

**Hebraic Aspects of the Renaissance: Sources and Encounters**  
**University of Haifa, May 11-13, 2009**

An International Conference Sponsored by:

**University of Haifa**

Faculty of the Humanities

Sir Isaac and Lady Edith Wolfson Chair in Jewish Thought and Heritage

The Center for the Study of Jewish Culture.

Centre de Civilisation Française

The Association for Medieval and Renaissance Studies

The Posen Research Forum

Shalem Center, Jerusalem

Institut Français, Ambassade de France

Consul de France, Haifa

**Day 1**

Welcome Notes

Keynote I

Kabbalah I

Kabbalah II

Religious Identities and Contexts I

Keynote II

Reception Evening

**Day 2**

Hebraism, Poetry, and Drama I

Poetry, and Drama II ,Hebraism

Philology Hebraism and Scholarship I :Antiquarianism and

Hebraism and Scholarship II : Chronology and Geography

Identities and Contexts II Religious

**Day 3**

Practice The Hebrew Language and Its

Hebraism and Political Theory I

II Hebraism and Political Theory

Isaac Abravanel

Yehudah Abravanel

Ending Note

**Day 1, May 11, 2009**

**8:30-9:00**

Registration and gathering, coffee

**9:00-9:45**

Welcome notes

**Chair: Ilana Zinguer**

Ambassadeur de France / Attaché Culturel

**Dean / Rector**

**Ilana Zinguer** (Centre de recherche de Civilisation Française)

**9:45-10:45**

Keynote I

**Chair: Ilana Zinguer**

**Georges Molinié** (Président, Sorbonne, Paris IV)

Postures et images juives par rapport à la culture baroque

Pause-----

**11:00-12:30**

Kabbalah I

**Chair: Bernard Cooperman**

**Lina Bolzoni** (Scuola Normale di Pisa)

Giulio Camillo's Memory Theatre and the Kabbalah

**Roni Weinstein** (University of Pisa)

Sixteenth-Century Jewish Mysticism as a Catholic Baroque Phenomenon

**Yossi Chajes** (University of Haifa)

It's Good to See the King : Toward an Historical Anthropology of Early Modern

Jewish Cosmological Cartography

**12:30**

Lunch break

**14:00-15:30**

Kabbalah II

**Chair: Lina Bolzoni**

**Bernard Cooperman** (University of Maryland)

Kabbalistic Enthusiasms of a Rabbi for Hire. The Sermons of Isaac di Lattes

**Sheila Rabin** (St. Peter's College)

Pico, Astrology, and Kabbalah

**Dvora Bregman** (Ben Gurion University)

Notes on the Poetry of Moses Zacuto

Pause-----

**15:45-17:30**

Religious Identities and Contexts I

**Chair: Frank Lestringant** (Paris Sorbonne)

**Ilana Zinguer** (University of Haifa)

L'implicite à propos des Juifs de Rome (Journal de Voyage, Montaigne)

**Annie Molinié** (Sorbonne, Paris IV) and

**Béatrice Perez** (Université de Rennes)

Les premiers jésuites d'origine "conversa" (deuxième moitié du XVIe siècle): Diego Lainez, Polanco et les autres

**Giuseppe Veltri** (University of Halle)

Defining Jewish "Rituals" in the Early Modern Period: History of a Philosophical-Political Concept

**17:30-18:00**

Coffee break-----

**18:00-19:00**

Keynote II

**Chair: Abraham Melamed**

**Joanna Weinberg** (Oxford University)

Jewish Wisdom and the Limits of Christian Hebraism

**20:00**

**Reception** (Consul de France, Haifa)

**Frank Lestringant** (Sorbonne, Paris IV)

Kabbale et cosmographie, de Guillaume Postel à Jacques d'Auzoles-Lapeyre

**May 12, 2009 ,Day 2**

**8:30-9:00**

Gathering, coffee

**9:00-10:30**

Hebraism, Poetry, and Drama I

**Chair : Ofir Haivry** (The Shalem Center)

**Lauren Silberman** (CUNY)

Aaron, The Brother Who Proves the Rule: Typological Negotiations in Titus Andronicus

**Konrad Eisenbichler** (University of Toronto)

Ancient Israel in the Religious Theatre of Renaissance Italy

**Nancy Rosenfeld** (University of Haifa)

'The Law of Moses as well as the Devil, Death, and Hell': John Bunyan and Christian Kabbalah

Pause-----

**10:45-12:45**

Hebraism, Poetry, and Drama II

**Chair: Dvora Bregman** (Ben Gurion University)

**Elliott Simon** (University of Haifa)

From Maimonides to Sir Philip Sidney: The Poet's Prophetic Voice

**Chanita Goodblatt** (Ben Gurion University )

"Thy Firmness makes my Circles Just/And makes me end, where I begunne":

Abraham Ibn Ezra and John Donne as Poet-Exegetes

**Noam Flinker** (University of Haifa)

"Free as the Road": George Herbert's Hebraic Texts

**Philip Ford** (Cambridge University)

The Place of Hebrew Poetry in the Teaching of Charles Utenhove

**12:45**

Lunch break-----

**14:15-15:45**

Hebraism and Scholarship I: Antiquarianism and Philology

**Chair : Philip Ford** (Cambridge University)

**Arthur Eyffinger** (Huygens Institute)

Biblical Philology at Leiden University

**Daniel Stein-Kokin** (Yale University)

Egidio da Viterbo and Christian Hebraism in High Renaissance Rome.

**Jonathan Elukin** (Trinity College Hartford)

The Urim and Thumim and Christian Hebraism

Pause-----

**16:00-17:30**

Hebraism and Scholarship II: Chronology and Geography

**Chair : Jonathan Elukin** (Trinity College Hartford)

**Avner Ben Zaken** (Harvard Society of Fellows)

Hebraist Motives, Pythagorean Itineraries, and the Galilean Agendas of Naples: On the Margins of Text and Context

**Zur Shalev** ( University of Haifa)

Benjamin of Tudela, Spanish Discoverer

**Fabrizio Lelli** (University of Lecce)

The Role of Early Renaissance Geographical Discoveries in Yohanan Alemanno's Messianic Thought

**17:30-18:00**

Coffee break-----

**18:00-19:15**

Religious Identities and Contexts II

**Chair: Myriam Yardeni** (University of Haifa)

**Sina Rauschenbach** (University of Halle)

Dealing with Jewish Knowledge: Menasseh Ben Israel and the Christian Republica Litteraria

**Alessandro Guetta** (INALCO – Paris)

The Debate on the Immortality of the soul in Early Modern Italy: a symptom of closer Jewish-Christian dialogue?

**Day 3, May 13, 2009**

**8:30-9:00**

Gathering, coffee

**9:00-10:45**

The Hebrew Language and Its Practice

**Chair: Noam Flinker** (University of Haifa)

**Arthur Lesley** (Baltimore Hebrew College)

Yohanan Alemanno's Formulation of Hebrew Rhetorical Practice.

**Kenneth Stow** (University of Haifa)

Negotiating Self-Governance: Hebrew in the Service of Running the Jewish Universit?.

**Yaacov Deutsch** (Hebrew University and Center for Jewish Studies at Harvard University)

Converting the New Testament: Hebrew Translations of the New Testament in the Early Modern Period

Pause-----

**11:00-12:30**

Hebraism and Political Theory I

**Chair: Arthur Eyffinger** (Huygens Institute)

**Lea Campos Boralevi** (University of Florence)

The Rise and Fall of the *Respublica Hebraeorum* as a Political Model in Early Modern Europe

**Meirav Jones** (The Shalem Center)

Philo Judaeus and Jewish Harmony in Grotius' Laws of War and Peace

**Yitzhak Lifshitz** (The Shalem Center)

The Revival of the ideas of Medieval Ashkenaz in the 15th Century Political Thought of R. Yisrael Iserlin

**12:30**

Lunch break

**14:00-15:00**

Hebraism and Political Theory II

**Chair: Zur Shalev** (University of Haifa)

**Ofir Haivry** (The Shalem Center)

Jewish Sources of John Selden's Idea of Church-State Relations

**Fania Oz-Salzberger** (University of Haifa)

The social reading of the Bible by English thinkers of the mid 17th century

Coffee break-----

**15:15-16:45**

Isaac Abravanel

**Chair : Arthur Lesley**

**Cedric Cohen Skalli** (Tel Aviv University)

Isaac and Yehudah Abravanel on Genesis: A Case of Jewish Reception of Florentine Platonism

**Vasileios Syros** (University of Helsinki)

The Political Function of Rhetoric in Don Isaac Abravanel's Political Thought

**Abraham Melamed** (University of Haifa)

The Reception of Abravanel in Early Modern Political Thought

**16:45-17:15**

Coffee break-----

**17:15-18:15**

Yehudah Abravanel

Chair : **Georges Molinié** (Sorbonne, Paris IV)

**Tristan Dagron** (CNRS-Paris)

Giordano Bruno, lecteur des Dialoghi d'amore de Leone Ebreo

**James W. Nelson Novoa** (Villanova University)

Leone Ebreo's Dialoghi d'amore as a Pivotal Document of Judeo-Christian Relations  
in Renaissance Rome

**18:15-17:00**

Ending Note

**David Baum** (West Texas State A&M University)

Anti-Semitism, Race and the Renaissance in Fascist Italy