On Friday, May 3, a group of Boston University students gathered in the library of the Elie Wiesel Center for a semester end celebration and award ceremony. Each year, the Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies helps to support graduate and undergraduate students with stipends, scholarships, and academic enhancement grants. EWCJS Director **Michael Zank** and Head of the Hebrew Language program **Miriam Angrist** presented the awards.

#### **Sophie Bartholomew: 2019 Minor Graduate**

Sophie Bartholomew graduated in May 2019 from the College of Arts and Sciences with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Art History and a minor in Jewish Studies. Sophie was this year's Brooks Family Endowment Fund awardee, which funded travel to a Yiddish Studies summer program in Berlin, Germany. During her studies, Sophie also received the Henry J. and Carole Pinkney Research Scholarship from the Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies to complete research at the National Yiddish Book Center for a project on the aesthetics of Yiddish print culture. Congratulations, Sophie!



SOPHIE BARTHOLOMEW, 2019 MINOR GRADUATE



JEWISH STUDIES MINOR CELEBRATION

## 2018-19 Scholarship Recipients

### **Brooks Family Endowment Fund**

Sophie Bartholomew (CAS '19)

### **Brooks Family Scholarship**

Simone (Deni) Budman (COM '20)

Jacob Gurvis (COM '20)

Lingxuan Liang (CAS '21)

### **David V. Karney Travel Fund Scholarship**

Callie Brandeis (COM '20)

Abigail Ripin (CAS '20)

### **Drapkin-Fasel Graduate Fellowship Fund in Jewish Studies**

Jonathan Kelly (PhD)

David Malamud (PhD)

Arslan Tazeem (PhD)

### **Einhorn Book Award**

David Malamud (PhD)

### **EWCJS funding for BU Spring Break Course in Cuba**

Erica Wilson (CAS '19)

### **Hebrew Awards**

Alexandra Jellinger (CAS '20)

Miriam Kamens (CAS '20)

### **Henry J. and Carole Pinkney Fund Award**

David Malamud (PhD)

### **Levine, Martin Family Scholarships**

Tallulah Bark-Huss (CAS '21)

Lingxuan Liang (CAS '21)

## Scholarship Spotlight

With travel scholarship funding from the Elie Wiesel Center, Boston University students can incorporate international experiential learning into their programs of study. This year, Erica Wilson (CAS '19) and Abigail Ripin (CAS '20) left the comfort of their classrooms to visit Cuba and Jerusalem respectively. These students reflect on the exciting opportunity to learn more about Jewish history, culture, and religious practices through unique travel experiences.

### **Erica Wilson**

On this week-long trip I observed and learned of the history of Black Cubans, including religious traditions of Black Cubans. After a two decade ban — the ban was struck in the 1990's following the demise of the Soviet Union — religious life has returned to the public sphere. During one part of the trip we visited a synagogue. Havana's Jewish community is small, but it is part of the identity of the country. There are three synagogues in Havana. The Jewish community was created from Jewish people escaping the Holocaust. There was a very large and vibrant Jewish population in Cuba before the revolution but following the Communist revolution many Jewish Cubans left Cuba for America. I left this trip feeling extremely humbled and honored that I was able to visit this country and learn of its history and present.

### **Abigail Ripin**

Throughout my time in Israel, I was fortunate enough to visit historic sites, enjoy the natural landscape, and partake in many unique cultural experiences all supported by the David V. Karney Grant. I toured Roman ruins of fortresses, palaces, and amphitheaters at Apollonia National Park, Caesarea National Park, and Masada National Park. I visited the Dead Sea and hiked to the springs in the Ein Gedi Reserve. For Purim, I spent a few nights in Tel Aviv, where I went to a Megillah reading at the Tel Aviv International Synagogue and even partook in the tradition of wearing costumes around town to celebrate. It was a wonderful experience to see the streets flooded with costumed people over the course of several days.

In Jerusalem, I visited the Israel Museum where I saw various exhibitions on the Dead Sea Scrolls, Jewish marriage traditions, and traditions of female 'modesty' in the three Abrahamic religions. The exhibition on veiled women sparked my interest in particular because not only did it allow me to learn about the similarities between the three religions, but it also provided me with greater insight on the religious practices and culture of the modestly dressed women I frequently saw in Jerusalem. I also enjoyed attending the Student Day Concert in Jerusalem where I heard Israeli musicians perform, including last year's Eurovision winner Netta Barzilai.



ABIGAIL RIPIN

## Jewish Studies Minor Student Spotlights

### **Tallulah Bark-Huss** (COM '21)

Major: Film and Television

Minor: Jewish Studies

"Coming from Jewish day school, I wanted to continue my Jewish education in a way that fit my schedule and needs as a Film and Television major. When I found out about the Jewish Studies minor from Professor Anderson, it just made sense. The Elie Wiesel Center has allowed me to partake in engaging and challenging conversations about ethics, history, and what it means to be Jewish on a college campus. The curriculum is so diverse that I've been able to dip my toes into varying areas such as Jerusalem and its importance to different religions, the history of Jewish and Black relations, and representations of the Holocaust in film."



TALLULAH BARK-HUSS



DENI BUDMAN

### **Deni Budman** (COM '20)

Major: Film/Video and

Photographic Arts

Minor: Jewish Studies

"When I enrolled in BU, I had no plans of pursuing Jewish Studies, but once I entered the Elie Wiesel Center I could hardly resist. Signing up for my required writing seminar freshman year, I stumbled upon a topic in Global Judaisms, and I'm very grateful that I decided on a whim to register for it. The class inspired me to learn, research, and ask questions. Since then, I have vowed to engage in educated conversations about religion. Particularly, I focus my studies on Jewish concepts of social justice and also the gender-based discrimination in the religion and its culture. Throughout my experience at BU, I have integrated Jewish Studies into everything I do. From serving on the Student Board and Religious Life Council of BU Hillel to creating videos based on Jewish topics as a film major to working at the Elie Wiesel Center between classes, Judaism is woven into my degree in more ways than a Jewish Studies minor certificate will signify."

### **Jacob Gurvis** (COM '20)

Major: Journalism

Minor: Jewish Studies and Political Science

"I'm interested in Jewish Studies because I love learning about Judaism from an academic perspective. While Jewish education has always been a prominent part of my life, the opportunity to study the history, culture, and literature of the Jewish people in an academic program with excellent professors has been enriching and engaging in completely new ways. I have really enjoyed being part of the EWCJS family!"



JACOB GURVIS



HANNAH GUTTMAN

**Hannah Guttman** (CAS '21)

Major: Anthropology  
Minor: Jewish Studies

"I'm interested in Jewish studies because of my fervent passion for Israel and the Jewish people. As a Jew I believe I have a responsibility to understand the complicated history of the Jewish people if I want to help Jews come together and positively influence the world at large. To do this, equal representation and tolerance of the other is essential. My dream is to establish an educational institution with the objective of linguistic diversity, inclusive thinking, and global awareness."

**Lingxuan Liang** (CAS '20)

Major: History  
Minor: Jewish Studies

"After dedicating years of my life to researching China-Japan relations, I decided to minor in Jewish studies after transferring to BU. As a future historian, I believe that many current clashes between different nations all have a historical origin. Studying Jewish history, especially the Israel-Palestine conflict, has given me new insights into intercultural conflicts. Therefore, my main interests lie in the post-war establishment of the Israeli state as well as its practical conflict resolution policies. To me, learning Jewish history is not only about the evolution of Jewish ideologies, language, and cultures, but perhaps most importantly, how human societies progress and eventually become what they are today."



LINGXUAN LIANG



RACHEL SILBERMAN

**Rachel Silberman** (COM '20)

Major: Public Relations  
Minor: Jewish Studies

"During the spring semester of my junior year, I studied abroad in Tel Aviv, Israel. My classes at Tel Aviv University were focused on Jewish studies; I took classes such as Contemporary Jewish Issues, Jews in the Modern Era, and Israeli Cinema. These classes, as well as my experience being immersed in Tel Aviv's Jewish culture, inspired me to further explore Jewish studies at BU. A minor in Jewish Studies will allow me to combine my unique experience in Tel Aviv with traditional classroom learning to complete a well-rounded, distinct education of a topic that is so close to home and so important to me."

## Graduate Student Spotlight



DAVID MALAMUD

**David Malamud** is a PhD student specializing in the Religions of the Ancient Mediterranean World in the Graduate Program of Religion, working under the guidance of Professor Jonathan Klawans. Malamud is interested in sectarianism and messianism in Second Temple Judaism, the memory of the Temple in early Christianity and Rabbinic Judaism, and broader questions of religious and cultural identity and exchange in the Eastern Roman Empire. This year, he has focused on completing his coursework, paying special attention to the study of ancient languages. He also published a book review of Cynthia Baker's "Jew" in *Reading Religion*, an open book-review website produced by the American Academy of Religion.

With support from the Henry J. and Carole Pinkney Fund Mr. Malamud was able to attend the annual meetings of the Association for Jewish Studies and the Society for Biblical Literature. Additionally, Mr. Malamud received support from the Einhorn Book Fund to purchase basic reference literature, including dictionaries and concordances.

## JEWISH STUDIES

### About the Jewish Studies Minor Program

Undergraduate students from across the colleges of Boston University may choose to minor in Jewish Studies. The minor in Jewish Studies offers students of all backgrounds the opportunity to explore Jewish history, culture, and religion from a variety of perspectives. It takes six courses to complete the minor, including at least one in three out of the four following areas:

- Sacred Texts and Comparative Traditions
- Jewish Thought and Literature
- Jewish History, including Holocaust Studies
- Contemporary Jewish Societies and Cultures, including Israel Studies

### Graduate Program in Jewish Studies

The Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies partners with the Graduate Program in Religion (GPR) for a PhD specialization in Jewish Studies. Students admitted to the GPR specialization in Jewish Studies will benefit from a five-year fully funded graduate fellowship.

In addition, the EWCJS supports Jewish studies in many areas of inquiry across the humanities and social sciences. Graduate students conducting research on topics related to Jewish history, culture, law, religion, or society are encouraged to seek affiliation with the Center. Affiliated graduate students are eligible to apply for financial support.

## HOLOCAUST, GENOCIDE & HUMAN RIGHTS

### About the Holocaust, Genocide & Human Rights Minor Program

The Minor in Holocaust, Genocide & Human Rights Studies offers undergraduate students the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the causes and consequences of past acts of genocide and to consider human rights law as a means of violence prevention. Students minoring in HGHR Studies are required to take six four-credit courses, including these core courses: **CAS RN 384** History of the Holocaust, **CAS HI 384** History of Genocide and one of three Human Rights core courses. Students select one additional elective each in Holocaust and Genocide studies and a final elective in these or Human Rights studies.

### About the Holocaust, Genocide & Human Rights Studies Graduate Program

The Graduate Certificate in Holocaust, Genocide & Human Rights Studies offers students the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the causes and consequences of past acts of genocide and to consider human rights law as a means of violence prevention. The certificate accordingly draws on faculty trained in different disciplines and fields of expertise, including the history of the Holocaust and the Armenian genocide, African history, law, public health, literature and film of the Holocaust and other genocides, political theory, and religion. Students completing 16 credits of eligible coursework can qualify for the certificate.

## HGHRIS Program Updates

During the Fall of 2018, the program offices of the Holocaust, Genocide & Human Rights Studies minor moved to the first floor of the Elie Wiesel Center. Together, our faculty, staff, students, and colleagues celebrated the renaming of the program from 'Holocaust and Genocide Studies' to its current name, at a reception prior to the first Elie Wiesel Memorial Lecture. Professor of Italian and Jewish Studies **Nancy Harrowitz** has continued to direct the program through the 2018-19 academic year.

HGHRIS co-sponsored many unique cultural and academic events this year. In October, the program welcomed writer **Julie Lindahl** to campus to present her new memoir, *The Pendulum*. Ms. Lindahl is an educator living in Sweden who found out as an adult about her grandparents' Nazi past and the family's efforts to cover it up. That same month, HGHRIS co-sponsored a lecture with **Victoria Barnett**, Director of the Holocaust Memorial Museum Programs on Ethics, Religion, and the Holocaust. Ms. Barnett spoke on the German theologian and resistance figure Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who is widely viewed as an iconic symbol of Christian resistance against National Socialism. The Dartmouth Professor of German Studies and Comparative Literature at Dartmouth College **Irene Kacandes** also paid a visit to BU in October for another HGHRIS co-sponsored lecture. During her presentation, Dr. Kacandes examined the current refugee crisis and how and why she engages with it as well as her career in German and Holocaust Studies.

In November, 2018, the HGHRIS program hosted **Alex Hinton**, distinguished Professor of Anthropology at Rutgers University for a lecture on the Cambodian genocide titled *The Justice of Facade: Trails of Transition in Cambodia*. Professor Harrowitz was also busy planning for The Holocaust Through Film Series with Assistant Professor of French **Jennifer Cazenave**. Six films were shown as part of the series, which kicked off in February, 2019, and included the U.S. premiere of Italian documentarian **Pietro Suber's** film *1938: When We Found Out We Were No Longer Italian*. Professor Harrowitz says she hopes to make the series an annual event for members of the public and the BU community.

## HGHS Undergraduate Spotlight

### Rachel Dembo

"I am honored to have earned a minor in Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights Studies from the Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies. The connection between my major, Health Science, and my minor may not be obvious at first. However, both areas of studies are based on fundamental rights, or lack thereof. This connection led me to thoroughly enjoy all of my EWCJS classes. One course that I particularly enjoyed, because of its connection to my major, was Professor Payaslian's "Prevention of Genocide" course. Utilizing concepts from Sociology, International Relations, and Politics, Professor Payaslian demonstrated how key themes of the course went beyond genocides of the past and extended to current economic and political issues, such as access to quality health care."



RACHEL DEMBO  
GRADUATE, CLASS OF 2019

## HGHS Graduate Spotlight



REBECCA LEIBY

### Rebecca Leiby

"I am a fourth year Philosophy PhD student focusing upon social and political philosophy more broadly, and upon issues of accountability, restoration, and reclamation in the aftermath of mass trauma and violence more specifically. Prior to the 2016 presidential election, my work had been geared more towards the history of philosophy, with an emphasis upon post-Kantian German philosophy. In the aftermath of the election, however, I had something of a professional crisis of faith regarding what I felt to be a serious breach of social and political norms and what I perceived to be my own obligations, as an educated member of society, to engage with that breach and its implications critically. As that winter went on, I became increasingly convinced that a historically oriented dissertation project would steer me towards a sort of insulated, academic esotericism that no longer felt either desirable or appropriate. When the Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights Graduate Certificate was developed at BU, I jumped at the opportunity to pursue what I believed — and continue to believe — is a vitally important and urgently necessary program of study for any graduate student wishing to cultivate familiarity with ongoing social and political issues."

## NEW THIS YEAR: JEWISH STUDIES COURSE NUMBERS

BU Provost **Jean Morrison** approved a new dedicated course numbering system that sequences the cross-disciplinary Jewish Studies courses under the initials "JS." Beginning in Fall 2019, the numbering system will allow students to directly search for Jewish Studies courses through the Student Link registration app. Many courses in Jewish Studies will continue to be cross-listed with other departments in the College of Arts and Sciences.

The new numbering system will be anchored by a new introductory course, JS 100 World Cultures of the Jews. It will be offered for the first time in Spring 2020 by Professor Ingrid Anderson, Associate Director of the Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies. The course introduces students to the study of Judaism in its many forms, by exploring Jewish communities across the globe today, their different historical origins and cultural contexts, and strategies of preserving cohesion and transnational solidarity.

### Minor Sequence:

A minor in Jewish Studies requires 24 credits. There is one required course: JS 100 World Cultures of the Jews. The remaining five courses must include at least one in three of the following four areas:

#### 1. Sacred Texts and Comparative Traditions

- JS 110 Judaism
- JS 120 Bible
- JS 121 Judaism, Christianity, Islam
- JS 210 Hebrew Bible
- JS 214 Rabbinic Literature
- JS 311 Dead Sea Scrolls
- JS 321 Moses
- JS 328 Open Heaven

#### 2. Jewish Literature and Thought

- JS 130 Jewish Literature
- JS 244 Jewish Mysticism
- JS 246 Kabbalah
- JS 330 Hebrew Narrative Biblical and Modern (in Hebrew)
- JS 331 Modern Hebrew Poetry (in Hebrew)
- JS 340 Classical Jewish Thought
- JS 341 Modern Jewish Thought
- JS 348 Mysticism and Philosophy Jewish and Islamic
- RN 420/PH 409 Maimonides

#### 3. History and Holocaust

- JS 250 Holy City
- JS 255 Judaism in the Modern Period
- JS 260 Holocaust
- JS 359 The Modern Jew
- JS 366 Fascism and the Holocaust in Italy
- JS 367 The Holocaust Through Film
- JS 455 Religion, Community, Culture medieval Spain
- JS 460 Seminar on the Holocaust
- AR 342/ RN 390 Archaeology in the Holy Land
- XL 281/RN 385 Representations of the Holocaust in Literature and Film
- LI 459/ RN 459/ XL 459
- Primo Levi Within Holocaust Literature
- RN 439 Jewish Bioethics and Holocaust Studies

#### 4. Contemporary Jewish Societies and Cultures, including Israel Studies

- JS 100 World Cultures of the Jews
- JS 280 Israeli Popular Music (in Hebrew)
- JS 281 Advanced Modern Hebrew: Voices in Israeli Society (in Hebrew)
- JS 283 Israeli Culture Through Film (in English translation)
- JS 285 Israel: History, Politics, Culture
- JS 286 Israeli-Palestinian Conflict
- JS 377 Gender and Judaism
- JS 379 Islamophobia and Anti-Semitism
- JS 380 Israeli Culture Through Media (in Hebrew)
- JS 383 Israeli Culture Through Film (in Hebrew)

Students may count up to two courses in Hebrew language toward the degree in Jewish Studies. These may include any JS or LH course taught in Hebrew.

## 2018-19 COURSES

### 2018-19 Jewish Studies Courses

#### Sacred Texts and Comparative Traditions

- RN 101 The Bible
- RN 104 Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
- RN 216 Judaism
- RN 220 Holy City: Jerusalem in Time, Space, and the Imagination
- RN 406 Biblical Fakes and Forgeries
- TO 704 Hebrew Bible I
- TO 723 Biblical Hebrew I
- TO 802 The Prophetic Tradition
- TO 815 Hebrew Reading and Exegesis I

#### Jewish Literature and Thought

- EN 126 Jewish Literature
- RN 325 Jewish Mysticism I: Formative Traditions
- RN 338 Mysticism and Philosophy: Jewish and Islamic Perspectives
- RN 420, PH409/609, TX879 Maimonides

#### Jewish History, including Holocaust Studies

- HI 219 Jews in the Modern World
- RN 328 Judaism in the Modern Period
- RN 384 The Holocaust
- RN 385 Representations of the Holocaust in Literature and Film
- RN 390 Archeology in the Holy Land
- RN 410 Religion, Community, and Culture in Medieval Spain
- RN 460 Seminar on the Holocaust
- XL 387 Holocaust Through Film

#### Contemporary Jewish Societies and Cultures, including Israel Studies

- HI 276 Jewish Culture
- HI 393 Israeli-Palestinian Conflict (both semesters)
- LH 111 Fundamentals of Modern Hebrew 1
- LH 112 Fundamentals of Modern Hebrew 2
- LH 129 Intensive First-Year Hebrew
- LH 211 Intermediate Modern Hebrew 1
- LH 212 Intermediate Modern Hebrew 2
- LH 311 Advanced Modern Hebrew; Voices in Israeli Society
- LH 312 Sixth-Semester Hebrew
- CI 270 Israeli Culture Through Film
- PO 330 Special Topics in Comparative Politics: A Democracy in the Middle East: Israel as a Case for Comparative Analysis

#### Writing Seminars

- WR 120 First-Year Writing Seminar
- WR1 20 KB After Auschwitz: The Search for Ethics in Post-Holocaust Thought
- WR 120 MA Beyond Night: The Work of Elie Wiesel
- WR 120 LD From Moses to Julian Edelman: Images of Jewish Masculinity in the West
- WR 150 Always Wining Never Winning: Stereotypes of Jewish Women in Literature, Film, and Pop Culture
- WR 151 C1 American Conversations: Jews and Blacks
- WR 151 D1 Zionism, Post-Zionism, and the Jewish State Idea

### 2018-19 Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights Course Offerings

- HI 384 History of Genocide
- HI 543 / IR 437 The Prevention of Genocide
- HI 346 / IR 348 History of International Human Rights
- XL 387 / CI 387 The Holocaust Through Film
- XL 281 / RN 385 / CI 269 Holocaust Literature and Film (in English translation)
- HI 489 / AA 489 The African Diaspora in the Americas

**736** students enrolled in our courses during the 2018-19 academic year!



# Featured Course: Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict course asks students to explore the history of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and conduct an analysis of conflicting narratives through primary sources and film. Students then present their own reflections on the conflict and debate possibilities of resolution. Visiting Lecturer **Dr. Walker Robins** reflects on his students in the Spring 2019 semester class:

*The class was more than full—it included 40 undergraduates, an Evergreen student, and an auditor—and included students from all over the world pursuing a variety of majors who were passionate about the topic. In our first class period, I had students fill out notecards with basic introductory information about themselves, including whether or not they had strong feelings about the conflict. I did not ask them what those feelings were—just whether they had them. This year, about 60-70% of my students came into the class with strong feelings.*

*The course is a history course, so my approach to teaching the conflict is historical. It prioritizes understanding how the conflict has taken shape amid shifting historical contexts. What I emphasize to students is that understanding these contexts can allow us to make sense of the often vexing or even infuriating choices that historical actors have made. This requires taking things a bit slow—it was only after Spring Break that we got to the post-1967 issues that most people think of when they think of the conflict. It also requires that students be diligent and disciplined—that they channel their passion for the topic into the pursuit of historical understanding.*

*As was the case when I first taught this class last spring, I was so very impressed—inspired, even—by BU students' embrace of this approach. Even as so many students came into the class with strong feelings about the conflict, they also came into the class with a commitment to understanding it. This was clear in our discussions in class and clear in their coursework—from their exams, through which they demonstrated an utter command of the material, to their first paper, in which they navigated the connections between local economic struggles and national conflict, to their research papers, in which they capably engaged topics of their choosing in relation to the conflict. Throughout the class, students demonstrated not just an openness to historical understanding, but a commitment to doing the work required to achieve it.*

We thank Dr. Robins for making himself available to teach this important course on two occasions and we wish him well for his future work at Merrimack College.

## **Workshop: Israeli, Palestinian and other Diasporas in Comparative Perspective**

Visiting Professor of Israeli Studies **Nahum Karlinsky** shares his thoughts on the Israeli, Palestinian and other Diasporas in Comparative Perspective workshop, hosted by the Elie Wiesel Center on December 13-14, 2018.

*The purpose of the workshop was to create a fruitful scholarly environment in which the phenomena of Israeli, Palestinian, Cuban, African and other diasporas or transnational communities were examined from diverse disciplinary and methodological angles. While the scholarly work on global diasporas and transnational communities is rich and flourishing, for various reasons, mainly ideological and identity ones, the phenomenon of the modern Israeli diaspora is an under-researched sphere. To some extent, the phenomenon of Palestinian transnationals is an under-researched domain as well.*

*Thus, the workshop brought together, for the first time in the research on Israel and Palestine, leading scholars in the field of diaspora and transnationalism, artists and writers who create their art outside their homeland, and Israeli and Palestinian scholars who study the diasporas of their respective societies.*

*All in all, we had a distinguished group of eighteen participants. The discussions were fruitful, enriching and the atmosphere friendly and very welcoming. We certainly met the goals set for this workshop. Fundamental concepts and theories in the field were discussed and analyzed, but above all a fruitful environment of comparative scholarly discussion has been created.*

*The ultimate purpose of the workshop is to publish a collection of articles based on its discussion. We have already gathered a few papers and received commitments from other participants to publish their papers with this future publication.*

The workshop could not have taken place without the very professional management of its complex technicalities conducted by the Center's Program Administrator, Dr. Theresa Cooney, with the assistance of the Center's staff. We also want to thank the Center's faculty who made the effort and attended the workshop. Our thanks are also extended to Professor Margaret Litvin, who chaired one of the workshop's sessions. Above all, we extend our thanks to Professor Michael Zank, Director of the the Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies, for his enthusiastic support of this pioneering project.

## Biblical Exegesis as Political Critique

October 3, 2018

Post-doctoral research fellow **Alexandra Zirkle** (PhD University of Chicago, 2016) presented her current work on nineteenth-century German-Jewish biblical exegesis as an expression of political self-assertion in the age of romantic nationalism. Dr. Susannah Heschel (Dartmouth College) responded to the lecture.

**BOSTON UNIVERSITY JEWISH STUDIES RESEARCH FORUM**

**OCTOBER 3<sup>RD</sup> AT 2:30<sup>PM</sup>**

AT THE ELIE WIESEL CENTER LIBRARY ROOM 202 147 BAY STATE RD

# Biblical Exegesis as Political Critique:

**Alexandra Zirkle, Presenter**  
*Focusing on the biblical account of the ancient Jerusalem Temple, this lecture shows how nineteenth-century German Jewish exegetes responded to the Old Testament scholarship of their Protestant colleagues. In particular, the talk will foreground the political dimensions of biblical interpretation in an age when Jews struggled for political rights and social recognition.*

**Susannah Heschel, Respondent**

VIEW IN BROWSER

## Auschwitz as a “Teachable Moment”? The Holocaust in German Civic Education in Multicultural Context

January 30, 2019

This session featured the research of Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies Visiting Scholar **Sultan Doughan**. Dr. Doughan just completed her PhD in anthropology at UC Berkeley where she was a student of the late Sabba Mahmood. She was joined by respondent Jeremy Menchik, Assistant Professor of International Relations at the Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies.

Dr. Doughan discussed her work with Berlin educational institutions that use the Holocaust to educate migrants of Muslim backgrounds in German humanistic and civic values. At the core of this talk was the experience of an educational “trip for humanity” to Auschwitz. The presentation illustrated how tolerance educators in Berlin convey the meaning of “humanity” through personal engagement with the Holocaust. Dr. Doughan described the tension between the operative conception of humanity and notions of citizenship and race, complicating the notion of a common humanity in contemporary German ways of conceptualizing Jewish and Muslim identities.

**BOSTON UNIVERSITY JEWISH STUDIES RESEARCH FORUM**

# Auschwitz as a “Teachable Moment”?

**January 30 at 2:30 PM**

ELIE WIESEL CENTER LIBRARY 147 BAY STATE ROAD, RM 202

**The Holocaust in German Civic Education in a Multicultural Context**

*Anthropologist Sultan Doughan will discuss her work with Berlin educational institutions that use the Holocaust to educate migrants of Muslim backgrounds in German humanistic and civic values. At the core of this talk is the experience of an educational “trip for humanity” to Auschwitz. The presentation illustrates how tolerance educators in Berlin convey the meaning of “humanity” through personal engagement with the Holocaust. Dr. Doughan will describe the tension between the operative conception of humanity and notions of citizenship and race, complicating the notion of a common humanity in contemporary German ways of conceptualizing Jewish and Muslim identities.*

**Sultan Doughan, Presenter**  
*Dr. Sultan Doughan is a visiting research fellow at the Elie Wiesel Center. She was trained as an anthropologist at the University of California, Berkeley. Her dissertation Teaching, Tolerance, Citizenship, Religious Difference, and Race in Germany focuses primarily on how educators of Middle Eastern descent inhabit the position of the tolerant citizen while mobilizing Holocaust history in civic education for integration purposes.*

**Jeremy Menchik (Pardee School), Respondent**  
*Dr. Jeremy Menchik is Assistant Professor in the Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies at Boston University and faculty affiliate in Political Science and Religious Studies. His first book, Islam and Democracy in Indonesia: Tolerance without Liberalism (Cambridge University Press, 2016) explains the meaning of tolerance to the world’s largest Islamic organizations and was the winner of the 2017 International Studies Association award for the best book on religion and international relations.*

The Boston University Jewish Studies (BUJS) Research Forum gathers faculty, graduate students and guests around questions of research in all areas of Jewish studies, offering resident and visiting scholars the opportunity to present research in progress in the intimate setting of the Elie Wiesel Center library.

**BOSTON UNIVERSITY**

For more information: Boston University Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies 147 Bay State Road, Boston MA 02215 BUJS@bu.edu (617) 552-9056

**ELIE WIESEL CENTER FOR JEWISH STUDIES**



**UTE FREVERT**, OCTOBER 15, 2018  
"NOVEMBER 9, 1938: EMOTIONS AND EMOTIONAL  
POLITICS THEN AND NOW, AND IN-BETWEEN"

## EVENTS: PUBLIC LECTURES

# THE ELIE WIESEL MEMORIAL LECTURE SERIES

### **About the Series**

Beginning in 2018, the Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies will hold an annual series of three lectures named in honor of Nobel laureate and longtime BU faculty member Elie Wiesel.

The lectures will echo the annual “Encounters with Elie Wiesel” that were an important fixture on the BU campus and in greater Boston. Each series will be placed under an overarching theme.

The inaugural Fall 2018 Elie Wiesel Memorial Lectures were devoted to commemorating the eightieth anniversary of Kristallnacht, the government-sponsored act of German mass violence against the Jews in 1938 that heralded the destruction of European Jewry.

THE ELIE WIESEL  
MEMORIAL LECTURE  
SERIES

OCTOBER 15, 2018

Ute Frevert: *“November 9, 1938:  
Emotions and Emotional Politics Then  
and Now, and In-between”*

**Ute Frevert**, Director of the Max Planck Institute for Human Development, explored the emotional politics of the first state-orchestrated pogrom in Nazi Germany, and the emotions it raised among Jewish and non-Jewish Germans. She went on to investigate the memory culture that emerged after 1945, and concluded by putting Elie Wiesel’s 1989 warning to the test: has the memory of 1938 faded after the German reunification? And what kind of emotions (and emotional politics) have been involved in the process?



ELIE WIESEL MEMORIAL LECTURE, OCTOBER 15, 2018

OCTOBER 29, 2018

Omer Bartov: ***“After Kristallnacht: The Routinization of German State Violence in the East”***



ELIE WIESEL MEMORIAL LECTURE, OCTOBER 29, 2018

**Omer Bartov**, John P. Birkelund Distinguished Professor of European History at Brown University, spoke on what happened “After Kristallnacht,” namely, during the war and behind enemy lines, when violence became routinized. Professor Bartov, a native of Israel, recently completed a study of the genocidal violence that wiped out the Ukrainian Jewish community of Buczacz, his mother’s hometown. In his talk, Bartov showed that genocidal violence is not necessarily caused by military invasion but may come about as the result of long-simmering ethnic resentment and micro-conflicts that are allowed to coalesce into collective acts of score-settling. His point is that it can happen anywhere. Following the lecture at the Photonics Building, students and community members gathered for an intimate conversation with Professor Bartov at the Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies.

NOVEMBER 15, 2018

Mark Hetfield: ***“Lessons from the Past: From Kristallnacht to the Modern Refugee Crisis”***

In his first public address following the tragic and unprecedented Squirrel Hill Community Center shootings, **Mark Hetfield** offered reflections on the lessons we might learn from the past for the most massive crisis of refugees the world has seen since the end of the Second World War. Hetfield is the President and CEO of HIAS, a refugee aid group established in 1881 whose mission is to rescue people whose lives are in danger for being who they are. German Consul General to the New England States, **Nicole Menzenbach**, spoke on behalf of the Federal Republic. Hetfield was introduced by Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies faculty **Deeana Klepper**, Professor of History and Religion in the College of Arts and Sciences.



ELIE WIESEL MEMORIAL LECTURE, NOVEMBER 15, 2018



**AMBASSADOR ANDREW YOUNG AND DR. SUSANNAH HESCHEL**

BLACK/S AND JEW/S THEN AND NOW  
FEBRUARY 27, 2019

## EVENTS: PUBLIC LECTURES

### BLACK/S AND JEW/S THEN AND NOW

As the first event of its kind in the history of the Elie Wiesel Center, ***Black/s and Jew/s: Then and Now*** brought together 400 students, faculty, and community members to consider what unites and divides people of African American and Jewish descent in the United States.

The event was held at the George Sherman Union ballroom and co-sponsored with the Howard Thurman Center, the BU School of Theology, and the African-American Studies program. The panel included Civil Rights icon **Andrew Young**, feminist theologian and scholar **Dr. Susannah Heschel**, and 2019 Women's March steering committee member **Yavilah McCoy**. **Fresh Air** contributor and BU alum **Sonari Glinton** (CAS '96) moderated with energetic curiosity, prompting our panelists to share candid reflections on past and present pressure points in Jewish and African-American relations. The panelists considered how to respond to hate, particularly in today's polarized political climate. We heard moving reminiscences and heartfelt expressions of a deeply rooted alliance, and came away with a call to action: to stand up for what we believe in, work for racial justice, and recommit ourselves to open conversation, however difficult.



SONARI GLINTON, ANDREW YOUNG, DR. SUSANNAH HESCHEL, AND YAVILAH MCCOY.





**PETER BEINART**

THE 2019 YITZHAK RABIN MEMORIAL LECTURE  
APRIL 11, 2019

THE YITZHAK RABIN MEMORIAL LECTURE AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY IS GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY MR. JONATHAN KRIVINE (CAS '72).

## EVENTS: PUBLIC LECTURES

# THE 2019 RABIN MEMORIAL LECTURE US JEWS AND ISRAEL: ARE WE HEADED FOR DIVORCE?

The 2019 Rabin Memorial Lecture was delivered by **Peter Beinart**, a renowned contributing editor for *The Atlantic* and senior columnist at *The Forward*.

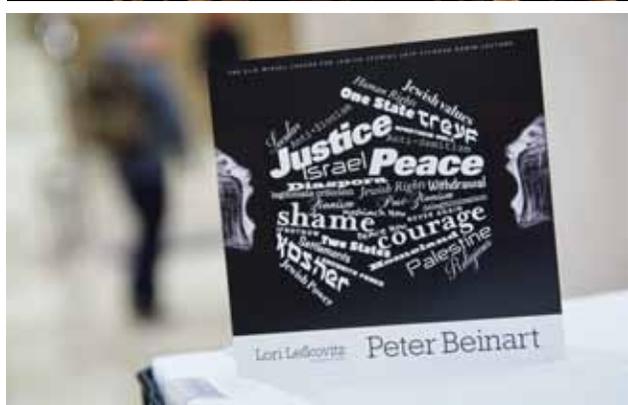
A distinguished panel responded to Beinart's lecture, moderated by Professor **Lori Lefkowitz**, Director of Jewish Studies and the Humanities Center at Northeastern University. Additional panelists included **Rachel Fish**, formerly Associate Director of the Schusterman Center for Israel Studies at Brandeis University, **Eve Spangler**, Associate Professor of Sociology at Boston College, and **Dov Waxman**, Professor of Political Science, International Affairs, and Israel Studies at Northeastern University.

An audience of nearly 350 gathered in the Questrom School of Business Auditorium to hear Beinart describe a generation of young Jews in America that is divided between "secular universalists" who are "less comfortable with privileging Jews over non-Jews" in areas such as human rights for Palestinians, and a growing Orthodox group who are "arguably less integrated into US society than their parents" and less willing to accept criticism of Israel.

"The divide will grow larger and more fundamental. The center—liberal two-state Zionism—will shrink," said Beinart, a City University of New York associate professor of journalism and political science. "One-state right-wing Zionism and one-state anti-Zionism will both grow. The debates will be even fiercer than they are now, because they won't be about Netanyahu or the settlements; they will be about the very existence of a Jewish state of Israel." (Adapted from Joel Brown's article reporting on this event in BU Today).



THE 2019 RABIN MEMORIAL LECTURE  
APRIL 11, 2019

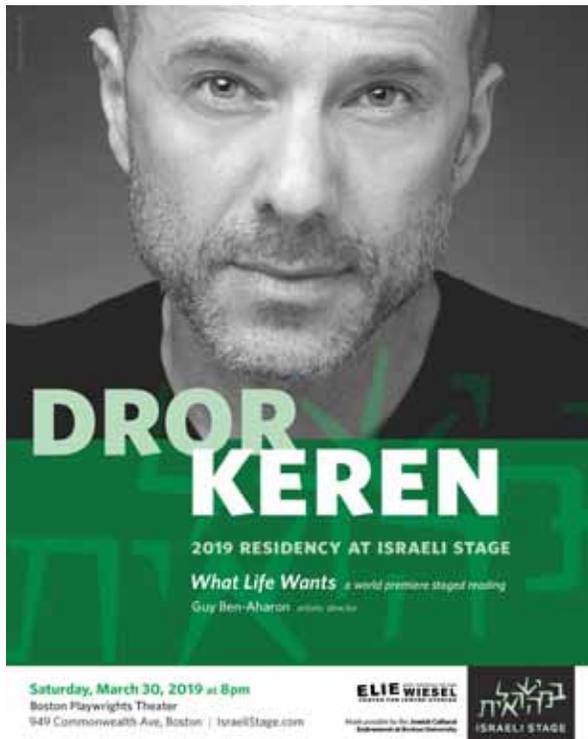


## EVENTS

### ARTS AND CULTURE

#### Dror Keren Residency

March 2019



In March, The Elie Wiesel Center hosted in residency Israeli theater and television star and playwright **Dror Keren** in preparation for the world premiere of his latest play, "What Life Wants" at Boston University Boston Playwrights' Theatre. Rehearsals for the staged reading took place in the Elie Wiesel Center Library, where Mr. Keren honed the English translation of his play with a group of seven actors and Director **Guy Ben-Aharon**, founder and artistic director of Boston's Israeli Stage. A second afternoon performance was added, after tickets sold out for the evening performance on March 30. The Israeli Stage company presented a series of events with Mr. Keren in the greater Boston area during March 2019.

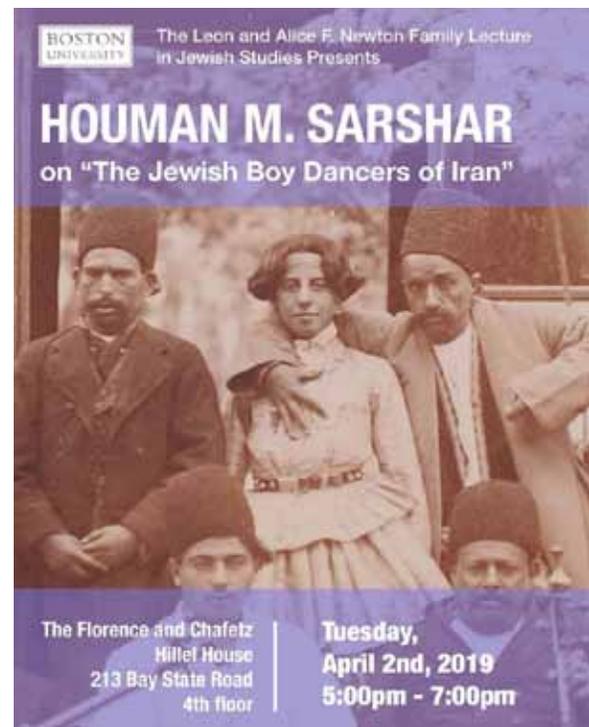
THE RESIDENCY WAS MADE POSSIBLE BY A GRANT FROM THE JEWISH CULTURAL ENDOWMENT, ADMINISTERED BY THE ELIE WIESEL CENTER.

### PUBLIC LECTURES

#### The Leon and Alice F. Newton Family Lecture in Jewish Studies Houman M. Sarshar on "The Jewish Boy Dancers of Iran"

April 2, 2019

The tradition of boy dancers in Iran goes back to the Achaemenid Empire and continued until the middle of the 20th century. Speaker Dr. **Houman Sarshar**, Director of Publications at the Center for Iranian Jewish Oral History, explored the role of these boy dancers in Iranian culture and what led to their disappearance. The lecture considered the complex history of male sexuality and gender in Iran, and it touched on the history of art, especially late nineteenth-century portrait photography. This event was organized by Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies faculty member **Abigail Gillman**, Associate Professor of Hebrew, German & Comparative Literature, and Professor **Sassan Tabatabai**, Senior Lecturer in the CAS Core Curriculum and Head of Persian Language Program, Department of World Languages and Literatures, both members of the World Languages and Literatures department of BU College of Arts and Sciences.



## ARTS SPOTLIGHT

### The Holocaust Through Film Series

February - April 2019

The series was organized by Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies faculty members **Nancy Harrowitz** and **Jennifer Cazenave** and served as a co-curricular element for a new course titled "Holocaust through Film" offered in Spring 2019. Four of the six films were open to the Boston University community and two were also open to the public. The films were chosen for their ability to engage these questions: What are the political and cultural effects when genocide is represented through film? Can feature films portray history, and if so, what are the consequences for an informed society?

**SPRING 2019**

# The Holocaust Through Film Series

PART OF THE CURRICULUM FOR KJL/JS 887  
Open to all BU students, faculty and staff  
ALL SCREENINGS ARE HELD ON **WEDNESDAYS** AT 6PM  
IN THE COMMONWEALTH AVE., ROOM 224

**February 25** SELECTIONS FROM *Shoah* (1985)  
With a runtime of over 9 hours in total, the Peabody award-winning documentary by Claude Lanzmann presents the Holocaust through the testimonies of those who witnessed, survived, or perpetrated the violence. The film uses no archival footage, and as a result it creates a portrait of genocide told only through the memories of those who lived through it.

**March 4** *Our Children* (1948)  
One of the first films to challenge the representation of the Holocaust onscreen, *Our Children* documents a unique performance by the comically duo Shimon Digran and Israel Shumacher for the children of the Hevelonk Colony near Lodz, Poland. Shumacher and Digran, recently back from the Soviet Union, perform for children who have survived the Holocaust, and in turn the children teach them the realities of life in the ghettos.

**March 18** *The Matchmaker* (2010)  
In 1958, a teenager in Haifa starts working for a mysterious Holocaust survivor who operates a matchmaking service out of the back of a movie theater. Over one summer he comes of age in a rapidly changing world in this comedy from Israeli filmmaker Avi Nesher.

**April 1** PUBLIC SCREENING: *1945* (2017)  
A Hungarian town fears the return of Holocaust survivors when an Orthodox Jewish father and his son arrive, suspected to be on a mission to claim the inheritance stolen from their murdered relatives.

**April 8** *Son of Saul* (2015)  
Winner of the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film in 2016, *Son of Saul* follows the harrowing journey of a father inside of Auschwitz searching for a rabbi who can perform a burial for a young boy.

**April 29** PUBLIC SCREENING: *1938: When We Found Out We Were No Longer Italian* (2018)  
The documentary goes through the events that led from the anti-Italian laws to the deportation (1943-1945) through stories told largely by their direct protagonists. Discussion with director **Pietro Suber** to follow.

For more information:  
Boston University  
Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies  
147 East Town Road, Boston, MA 02215  
bu.edu/jewishstudies 617-353-8076

**ELIE WIESEL CENTER FOR JEWISH STUDIES**

**BOSTON UNIVERSITY**

### 1938: When We Found Out We Were No Longer Italian

April 29, 2019

The Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies was proud to host the US Premiere of this film at Boston University with special guest, the film's director **Pietro Suber**.

THE HOLOCAUST THROUGH FILM SERIES  
PUBLIC SCREENING  
U.S. PREMIERE

# 1938: When We Found Out We Were No Longer Italian (2018)

**6PM MONDAY April 29**  
725 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE ROOM 224

Discussion to follow with director **Pietro Suber**

with **Alexander Stille** and Professor **Nancy Harrowitz**

register at: [tinyurl.com/y6nvzv7t](http://tinyurl.com/y6nvzv7t)

**ELIE WIESEL CENTER FOR JEWISH STUDIES**

For more information:  
Boston University  
Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies  
147 East Town Road, Boston, MA 02215  
bu.edu/jewishstudies 617-353-8076

Co-sponsored by:  
The Documentary Center Studies,  
The Holocaust, Genocide  
and Human Rights Studies

**BOSTON UNIVERSITY**

THE SCREENING FILLED THE ROOM TO CAPACITY WITH OVER ONE HUNDRED VIEWERS

"The film came out last year with many accolades and positive reviews, and it's a really special opportunity for us to be able to see it in the presence of the director," said Romance Studies Professor **Nancy Harrowitz**, Director of Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights Studies Minor. Mr. Suber was joined by Italian film expert **Claretta Tonetti** and distinguished journalist **Alexander Stille** for a panel discussion following the screening.

## JEWISH CULTURAL ENDOWMENT FUNDED PROJECTS

The Jewish Cultural Endowment (JCE) supports Jewish cultural programs on campus, including lectures, academic conferences, literary events, curricular enhancement, artistic performances, and exhibitions. It accepts submissions from all BU faculty, staff, and students and operates under the auspices of the Elie Wiesel Center. The mission of the JCE is to foster appreciation of Jewish culture in all of its richness and diversity. In 2018-2019, the JCE financially supported the following projects:

**In Between**, A One-Man Show written and performed by College of Fine Arts alumnus **Ibrahim Miari** at BU Boston Playwrights' Theatre  
— **Margaret Litvin**, Associate Professor of Arabic and Comparative Literature

**Coffee Talk Lecture Series** with **Esther Dischereit**:  
After the Wall Came Down: A Jewish Writer, her Students, and Garz, a Small Village in the Former GDR  
— **Abigail Gillman**, Associate Professor of Hebrew, German and Comparative Literature

**Wheelock Family Theatre** at Boston University's production of E.L. Doctorow's "Ragtime"  
— **Emily Ranii**, Artistic Director

**The 2019 Israeli Stage Artist Residency** with Israeli actor, director, and playwright **Dror Keren** and world premiere of "What Life Wants" at BU Boston Playwrights' Theatre  
— **Michael Zank**, Director, Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies

**Love and Strife: The Life of Saul Bellow** a lecture by Bellow biographer **Zachary Leader**, Professor of English literature at London's University of Roehampton  
— **Chris Walsh**, Director of College of Arts and Sciences Writing Program

**Leaving Egypt Today**: Personally Meaningful and Diverse Passover Seders, including Seder-in-a-box and community Seders exploring social justice and LGBTQ+ identities  
**Rabbi Elie Lehmann**, BU Hillel Campus Rabbi and Senior Jewish Educator

**The (First) Sanctuary Movement** as an Interfaith Humanitarian Response to the Crisis in Central America, that brought together elders from the 1980s movement with activists from the New Sanctuary Movement  
— **Rady Roldán-Figueroa**, Associate Professor of the History of Christianity

**Jewish Sensibility Salons** for BU faculty and staff  
— **Jay A. Halfond**, Professor of the Practice, Continuing and Distance Education

**Leaning Into the New Year**: Personally Meaningful and Diverse High Holidays  
— **Rabbi Elie Lehmann**, BU Hillel Campus Rabbi and Senior Jewish Educator

**National Association for Professors of Hebrew** conference at Boston University  
— **Mira Angrist**, Senior Lecturer, Head of Hebrew Language Program

**Who Will Write Our History?** Film screening at the International Holocaust Remembrance Day event  
— **Nancy Harrowitz**, Professor of Italian, Director of Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights Studies minor program.

## COLLABORATIONS AND CO-SPONSORSHIPS

### PARTNERS

- African American Studies
- Boston Playwrights' Theatre
- BU Alumni Association
- BU Arts Initiative
- BU Hillel
- Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences
- College of Arts and Sciences Dean of the Humanities
- CAS Academic Enhancement Fund
- CAS Core Curriculum
- Center for the Humanities
- Institute for the Study of Muslim Societies and Civilizations
- Kilachand Honors College
- NEH Distinguished Teaching Professorship
- Office of the Provost
- Pardee School of Global Studies Institute on Culture, Religion and World Affairs (CURA)
- Pardee School Mudarri Fund for Arab Culture
- Romance Studies
- School of Theology
- Howard Thurman Center for Common Ground
- World Languages and Literature

### Co-Sponsorship Highlights

#### Re-Reading Bonhoeffer in History

Lecture by **Victoria Barnett**

October 4, 2018

The subject of numerous books and films, the German theologian and resistance figure Dietrich Bonhoeffer is widely viewed as an iconic symbol of Christian resistance against National Socialism. Bonhoeffer expert Victoria Barnett explored how recent research offers some provocative new insights into Bonhoeffer's significance on the historical stage. Victoria Barnett serves as director of the US Holocaust Memorial Museum's Programs on Ethics, Religion, and the Holocaust. The talk was co-sponsored by the Pardee School of Global Studies Institute on Culture, Religion and World Affairs (CURA) and the Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights Studies Program.

#### Film Screening: **Who Will Write Our History?**

January 27, 2019

In honor of International Holocaust Remembrance Day, the Elie Wiesel Center co-sponsored a screening of "Who Will Write Our History?" directed by Roberta Grossman. This film tells the story of Jewish resistance within Auschwitz. The Oyneg Shabes archive reveals a collective of journalists and scholars who fought back against the Nazi regime within the camps. On the day commemorating the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp on January 27, 1945, hundreds of venues screened this film to remember their courage and sacrifice. Co-Sponsored by AJC New England, the Jewish Cultural Endowment, co-sponsored by the Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights Studies Program and the Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies at Boston University, with promotional support from Boston Jewish Film Festival.

#### Lecture: **Werner Herzog "Every man for himself, and God against all"**

March 25, 2019

Werner Herzog, the internationally acclaimed writer, director, and filmmaker whose career spans more than half a century, appeared at Tsai Performance Center to discuss his current work, focused on digital filmmaking. Moderated by Herbert Golder, a College of Arts & Sciences professor of classical studies and a filmmaker who has collaborated with Herzog on numerous projects. Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies is a major co-sponsor of this new series, BU Lectures in the Arts and Ideas. Other co-sponsors included Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, Kilachand Honors College, Office of the Provost, BU Center for the Humanities, BU Arts Initiative, CAS Core Curriculum, BU Alumni Association, and NEH Distinguished Teaching Professorship.

#### COMMUNITY CO-SPONSORS

- **AJC New England**
- **Boston Jewish Film**
- **Israeli Stage**
- **Jewish Arts Collaborative**

## OUTREACH AND MEDIA

### Communications Team

The Elie Wiesel Center welcomed two new communications team members this year.

**Katherine Gianni**, a BU College of Communications alumna, began her work as Communications Assistant in February, 2019. She is joined by Graduate Communications Assistant **Carolyn Barschow**, who is completing her Master of Divinity at the BU School of Theology. Together, the two have worked to grow the Elie Wiesel Center's social media reach across all platforms.

In February, Gianni began the new Elie Wiesel Center blog site, 'Notes from EWCJS.' On the site, she, and EWCJS Director Michael Zank, post articles and updates on preeminent Center events, Jewish holidays, and academic program news.

In April, The Elie Wiesel Center was invited by members of the FRONTLINE PBS communications team to join a live #frontlinePBS twitter chat during the broadcast premiere of The Last Survivors. The documentary shared powerful testimony from some of the last living survivors of the Holocaust.

On Facebook and Instagram, the Center continued to offer live video coverage of our public events, all of which remain archived on our pages and reached hundreds of unique viewers. Barschow and Gianni have also continued to work on website updates, with plans for a new site which may launch as early as Winter, 2019 in collaboration with the College of Arts & Sciences Integrated Marketing and Communications team.

### Press Mentions

April 7, 2019

[www.wbur.org/worldofideas/2019/04/07/braun](http://www.wbur.org/worldofideas/2019/04/07/braun)  
Protectors of Pluralism: Religious Minorities and the Rescue of Jews in the Low Countries During the Holocaust

April 15, 2019

[www.jewishboston.com/are-the-u-s-and-israel-headed-for-divorce/](http://www.jewishboston.com/are-the-u-s-and-israel-headed-for-divorce/)  
Are the U.S. and Israel Headed for Divorce?  
An examination of a conversation with Peter Beinart, Lori Hope Lefkovitz, Dov Waxman, Rachel Fish and Eve Spangler.

April 16, 2019

[www.bu.edu/today/2019/peter-beinart-yitzhak-rabin-memorial-lecture/](http://www.bu.edu/today/2019/peter-beinart-yitzhak-rabin-memorial-lecture/)  
BU's Rabin Lecture Outlines Split among American Jews

Keep up with us on Social Media!

**Twitter:** @BUjewishstudies

**Facebook:** facebook.com/ewcjs

**Instagram:** @ewcjs

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are thankful to our alumni and community members who supported us this year and helped us to sustain and expand the activities of the Center. We extend a special thank you to Mr. Jonathan Krivine and Mrs. Gunda Trepp for their ongoing friendship and support. We are grateful to the following friends of the Center for their generous donations in the past year:

Lauren J. Abeles  
Joel C. Abramson  
Susan N. Alport  
Barbara D. Atkins  
Amy Backus  
Karen L. Barber  
Dennis D. Berkey Ph.D  
Ellen Bovarnick Esq.  
Brianna C. Bright  
Olga Brown  
Marlee E. Caine  
Jonathan D. Canter Esq.  
Merrill Chaus-Herzenberg  
Arnold Clickstein  
Samantha Cohen  
Ronald E. Czik  
Alexandria M. Diskin  
Brian C. Engles  
Steven R. Feinstein  
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund  
Norman H. Finkelstein  
Ronald J. Fishman  
Ellen G. Forst  
Robin A. Friedman  
Linda D. Gershman  
Benjamin Gerson M.D.  
Teresa M. Gilhooly  
Daniel Grauer  
Eric B. Gross Esq.  
Douglas S. Harte D.M.D  
Martha Hauptman  
Stuart H. Hersh  
Carrie B. Jochelson  
Kaitz & Siegel Geriatric Care  
Pamela A. Kaplan  
Deborah L. Katchko-Gray  
Rebecca A. Katz  
Tamara B. Kei  
David S. Kestenbaum Esq.  
Deeana C. Klepper Ph.D.  
KPMG  
Jonathan N. Krivine  
David Lee  
Dana R. Levin  
Judy Levin-Charns  
Sheila K. Lewis

Francine K. Lipman  
Sarah L. MacMillen  
Marilyn & Mike Grossman Foundation  
Mark I Gutt D.M.D., P.A.  
Judith A. McCabe  
Melvin R. McKenzie Jr., USA  
Shira Megerman  
Alan V. Meirzon  
Stephen Melamed  
Robyn Miller  
John W. Miller  
Michael G. Morrison  
Benjamin Z. Olds  
Marjorie R. Oolie  
Lee S. Parks  
Poorva S. Parnaik  
Caroline Renner M.D.  
Sharron E. Rich  
Sean D. Rimokh  
George R. Sachs  
Judith B. Saks  
Ofer K. Shemtov  
Cheryl Shields  
Susan C. Shulman  
Alan E. Siegel Ed.D.  
Ashley E. Simmons  
Jeremy D. Singer  
Linda C. Sklar  
Candice Stark  
Bobbie Surott Kimberly  
Michael Swartz  
Temple Beth Israel  
Donna Tente  
The Aitz Hayim Center for Jewish Living  
Roxanne Theng  
Michelle L. Thompson  
Cheyenne M. Tipton  
Caren A. Vondell  
Joshua D. Weissman M.D.  
Wieden And Kennedy, Inc  
Alissa R. Woska  
Michael E. Zank

PHOTOGRAPHY FOR 2018-19 BY:  
DAVE GREEN, BILL MCCORMACK, KATHERINE GIANNI

ANNUAL REPORT:  
EDITED BY CAROLYN BARSCHOW AND KATHERINE GIANNI  
COVER ILLUSTRATION "ELIE WIESEL" BY MIRIAM SHENITZER  
DESIGNED BY EIKE WINTZER

EWCJS STAFF:  
MICHAEL ZANK, DIRECTOR  
INGRID ANDERSON, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR  
THERESA COONEY, PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR  
KATHERINE GIANNI, COMMUNICATIONS ASSISTANT (2019)  
LAUREN LEBLANC, COMMUNICATIONS ASSISTANT (2018)  
CAROLYN BARSCHOW, GRADUATE STUDENT ASSISTANT

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT EMPLOYEES:  
TALLULAH BARK-HUSS, DENI BUDMAN,  
CONNOR DEDRICK



**ELIE  
WIESEL**  
מרכז אלי ויזל ללימודי יהדות  
**CENTER FOR  
JEWISH STUDIES**

2018 - 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

