July 2021

Visiting Scholars

**Deracination and Racialization in Martin Buber's Hasidic Tales**Sam Shonkoff, Taube Family Assistant Professor of Jewish Studies, Graduate Theological Union

Monday July 5th, 20:00 (Israel time)

Time capsule - Works from the depths of darkness come to light

**“Es Ist Nacht”**

The songs Paul Ben-Haim did not want us to hear

Dr. Gila Flam, head of the Music Department and the National Sound Archive, NLI

Tuesday, 26 Tamuz, July 06, 18:00

Summary: The Israeli composer Paul Ben-Haim escaped Germany when the Nazis rose to power. In his attempts to leave Germany behind, he shelved the works he had composed back in his native land. Shortly before his passing, the composer’s archive, containing the pieces he did not want us to hear, was gifted to the National Library. Dr. Flam invites you into the secret world of Paul Ben-Haim.

Image: Sheet music of Paul Ben-Haim’s early work, which he wished to destroy. Manuscript, Paul Ben-Haim archive, Music Department, NLI

Link: <https://nlisrael.typeform.com/to/tppsAif6>

Homework - Researchers invite the audience to sneak a peek at their work

**Reading *Mein Kampf*: Entering the Walled Garden**

Prof. Oded Heilbronner, Cultural Studies Department, Shenkar College

Wednesday, 27 Tamuz, July 7, 18:00

Summary: July 1925 saw the first publication of Adolf Hitler’s book *Mein Kampf*. This is an opportunity to examine why it is considered one of the most influential books of the 20th century and why, to this day, it has not been fully translated into Hebrew.

Image: A caricature from the satire column of the German magazine *Simplicissimus*, 1925. Hitler begging the people to read his book *Mein Kampf*.

Link: <https://nlisrael.typeform.com/to/ip1dENqd>

Visiting Scholars

**Medieval Jewish Daily Life Meets Israeli Art**  
Prof. Elisheva Baumgarten, Yitzchak Becker professor of Jewish Studies, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Sunday, July 11th, 19:00

Homework - Researchers invite the audience to sneak a peek at their work

**Reading and Rereading – The Alphabet Book of Tom Seidmann-Freud**

The artist Hadassa Goldvicht in conversation on the subject of letters, the senses, and the unpublished book of the artist Tom Seidmann-Freud, which is at the heart of Goldvicht’s latest exhibition.

Monday, 3 Av, July 12, 18:00

Summary: Niece to the father of psychoanalysis, Tom Seidmann-Freud is considered a pioneer in the field of the illustration of children’s books in Hebrew. Her encounter with Shmuel Yosef Agnon gave rise to the revolutionary idea of publishing an alphabet book featuring her unique illustrations. However, the book never saw the light of day and the colorful letters were secreted away. The artist Hadassa Goldvicht revisits this forgotten yet groundbreaking figure.

Image: Hadassa Goldvicht, the Alphabet book, 2021, Salman Schocken Archive

Link: <https://nlisrael.typeform.com/to/Y7tOGJGC>

Visiting Scholars

**Jewish Fiction Written in 16 Languages:  
Stories as Reflections of Jewish Life Across Time and Place**Dr. Nora Gold, Founder and Editor-in-Chief of the online literary journal Jewish Fiction .net

Tuesday, July 13th, 20:00 (Israel time)

Homework - Researchers invite the audience to sneak a peek at their work

**The Tzabar Who Missed Eretz Israel – A Short Story and an Exploration of the Political Poetics of S. Yizhar**

Dr. Amit Asis, Hebrew literature researcher and lecturer

Wednesday, 5 Av, July 14, 18:00

Summary: To come

Image: Yizhar 1951, Wikipedia

Link: : <https://nlisrael.typeform.com/to/YfffT3Rx>

Homework - Researchers invite the audience to sneak a peek at their work

**On Fathers and Sons – The story of the estrangement and the relationship between the greatest among Yiddish authors, Isaac Bashevis Singer, and his only son, Israel Zamir, as it emerges from the Zamir Archive at the NLI. In honor of the 30 year anniversary of Bashevis Singer’s passing.**

Dr. Merav Chen, Bashevis Singer’s granddaughter and head of the Psychology Department at Tel-Hai College

Wednesday, 12 Av, July 21, 18:00

Summary: For twenty years, starting when Israel Zamir was five years old, he had not seen his father, the author and Nobel laureate, Isaac Bashevis Singer. When the two finally met again, each found himself looking at a stranger, a different person. Only years later did the author Israel Zamir dare to dive into his father’s writings, to deal with the distance, and to fall in love with his words. Bashevis’s granddaughter, Zamir’s daughter, tells the story of fathers and sons.

Image: Israel Zamir sitting on the “Bashevis Singer bench” in the town of Bilgoraj, Poland.

Link: <https://nlisrael.typeform.com/to/O6rb1ARj>

Homework - Researchers invite the audience to sneak a peek at their work

**In honor of Eid al-Adha: “Marking Holy Time” – An Introduction to the Islamic Calendar**

Prof. Miri Shefer Mossensohn, Faculty of Middle Eastern and African History, Zvi Yavetz School of Historical Studies, Tel Aviv University.

Thursday, 13 Av, July 22, 18:00

Summary: The Islamic Calendar is based exclusively on the moon cycle, without adjustments to the solar year. Therefore, holy dates in Islam are not fixed but rather occur at different times each year, sometimes even in different seasons. The secret of Muslim timekeeping is explored in Professor Miri Shefer-Mossensohn’s lecture.

Image: Al-Mumti sharh al-muqni fi ilm al-miqat by Abu Abdallah al-Marghithi al-Susi (d. 1678), copied 1815, NLI

Link: <https://nlisrael.typeform.com/to/DecR7Uls>