



## Jerusalem Development Series, Spring Speaker Series, Upcoming Programs, Shul Tours and More – February 26, 2024

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### JERUSALEM: THE HOLY CITY'S DEVELOPMENT FROM ANTIQUITY TO TODAY

Join us for an online exploration of the growth of the city from its beginnings as a small town on a hillside to the modern city it is today with Jerusalem-based tour guide Joel Haber.



#### **The First Modern Neighborhoods: 1860-1880**

Wednesday, March 13, 7:00 pm EST (online)

After millennia as a small, walled city, Jerusalem finally took its first steps beyond its walls in the middle of the 19th century. During this next phase, five new neighborhoods were built, hugging the walls. Built by different groups and funded in different manners, these first neighborhoods set up the model for the creation of what came to be known as Jerusalem's New City.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/jerusalem-the-first-modern-neighborhoods-1860-1880-tickets-796250345217?aff=oddtcreator>

### SPRING SPEAKER SERIES - JEWISH EXPERIENCES IN AMERICA

Join us online for a three-part series featuring three leading scholars discussing three very different aspects of the Jewish experience in America.



### **Jewish Name Changing in America**

Wednesday, March 20, 7:00 pm EDT (online)

Our images of name changing are frequently clichés: movie stars who adopted new names or Ellis Island officials who changed immigrants' names. Kirsten Fermaglich upends these clichés by examining previously unexplored name change petitions. In twentieth-century New York City, thousands of ordinary Jews legally changed their names to respond to institutionalized antisemitism. While name changing allowed Jewish families to achieve middle-class status, the practice also became a source of family pain and community stigma. Our speaker **Kirsten Fermaglich** is Professor of History and Jewish Studies at Michigan State University. Her most recent book, *A Rosenberg by Any Other Name: A History of Jewish Name Changing in America* (New York University Press, 2018) was awarded the Saul Viener Book Prize by the American Jewish Historical Society in June 2019.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/spring-speaker-series-jewish-name-changing-in-america-tickets-846015744867?aff=oddtcreator>

## **CSP**

We are pleased to be a partner congregation of the Orange County Jewish **Community Scholar Program (CSP)**. Please join us at an upcoming program!



### **Jews on the Silver Screen**

**Part 8 – Visible and Invisible Jewishness** – Tuesday, February 27, 1:00 pm EST (online)

Over eight enlightening weeks, we delve into the tapestry of Jewish representation, both overt and subtle, in Hollywood's history. From the pioneering Jewish visionaries who shaped global cinema to the enduring fascination with biblical narratives and the layers they hold, we uncover the intersections of culture and storytelling. We also confront and deconstruct stereotypes through the lens of Jewish gangsters and explore how cinema has exposed and healed societal ills. As we transition to adaptations of literature and the works of renowned directors like Steven Spielberg, we question the Jewish elements that lie beneath the surface. At the end of the series, we spotlight the roles of Jewish women in the industry and explore both the visible and invisible aspects of Jewishness in film, from unspoken identities to bold declarations.

#### **Part 8 – Visible and Invisible Jewishness**

- I. *What's Up Doc*: Barbara Streisand's Unstated Jewishness
- II. *Avalon* and the Melting Pot
- III. Adam Sandler and Ben Stiller: Masters of Chutzpah
- IV. Cher Horowitz — Jewish American Princess

**Professor Howard Lupovitch** is Professor of History and Director of the Cohn-Haddow Center for Judaic Studies at Wayne State University. He was educated at the University of Michigan, and Columbia University (earning a Ph.D. in History from the latter). Over his career, Prof. Lupovitch has taught at

Cornell University, Colby College, the University of Western Ontario, and the University of Michigan, where he was also a fellow at the Frankel Institute for Advanced Judaic Studies. Prof. Lupovitch is the author, most recently, of *Transleithanian Paradise: A History of the Jewish Community of Budapest, 1738-1938*, and is presently completing a history of the Neolog Movement and researching a new history of the Jews of Detroit. *This program is fully funded by a grant from the Jewish Community Foundation Orange County.*

[https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEIf--qpzsqE9L0TI6GHmNNyQ9GiR\\_uL-b?utm\\_source=CSP&utm\\_campaign=abc6042bc3-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2020\\_04\\_03\\_04\\_55\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_5ee28fcb1-abc6042bc3-386548940#/registration](https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEIf--qpzsqE9L0TI6GHmNNyQ9GiR_uL-b?utm_source=CSP&utm_campaign=abc6042bc3-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_04_03_04_55_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_5ee28fcb1-abc6042bc3-386548940#/registration)

### **Exile and Home: Tales of Traveling Rabbis**

**Part 4** - Wednesday, March 6, 1:00 pm EST (online)

Why does a great rabbi return to the town that had banished him? Who is the immigrant rabbi cruelly humiliated by his new havruta? And what happens when a man from Babylon marries a woman from Israel? The Talmud is riddled with travel narratives, stories of rabbis who leave their former lives behind and set out into the unknown, disoriented in unfamiliar territory, disparaged by unfriendly locals. This course looks at four such narratives, exploring the trials and tribulations of the traveling rabbis, and the lessons they must learn before they can arrive at their destination.

**Gila Fine** is a teacher of Aggada at the Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies, exploring the tales of the Talmud through philosophy, literary criticism, psychoanalysis, and pop-culture. She is also a faculty member of the London School of Jewish studies, the Nachshon Project, and Amudim Seminary, and has taught thousands of students at conferences and communities across the Jewish world. Gila's dynamic literary method and unique intertextual approach, ranging from folktales to fiction to film, bring the stories of the Talmud to life, revealing their relevance for our time. *Haaretz* has called her "a young woman on her way to becoming one of the more outstanding Jewish thinkers of the next generation."

[https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEIf-gggz4uG904vmgYOfDsHkceHTXbeVZU?utm\\_source=CSP&utm\\_campaign=ea3299c0b8-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2020\\_04\\_03\\_04\\_55\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_5ee28fcb1-ea3299c0b8-386548940#/registration](https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEIf-gggz4uG904vmgYOfDsHkceHTXbeVZU?utm_source=CSP&utm_campaign=ea3299c0b8-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_04_03_04_55_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_5ee28fcb1-ea3299c0b8-386548940#/registration)

### **"There's No Business like Show Business" - The Jewish Musical Tradition in America**

**Part 9 – American Nusach: Debbie Friedman and the Great American Jewish Sing-along** - Thursday, February 29, 1:00 pm EST (online)

Join us on this melodic exploration of a rich and diverse tradition that has not only reflected the Jewish-American experience but has also left an indelible mark on the nation's musical history. From the early Yiddish roots of Jewish immigrants to the groundbreaking compositions of Aaron Copland, the influence of Jews in the Jazz Revolution, and their role in shaping the landscape of Broadway and Rock & Roll, this series celebrates the enduring impact of Jewish musical traditions on American culture. With sessions dedicated to iconic figures like Irving Berlin, Leonard Bernstein, and Bob Dylan, as well as the transformative power of artists like Debbie Friedman, we explore how these artists navigated their Jewish identities within the evolving American musical tapestry.

#### **Part 9 - American Nusach: Debbie Friedman and the Great American Jewish Sing-along**

- I. Summer Camp and the New American Judaism
- II. The Sacred and the Secular
- III. Celebrating the New Jewish Woman

**Professor Howard Lupovitch** is Professor of History and Director of the Cohn-Haddow Center for Judaic Studies at Wayne State University. He was educated at the University of Michigan, and Columbia University (earning a Ph.D. in History from the latter). Over his career, Prof. Lupovitch has taught at Cornell University, Colby College, the University of Western Ontario, and the University of Michigan, where he was also a fellow at the Frankel Institute for Advanced Judaic Studies. Prof. Lupovitch is the author, most recently, of *Transleithanian Paradise: A History of the Jewish Community of Budapest, 1738-1938*, and is presently completing a history of the Neolog Movement and researching a new history of the Jews of Detroit. *This program is fully funded by a grant from the Jewish Community Foundation Orange County.*

Please contact us at [central.walnutstreetshul@gmail.com](mailto:central.walnutstreetshul@gmail.com) for details on how you can register for this series

### Leonard Bernstein – The Jewish Side

Sunday, March 3, 1:00 pm EST (online)

Leonard Bernstein took the musical world by storm with his spectacular last-minute, a-star-is-born conducting turn at the New York Philharmonic in 1943, filling in for the ailing Bruno Walter. Until his passing in 1990, he was astonishingly active as a conductor, composer (in both classical and popular idioms), pianist, and teacher. And Bernstein was a devoted Jew throughout his life. We will explore Bernstein's Judaism and how it was manifest in his musical output.

**Dr. Joshua R. Jacobson** holds a Bachelors degree in Music from Harvard College, a Masters in Choral Conducting from the New England Conservatory, a Doctor of Musical Arts from the University of Cincinnati, and a Doctor of Humane Letters honoris causa from Hebrew College. Before retiring in 2018, Dr. Jacobson served 45 years as Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities at Northeastern University, including nine years as Music Department Chairman and six years as the Bernard Stotsky Professor of Jewish Cultural Studies. He is also Visiting Professor and Senior Consultant in the School of Jewish Music at Hebrew College. He is also the founder and director of the Zamir Chorale of Boston, a world-renowned ensemble, specializing in Hebrew music. In 1994 Hebrew College awarded him the Benjamin Shevach Award for Distinguished Achievement in Jewish Educational Leadership and in 2016 Choral Arts New England presented him the Alfred Nash Patterson Lifetime Achievement Award, and in 2018 Chorus America selected him for its Distinguished Service Award.

[https://us06web.zoom.us/join/8QZdL?utm\\_source=CSP&utm\\_campaign=30ef2bbcee-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2020\\_04\\_03\\_04\\_55\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_5ee28fcb1-30ef2bbcee-386548940#/registration](https://us06web.zoom.us/join/8QZdL?utm_source=CSP&utm_campaign=30ef2bbcee-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_04_03_04_55_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_5ee28fcb1-30ef2bbcee-386548940#/registration)

## COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

### The Magic Box – Book Talk with Author Corie Adjmi

Monday, February 26, 7:30 pm EST (online program presented by the Lappin Foundation)

The poster features the Lappin Foundation logo at the top left. The main title is "Book Talk with Corie Adjmi, author of THE MARRIAGE BOX". A photo of Corie Adjmi is shown next to a description of the book: "Forced to return to her parents' roots in the Orthodox Syrian Jewish community in Brooklyn, Casey Cohen faces two opposing worlds as she explores the unfamiliar culture and finds love." The event details are "Monday, February 26, 2024 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. ET on Zoom". A note states "The program is free, and everyone is welcome." Contact information for Sharon Wyner is provided: "For more information, please contact Sharon Wyner at 978-565-4450 or email swyner@lappinfoundation.org". A QR code and a button labeled "REGISTER HERE FOR THE ZOOM LINK" are at the bottom right. A small image of the book cover is also present.

Join the Lappin Foundation for a book talk on *The Marriage Box* with author Corie Adjmi. The book is a novel about Casey Cohen who is forced to return to her parents' roots in the Orthodox Syrian Jewish community in Brooklyn as she faces two opposing worlds, explores the unfamiliar culture and finds love. <https://lappinfofoundation.tfaforms.net/54>

### **Update from Israel: Exploring the Pulse and Mood of the Country**

Wednesday, February 28, 7:00 pm EST (online program presented by the Lappin Foundation)

Join the Lappin Foundation for *Update from Israel: Exploring the Pulse and Mood of the Country*. Ido Aharoni Aronoff will present an overview of social and political undercurrents in Israeli society and explore what may emerge from October 7 and the Israel-Hamas war. Aharoni was Israel's Consul General to New York, serving from 2010 through 2016, and he has been a member of the Tel Aviv University Board of Governors.

<https://www.lappinfofoundation.org/2023/12/20/update-from-israel-exploring-the-pulse-mood-of-the-country/>

## SHUL TOURS

If you live in the Boston area and have never seen our historic shul, or haven't visited in a while, or if you plan to visit the area, we welcome you to see our shul in person and take a tour! Please follow the link below for more information and to request **Individual/Family** or **Group (new)** tours.

**Visitor Information** - <https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/visit/>



Yad Chessed helps Jewish individuals and families who struggle with financial hardship pay their bills and buy food. As a social services agency rooted in the Jewish values of kindness (chedsed) and charity (tzedakah), they are committed to helping those in need navigate a path toward financial stability while preserving their privacy and dignity. They provide emergency financial assistance, grocery gift cards and compassionate advice for those trying to make ends meet. Hundreds of families and individuals throughout the state rely on Yad Chessed to provide for their essentials, and even at times, a Jewish burial for a loved one. Members of our community, as well as others in the Jewish community, who need assistance may contact Yad Chessed by phone at 781-487-2693 or by Email

at [intake@yadchedsed.org](mailto:intake@yadchedsed.org) for a confidential conversation. Questions can be directed to [info@yadchedsed.org](mailto:info@yadchedsed.org).

**Support Yad Chessed** - <https://givebutter.com/yadchedsed>

## SYNAGOGUE FAMILY

Do you have milestones such as marriages, births, Bar and Bat Mitzvahs, special birthdays, graduations, etc. to share with our synagogue family? If so, please submit details to [central.walnutstreetsshul@gmail.com](mailto:central.walnutstreetsshul@gmail.com) to be included in our weekly announcements. Photos are welcome!

## GIVING

Please visit our Giving page to send tributes, recognize yahrzeits and make other general donations to support the synagogue. Donations can be made online or through the mail.

<https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/giving/>

## VISIT US ONLINE

Website

<https://walnutstreetsynagogue.com/>

Facebook Page - Walnut Street Synagogue

<https://www.facebook.com/WalnutStreetSynagogue>

Facebook Group - Jews of Chelsea, MA Then and Now

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ChelseaJews>

*The Walnut Street Synagogue is the center for Jewish history, education and culture serving Chelsea, Greater Boston and beyond and is the historic home of Congregation Agudas Sholom. (added to National Register of Historic Places in 1993)*



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