

Rachel Seelig

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EDUCATION

University of Chicago **2005-2011**

Ph.D. in Jewish Studies awarded 2011

Dissertation: "Between Center and Periphery: Transnational Jewish Literature in Weimar Berlin" Committee: Paul Mendes-Flohr (Adviser), Eric Santner and Jan Schwarz

M.A. in Jewish Studies awarded 2009

Stanford University **1999-2003**

B.A. in Comparative Literature (German and Hebrew), with Honors and Distinction

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of Toronto **2019-present**

Sessional instructor, Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures

Harvard University **Fall 2019**

Gerard Weinstock Visiting Lecturer of Jewish Studies, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations and Department of Comparative Literature; Alan M. Stroock Fellow in Advanced Research in Judaica, Center for Jewish Studies

Columbia University **Winter 2018**

Lecturer, Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies, Department of Germanic Languages

University of Michigan **2016-2017**

Institute Fellow, Frankel Institute for Advanced Judaic Studies

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem **2013-2015**

Fellow, Mandel Scholion Interdisciplinary Research Institute in Humanities and Jewish Studies

University of Toronto **2011-2013**

Ray D. Wolfe Postdoctoral Fellow, Centre for Jewish Studies

BOOKS

The German-Hebrew Dialogue: Studies of Encounter and Exchange, co-editor with Amir Eshel. Perspectives on Jewish Texts and Contexts Series (Berlin: De Gruyter, 2017)

Strangers in Berlin: Modern Jewish Literature between East and West, 1919-1933 (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2016), Canadian Jewish Literary Award winner 2017

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES & BOOK CHAPTERS

"Opening the Dialogue," with Amir Eshel. Introduction to *The German Hebrew Dialogue: Studies of Encounter and Exchange* (Berlin: De Gruyter, 2017), 1-15.

"Stuttering in Verse: Tuvia Rübner and the Art of Self-Translation," in *The German-Hebrew Dialogue*, 77-103.

“‘Like a Barren Sheet of Paper’: Rokhl Korn Between Galician Orchards and Post-War Montreal,” *Prooftexts: A Journal of Jewish Literary History* 34.3 (Winter 2014): 349-377.

“Unsettling the Land: Ludwig Strauss’s Journey from German Romanticism to Neoclassical Hebrew,” *Modern Language Notes*, Vol. 128, No. 3 (April, 2013): 530-52.

“The Middleman: Ludwig Strauss’s German-Hebrew Bilingualism” *Prooftexts: A Journal of Jewish Literary History* 33.1 (Winter 2013): 76-104.

“A Yiddish Bard in Berlin: Moyshe Kulbak and the Flourishing of Yiddish Poetry in Exile” *Jewish Quarterly Review* 102.1 (February, 2012): 19-49.

“Moyshe Kulbak’s *Naye lider* and the Flourishing of Yiddish Poetry in Exile,” in *Transit und Transformation: Osteuropäisch-jüdische Migranten in Berlin 1918-1939*, eds. Verena Dohrn and Gertrud Pickhan (Göttingen: Wallstein Verlag, 2010): 293-304.

TRANSLATIONS

Tehila Hakimi, “Give Me One Day” and “Sacred and Profane,” with Adam Seelig, *The Poetry Review*, Autumn 2019 issue (from Hebrew)

Tal Hever-Chybowski, “World Hebrew,” essay published in *Mikan ve’eylakh: A Journal of Diasporic Hebrew*, Issue 1, *In geveb*, April 30, 2018 (from Hebrew)

“Mati Shemoelof, “The Berlin Prize for Hebrew Literature” (excerpt from a novel in progress), in *The German-Hebrew Dialogue*, 253-260 (from Hebrew)

J.L. Gordon, “The Tip of the *Yod*,” commentary and translation from the Hebrew, in *The Jew in the Modern World: A Documentary History*, Third Edition, eds. Paul R. Mendes-Flohr and Yehuda Reinharz (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010), 362-65.

SELECT CONFERENCE PAPERS & INVITED LECTURES

“Mentor and Pupil: On Martin Buber, Ludwig Strauss and Tuvia Rübner,” Conference in Honor of Paul Mendes-Flohr, University of Chicago, November 28, 2018

“Broken German: On Writing without Mastery,” Linguistic Homelands: Modern Hebrew, Yiddish and German, The University of Chicago, November 27, 2018

“Stuttering in Verse: Tuvia Rübner, Self-Translation and the Legacy of Multilingual Hebrew” George Washington University, Department of Classical and Near Eastern Languages and Cultures, Washington, D.C., February 13, 2017

“Transnational Memory in the Berlin Novels of Zafer Senocak and Chaim Be’er” German Studies Association Conference, October 3, 2015

“Between Languages, Between Landscapes: Ludwig Strauss’s German-Hebrew Migration” University of Michigan, Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, February 2015

“From *Zwiegespräch* to *Zweisprachigkeit*: Ludwig Strauss and the German-Jewish Legacy in Israel,” Fourth Biennial German Jewish Studies Workshop, Duke University February, 2015

“The Changing Face of the *Ostjude*: German Zionist and Non-Zionist Portrayals of East European Jewry around WWI,” European Association for Jewish Studies, Paris, July 2014

“Gertrud Kolmar’s Orientalist Expedition”

Jewish Borderlands: International Workshop at the Freie Universität Berlin, May 2014

“Poetics of Patience: Ludwig Strauss’s Journey from German Romanticism to Neoclassical Hebrew,” Arieh Ludwig Strauss between Hölderlin and Yehuda Halevi: Colloquium at the Leo Baeck Institute of Jerusalem, May 2014

“The New Jewess: Situating Gertrud Kolmar’s *Die jüdische Mutter*”

Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Boston, December 2013

“‘Like a Barren Sheet of Paper’: Rokhl Korn from Galician Orchards to the Urban Solitude of Post-War Montreal,” Lavy Colloquium, The Johns Hopkins University, October 2012

“Yiddish in Weimar Berlin,” The Goldreich Institute–Beth Shalom Aleichem Yiddish Summer Program, Tel Aviv University, July 2010

“A Yiddish Bard in Berlin: Moyshe Kulbak’s *Naye lider*,” Transforming Berlin’s Urban Space: East European Jewish Migrants in Charlottengrad and Scheunenviertel, 1918-1939, International Conference of the Freie Universität Berlin, Jüdisches Museum, October 2009

COURSES TAUGHT

University of Toronto, Germanic Languages and Literatures

“Shtetl: The Jewish Town in Modern Yiddish Literature,” Fall 2021

“Introduction to German Culture,” Winter 2019

“Investigating Kafka” (mostly in German), Winter 2013

“Where is Yiddishland?” Fall 2012

“Modern Jewish Literature in Europe,” Winter 2012

“Jewish Studies Research Seminar” (Centre for Jewish Studies), Winter 2012

“Weimar Culture and Beyond,” Fall 2011

Harvard University, Comparative Literature and Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations

“Berlin: German Capital, Jewish Center,” Fall 2019

Columbia University, Germanic Languages and Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies

“Multilingualism in Modern Jewish Literature,” Winter 2018

“The Golden Age of German-Jewish Culture,” Winter 2018

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, General and Comparative Literature

“Mother Tongue or Other Tongue? Multilingualism in Literature” (in Hebrew), 2014-15

“Cosmopolitan Berlin” (in Hebrew), 2013-14

CONFERENCES & PANELS ORGANIZED

Panel: “The Future of German-Hebrew Studies” (co-organizer)

German Studies Association Conference, September 30, 2018, Pittsburgh, PA

Panel: “Where German and Hebrew Meet: Language-Brokers and the Bilingual Imagination”

Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, December 20, 2016,” San Diego, CA

Panel: “*Berührungspunkte*: Triangulating the Discourse on Jews, Turks, and ‘Germanness’”

German Studies Association Conference, October 3, 2015, Washington D.C.

Workshop: “The German-Hebrew Dialogue in the Multilingual Era”
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, June 18, 2015

Panel: “Recovering Eastern Europe in Modern Jewish Literature” (co-organizer)
European Association for Jewish Studies Congress, July 22, 2014, Paris, France

Panel: “Motherless Tongues: Modern Jewish Literature and ‘Postmonolingualism’”
Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, December 17, 2013, Boston, MA

Symposium: “Jewish Literature Beyond Borders,” University of Toronto, October 18, 2012
Information online: <http://www.cjs.utoronto.ca/jewishliteraturebeyondborders>

PUBLIC LECTURES & ADULT EDUCATION

Limmud Toronto 2018

“*Yallah Deutschland!* Israelis in Berlin,” October 28, 2018

Na’amat Canada, Toronto Chapter

“Postwar Yiddish Culture,” Toronto, June 5, 2018

Jewish Community Center, West Bloomfield, Michigan

“Israeli Berlin: Jewish Culture in the German Capital, Then and Now,” February 8, 2016

Prosserman Jewish Community Center, Toronto, ON

“Strangers in Berlin: Jewish Literature in the Metropolis,” Fall 2016 (lecture series)
“A Ghostly Revival: Postwar Yiddish Culture,” Fall 2015 (lecture series)

Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning, Chicago, IL

“The Dramas of Jewish Living: Jewish History throughout the Ages,” 2006-2008
“Readings in *Mame-loshn*: Introduction to Modern Yiddish Literature,” 2007-2008

PODCASTS

Frankely Judaic: Jewish Studies at the University of Michigan, “Motherless Tongues: German-Hebrew Literary Exchange,” 2017

<https://soundcloud.com/user-780716487/rachel-seelig-motherless-tongues-german-hebrew-literary-exchange>

New Books Network, Interview about *Strangers in Berlin*, 2017

<http://newbooksnetwork.com/rachel-seelig-strangers-in-berlin-modern-jewish-literature-between-east-and-west-1919-1933-u-michigan-press-2016/>

RESEARCH GRANTS

Mandel Scholion Interdisciplinary Research Center Summer Research Grant, Jerusalem, 2017

Ulrich and Harriet Meyer Dissertation Year Fellowship, University of Chicago, 2010-2011

Fuerstenburg Fellowship in Jewish Studies, University of Chicago, 2009-2010

DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) Summer Language Study Grant, 2004

LANGUAGES: English, Hebrew, German, Yiddish