



## UNDERGRADUATE JUDAIC STUDIES CONFERENCE

SUNDAY • FEBRUARY 17, 2019

Bingham Hall

Comparative Literature Library

Yale University

### KEYNOTE SPEAKER

# *Against Wissenschaft*



**Susannah Heschel**

**SUSANNAH HESCHEL** is the Eli Black Professor and chair of the Jewish Studies Program at Dartmouth College. She is the author of *Abraham Geiger and the Jewish Jesus* and *The Aryan Jesus: Christian Theologians and the Bible in Nazi Germany* as well as edited volumes, including *Insider/Outsider: American Jews and Multiculturalism*

and *Betrayal: German Churches and the Holocaust*. She has been a visiting professor at the Universities of Cape Town, Frankfurt, Edinburgh, and Princeton, and has held research grants from the Carnegie Foundation, the Ford Foundation, the National Humanities Center, and the Wissenschaftskolleg in Berlin. She is a Guggenheim Fellow and is studying the history of European Jewish scholarship on Islam. Her first book on that topic has just been published in German, *Jüdischer Islam: Islam und jüdisch-deutsche Selbstbestimmung*. She has also just published a co-edited volume with Umar Ryad, *The Muslim Reception of European Orientalism*.

# SCHEDULE

**9:00–9:30 AM Breakfast**

**9:30–9:45 AM Opening Remarks**

**9:45–11:00 AM Session 1: Talmudic and Biblical Personae**

*The Mouthpiece of God: Josephus' Idealized Portrayal of Moses and his Mechanics of Prophecy and Divine Revelation*

**Theo Motzkin** Harvard University

*'Leave him, as I will respond: 'The Caesar's Daughter and Rabbinic Views of Women*

**Avigayil Halper** Yale University

*Zooming in and Out: Stories of Judith in the Construction of Jewish and Christian Identity*

**Reuven Herzog** Yeshiva University

**11:00–11:15 AM Break**

**11:15 AM–12:30 PM Session 2: Judaism and the Premodern Public**

*The Paris Talmud Trial of 1240: Camouflaged Prejudice and Contextualized Interpretation*

**Aaron Forman** Carleton College

*The Story of Print's Influence on the Halakhic Sphere in Early Modern Ashkenaz*

**Arielle Solomon** Columbia University

*Between a Psak and a Hard Place: The Italian Jewish Community in the 1550s and the Battle over the Printing of the Zohar*

**Sam Mellins** University of Chicago

**12:30–2:00 PM Lunch**

**2:00–3:15 PM Session 3: Literature, Prophecy, Modernity**

*Sam Glauber-Zimra, "Magnetic Maskilim: Preliminary Remarks on Mesmerism in the Literature of the Haskalah" (Columbia University)*

*Ambiguity and Argument: Reading An-sky Philosophically*

**Jacob Kaplan-Lipkin** Stanford University

*Drawing Aside the Curtain: Boundaries and Reconciliation in Leonard Cohen's Book of Mercy*

**Hannah Srour** McGill University

**3:15–3:30 PM Break**

**3:30–4:45 PM Session 4: Twentieth-Century Race and Ethnicity**

*Explaining Rapid Arabic Language Decline Amongst Mizrahi Jews in Israel*

**Olivia Rosenzweig** University of Chicago

*You Don't Mess with Israel-Palestine: Why 'Zohan' Stands Alone as Hollywood's Treatment of a Divisive Conflict*

**Gidon Halbfinger** Columbia University

*James Baldwin, Brandeis University, and the Question of Jewish-American Whiteness*

**Alona Weimer** Brandeis University

**5:00–6:00 PM Keynote Speaker**

*Against Wissenschaft*

**Professor Susannah Heschel** Dartmouth College

**6:30 PM Dinner for Conference Presenters and Organizers**