Becoming frum, evangelical and Jews & other topics

The University of Minnesota Center for Jewish Studies is pleased to present its Ninth Annual Community Lecture Series, in cooperation with synagogues and other sponsoring partners across the greater Twin Cities. Join us as writers and thinkers from varied fields address intriguing questions relevant to the Jewish experience today.

This series is made possible by a generous gift in memory of Julia K. & Harold Segall.

Events are free and open to the public. A reception follows each talk.

The Center for Jewish Studies is a premier center for scholarship, education, and dialogue about Jewish history and culture. With 23 faculty members, the center is an intellectual hub for scholars from diverse fields. Home to an undergraduate program in Jewish studies, the center sponsors classes and conferences, supports emerging scholars, partners with the community on cultural activities, and creates bridges for community dialogue.

REBUILDING THE COMMUNITY
Jewish Life in Germany after the Shoah

JAY GELLER, Case Western Reserve University

Jay Geller is the Samuel Rosenthal Professor of Judaic Studies and associate professor of history at Case Western Reserve University. He specializes in Jewish history and modern European history, with a focus on Germany. He is the author of Jews in Post-Holocaust Germany and co-editor of Three-Way Street: Germans, Jews, and the Transnational, with Leslie Mor-Ites. He is at work on a biography of Gershom Scholem and his family.

Even after the Shoah, Jews chose to settle in Germany. Who were these Jews, now numbering nearly 200,000, and why did they decide to remain in a country that had been hostile to their very existence only a few years earlier? How did they deal with antago-nism by German neighbors and isolation by Jewish groups abroad? Jay Geller explores the circumstances that led to a renewed Jewish community in post-Holocaust Germany and the alliances that permitted it to flourish.

October 28, 2012 @ 7:30 p.m. Beth El Synagogue
5224 W. 26th Street, St. Louis Park; 952-873-7300
Co-sponsors: U of M Dept. of German, Scandinavian and Dutch, Dept. of History, Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies; Beth El Synagogue

ILLUSTRATED JEWISH BOOKS OF TIME
ELISHEVA CARLEBACH, Columbia University

Elisheva Carlebach is Salo Baron Professor of Jewish History, Culture, and Society at Columbia University. She specializes in the cultural and intellectual history of the Jews in early modern Western Europe. She is the author of The Pursuit of Heresy (winner of the National Jewish Book Award; Divided Souls: Jewish Converts to Christianity; and most recently, Palaces of Time: Jewish Calendar and Culture in Early Modern Europe. She has served fellowships from the New York Public Library Center for Scholars and Writers, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Tikvah Center of NYU Law School. She is president of the American Academy for Jewish Research.

November 18, 2012 @ 7:30 p.m., Adath Jeshurun Congregation
10500 Hillside Lane W., Minnetonka; 952-545-2424
Co-sponsors: U of M Center for Medieval Studies, Dept. of History, Religious Studies, and Dept. of Classical and Near Eastern Studies; Darchei Noam; Adath Jeshurun Congregation

THE HOLOCAUST AND THE DIRTY WAR
Jewish Art and Literature in Argentina

AMY KAMINSKY, University of Minnesota

Amy Kaminsky is professor of gender, women, and sexuality studies at the University of Minnesota. Her most recent book, Argentina: Stories for a Nation, includes a chapter on the Holocaust is reflected by these Jewish writers and artists in their compelling works.

December 5, 2012 @ 7:30 p.m., Shir Tikvah Congregation
1360 W. Minnehaha Parkway, Minneapolis; 612-822-1440
Co-sponsors: U of M Dept. of Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies, Dept. of Spanish and Portuguese Studies, Center for Holocaust & Genocide Studies, Institute for Global Studies; Shir Tikvah Congregation

VIEWS OF JEWS IN 19TH-CENTURY DENMARK
From Hans Christian Andersen to Søren Kierkegaard

POUL HOUE, University of Minnesota

Poul Houe is professor of Scandinavian languages and literature at the University of Minnesota. His research focuses on 19th- and 20th-century Scandinavian literature and culture, specifically travel and exile literature in the context of modern European humanism. His work has explored transnational issues and cultural transformation. His books include a collection of essays on Hans Christian Andersen and two co-edited volumes on Søren Kierkegaard.

February 6, 2013 @ 7:30 p.m., Mount Zion Temple
1300 Summit Avenue, St. Paul; 651-968-3881
Co-sponsors: U of M Dept. of German, Scandinavian and Dutch; Jewish Community Relations Council; Mount Zion Temple; Jay Phillips Center for Interfaith Learning at St. John’s University and the University of St. Thomas; St. Paul Jewish Community Center

AN UNPRECEDEDNT RELATIONSHIP
Evangelicals, Jews, Israel and the Messianic Times

YAAYKOV ARIEL, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

What brings born-again Christians to take interest in Jews, contribute to Jewish causes, and offer political backing to the state of Israel? Yaakov Ariel will explore the historical roots and theological motivation of the evangelical interest in the Jews since the 19th century. He will discuss the complexities of the unexpected evangelical-Jewish friendship and the ambivalent Jewish reactions, as well as the reaction of non-evangelical Christians and Arabs. Yaakov Ariel is professor of religious studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His research focuses on evangelical Christianity and its attitudes towards the Jewish people and the Holy Land; on Christian-Jewish relations in the late modern era; and on the Jewish reaction to modernity and postmodernity. His new book, All Unusual Relationships: Evangelicals and Jews, is scheduled to appear in 2013.

March 4, 2013 @ 7:30 p.m., Temple Israel
2324 Emerson Avenue S, Minneapolis; 612-377-8680
Co-sponsors: U of M Religious Studies, Dept. of Classical and Near Eastern Studies, Dept. of American Studies; Jewish Community Relations Council, Temple Israel, Jay Phillips Center for Interfaith Learning at St. John’s University and the University of St. Thomas

ILLUSTRATED JEWISH BOOKS OF TIME
ELISHEVA CARLEBACH, Columbia University

For many of Argentina’s Jews, especially those deeply affected by state terror of the military junta of 1976–84, the Holocaust resonates deeply with their own nation’s War. For Jews outside of Argentina, the comparison may seem impossible. Yet writers such as Manuela Fingueret and Nora Strejilevich make the connections clear—as do artists Guillermo Kurti, Mirta Kupferminc, and Marcelo Brodsky. Amy Kaminsky explores how and why the Holocaust is reflected by these Jewish writers and artists in their compelling works.

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BECOMING FRUM: How Newcomers Learn the Language and Culture of Orthodox Judaism

SARAH BENOR, Hebrew Union College

Becoming Orthodox (frum) is more than observing religious laws. Newly Orthodox Jews, or ba’alei teshuva (BTs, “those who return”), encounter a very different culture, including new ways of talking, dressing, and acting. Focusing on the Yiddish- and Hebrew-influenced English speech of Orthodox Jews, Sarah Benor explores how BTs integrate into the community partly through these new practices.

Sarah Brunin Benor is associate professor of contemporary Jewish studies at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (Los Angeles) and adjunct associate professor of linguistics at the University of Southern California. She is the author of Becoming Frum: How Newcomers Learn the Language and Culture of Orthodox Judaism, and has published and lectured widely about Jewish languages, linguistics, Yiddish, American Jews, and Orthodox Jews. She is founding editor of the Journal of Jewish Languages and the Jewish language research website.

May 8, 2013 | 7:30 p.m., Beth Jacob Congregation
1179 Victoria Curve, St. Paul; 651-452-2226
Co-sponsors: U of M Dept. of German, Scandinavian and Dutch, Dept. of Anthropology; Beth Jacob Congregation, St. Paul Jewish Community Center

BECOME A FRIEND OF JEWISH STUDIES
Your gift will ensure our growth and success

The Center for Jewish Studies has been able to grow through generous gifts from community members who recognize the importance of Jewish scholarly inquiry and dialogue. Your contribution will help provide scholarships to Jewish studies students, support our lecture series and academic programs, bring distinguished scholars to the U of M campus and the community, and ensure the continued growth of the CJS.

Gifts by mail may be sent to: University of Minnesota Foundation, C-M 3854, P.O. Box 70870, St. Paul, MN 55170-3854 (make out checks to U of M Foundation with “Center for Jewish Studies” on the subject line). Gifts also may be made online at jwst.umn.edu.

To discuss how you can become a CJS Friend, contact center director Daniel Schroeter (612-624-4914 or schro800@umn.edu), or Mary Hicks, College of Liberal Arts director of external relations (612-625-5541 or hicks002@umn.edu). Thank you for your vital support.

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IN MEMORY OF JULIA K. & HAROLD SEGALL