

Yiddish Culture Festival 2018

In Memoriam Seth Brody and Mel Santer

This free, informal gathering meets periodically to enjoy film, music and speakers encompassing all things Yiddish. It is not necessary to speak or understand Yiddish to fully enjoy these events. Meetings are held **Wednesdays at 7:30pm (promptly!)** in Chase Hall Auditorium. For more information or directions, see our website www.haverford.edu/ycf/ or contact Jeff Tecosky-Feldman (jtecosky@haverford.edu, 610-896-1199). All are welcome! **Organizers:** Professors Dan Gillis, Sid Perloe, Jeff Tecosky-Feldman.

NOTE: These programs will be held during inclement weather UNLESS the campus is closed, which happens only rarely. You should call campus security (610-896-1111) to check.

Wednesday, September 5: Tsu Der Khupe Geyen: Klezmer Music, Dance, and Jewish Weddings. In this talk by Steven Lee Weintraub, we'll learn about the intimate and vital connection between weddings and klezmer music and the kinds of music and dance that evolved to support the wedding. From freylekhs to sher to broyges tants, each kind of music and dance served a function. But beware, this lecture might lead to dancing! Steven Weintraub (www.stevenleeweintraub.com) is highly regarded internationally as a teacher, choreographer, and performer of Jewish dance, particularly Yiddish dance, the dance to klezmer music, and has been likened to the Pied Piper for his knack in getting people of all abilities up and dancing.

Wednesday, October 3: Discovering Blume Lempel: Blume Lempel (1907-1999) was an uncommonly courageous Yiddish writer whose imagination moved fluidly between dream and reality. In a multi-media presentation, Ellen Cassedy and Yermiyahu Ahron Taub talk about the life of this extraordinary writer and read from their recent translation of her work, *Oedipus in Brooklyn and Other Stories*. Cynthia Ozick lauds Lempel as "a splendid surprise." Ellen Cassedy (www.ellencassedy.com) is the author of *We Are Here: Memories of the Lithuanian Holocaust*. Her latest translation from Yiddish is *On the Landing*, by Yenta Mash. Yermiyahu Ahron Taub (www.yataub.net) is the author of six books of poetry, including *A moyz tsvishn vakldike volkn-kratsers: geklibene Yidishe lider/A Mouse Among Tottering Skyscrapers: Selected Yiddish Poems*. Their translation, *Oedipus in Brooklyn and Other Stories* by Blume Lempel, won the Yiddish Book Center best translation prize.

Wednesday, October 24: Whitechapel Noise: Sex, politics and religion on the streets of London's East End 1884-1914: This talk with song by Vivi Lachs, Yiddishist, historian and performer from London, explores the abundance of Yiddish *kupletn* written by songwriters and poets in pre-first world war London. Penned by the famous and the unknown, they tell tales of an immigrant culture in flux. Morris Winchevsky's poetry encourages revolutionary ideas and union activism. Music-hall songs display the changing nature of sexual relationships, marital disharmony, and abuse. Satirical verse pinpoints how immigrants grappled with modernizing religious practice. And they tell these stories with humor, intensity, and passion. Vivi Lachs's book *Whitechapel Noise: Jewish Immigrant Life in Yiddish Song and Verse, London 1884-1914* is published by Wayne State University Press.

Wednesday, November 14: Yiddish Concert with Lawrence Indik, Baritone: Come join us for an evening of selections from the Yiddish folk and art song repertoire performed by Lawrence Indik, Associate Professor of Voice and Opera at Temple University. Larry will be accompanied at the piano by Alexander (Sender) Botwinik.

New Directions Due to Library Construction: Enter the campus by the College Ave (back) entrance which is near Haverford Rd (NOT the Lancaster Ave/Rt 30 main entrance), and make an immediate left; park in any spot marked FACULTY/STAFF. Follow the path between Stokes Hall and the Dining Center which leads to Chase Hall on your right. The entrance is accessible with no steps.

Support the Festival: We need your contribution to support this ongoing celebration of Yiddish culture, so please send a check made out to Haverford College, with **Yiddish Culture Festival** written on the check or on an accompanying note to: **Haverford College, Advancement Services, 370 Lancaster Ave, Haverford, PA 19041**