

Center for Jewish Studies
The Graduate School
and University Center
of the City University of New York

Max Weinreich Center
for Advanced Jewish Studies
of the YIVO Institute for
Jewish Research

present

A National
Jewish Folklore Conference
**LIVING TRADITION:
JEWISH FOLK CREATIVITY
AND CULTURAL SURVIVAL**
MAY 13-15, 1984

EVENING PROGRAMS
co-sponsored with the
National Foundation
for Jewish Culture

Stern College
for Women of
Yeshiva University

presents

Folk Artists in Performance
**FIRST JEWISH
STORYTELLING FESTIVAL**

This Conference is made possible, in part, by a
grant from the New York Council for the Humanities

SUNDAY, MAY 13, 1984

LIVING TRADITION PROGRAM at YIVO Institute for Jewish Research

2:00-2:15 p.m. WELCOME

Yael Zerubavel, Conference Director

2:15-3:30 p.m. OPENING SESSION

Chair: SAMUEL NORICH, YIVO

Introductory Remarks: IRVING HOWE, CUNY Graduate Center

Keynote Address: "Jewish Folklore: A Century in Retrospect"

BARBARA KIRSHENBLATT-GIMBLETT, NYU and YIVO

4:00-6:00 p.m. FOLK MEMORY AND HISTORICAL RECONSTRUCTION

Discussant: SIGMUND DIAMOND, Columbia University

"Memory Versus Identity: The Falasha Dilemma"

KAY KAUFMAN SHELEMAY, NYU

"Folklore, History, and Collective Memory: The Recreation of Holiday Celebrations in Israel"

Yael Zerubavel, CUNY Graduate Center

"Iranian Theater in Israel: Folk Drama of Immigrant Experience"

JUDITH GOLDSTEIN, Vassar College

The Evening Programs are co-sponsored with the NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR JEWISH CULTURE.

The Conference and Evening Programs are free and open to the public. No pre-registration is required.

EVENING PROGRAM at YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, 8:00 p.m.

WOMEN'S VOICES: LINKING THE GENERATIONS

Lecture-Demonstration by

RUTH RUBIN

A renowned collector and performer of Yiddish folksongs, Ruth Rubin has issued numerous recordings and has written extensively about the Jewish folksong in Yiddish and English.

FLORY JAGODA

A noted singer of Ladino music, Flory Jagoda has performed and recorded the folk music of Sephardic Jews from the Balkans.

Opening Remarks: Abraham Atik, National Foundation for Jewish Culture

Moderator: KAY KAUFMAN SHELEMAY, NYU

Pre-registration is required for all Festival workshops. Call (212) 481-0587.

JEWISH STORYTELLING FESTIVAL PROGRAM at Stern College

8:30-9:30 a.m.

Welcome and Registration for the Festival

9:30-11:00 a.m.

A. **THREE TELLERS TELL TALES: A COMPARISON OF STYLES** By hearing 3 tellers, each with different styles of storytelling, the participants will discover their own telling styles. A discussion of performance styles and techniques follows the presentations.

ROBIN GOLDBERG, DAN YASHINSKY, LARRY LITT

B. **I TELL THE STORY: YOU ARE THE STORYTELLERS** In this workshop, Peninnah Schram demonstrates and discusses participatory story techniques, including impromptu sound/motion stories and spontaneous audience participation.

PENINNAH SCHRAM

11:00-12:30 p.m.

C. **REMEMBERING WHAT'S NECESSARY: THE STORYTELLER AS A MORAL TEACHER**

Developed from his thesis "Storytellers, Ogres, and Moral Educators," Dan Yashinsky explores the art of storytelling as a moral activity.

DAN YASHINSKY

D. **HAND-ME-DOWN-TALES: FAMILY MEMORIES, MYTHS, AND MAKE-BELIEVE** In this workshop, Penina Adelman and Ellen Block tell family tales illuminating the process of collecting, reconstructing, and transmitting stories from family tradition.

PENINA ADELMAN and ELLEN BLOCK

MONDAY, MAY 14, 1984

LIVING TRADITION PROGRAM at CUNY Graduate Center Auditorium

9:30-11:30 a.m. **EVOLVING TRADITIONS: PATTERNS OF CONTINUITY AND CHANGE IN RELIGIOUS BEHAVIOR**

Discussant: SAMUEL HEILMAN, Queens College

"The Religiosity of Middle Eastern Jews: Cultural Ethnicity in Israel"

MOSHE SHOKEID, Tel-Aviv University and Queens College

"Torah Study in the Havurah Movement: Creating New Interpretations"

CHAVA WEISSLER, Princeton University

"Structure and Meaning of a Child Birth Amulet"

DAN BEN-AMOS, University of Pennsylvania

"Cantorial Music in America: A Historical Perspective"

MARK SLOBIN, Wesleyan University

1:30-3:30 p.m. **TRANSPLANTED COMMUNITIES: GROUP IDENTITY AND CULTURAL PERSISTENCE**

Discussant: RAPHAEL PATAI

"Living Traditions of Syrian Jews in Israel and America"

WALTER ZENNER, SUNY at Albany

"The Hasidim of Boro Park: A Community Revitalized"

JANET BELCOVE-SHALIN, Cornell University

"The Pre-Nuptial Rites of the Habbani and Ethnic Persistence in Israel"

LAURENCE LOEB, University of Utah

"The Polish Jews of Paris: A Community in Transition"

JONATHAN BOYARIN, New School for Social Research and YIVO

4:00-6:00 p.m. **ENDURING PRESENCE: INTERPRETING TRADITIONAL ARTS**

Discussant: AMY SHUMAN, Ohio State University

"Dancing in the Streets of Gold: The Effect of Immigration on the East European Folk Tradition"

LEE ELLEN FRIEDLAND, University of Pennsylvania

"Repertoire, Changing Values and Social Meaning of Dance Tradition in an Israeli Yemenite Village"

SHALOM STAUB, State Folklife Programs, Pennsylvania

"The Art of the Moroccan Jeweler: Continuity and Change"

YEDIDA STILLMAN, SUNY at Binghamton

"Contemporary Jewish Papercuts: The Quest for Authenticity

JAYNE KRAVETZ GUBERMAN, University of Pennsylvania

EVENING PROGRAM at Stern College, 8:30 p.m.

**A CELEBRATION OF JEWISH STORYTELLING:
Storytellers share their Favorite Stories**

Performing storytellers include: Penina Adelman, Ellen Block, Marc Gellman, Robin Goldberg, Lawrence Kushner, Larry Litt, Peninnah Schram, Diane Wolkstein, Dan Yashinsky.

Moderator: PENINNAH SCHRAM, Stern College

JEWISH STORYTELLING FESTIVAL PROGRAM at Stern College

1:00-3:00 p.m.

E. RE-DIGGING MIRIAM'S WELL: EMERGING ORAL TRADITIONS OF JEWISH WOMEN Based on her fieldwork, Penina Adelman documents the revival of Rosh Hodesh, the ancient festival of the New Moon, among Jewish women. In this workshop, she explores, along with the participants, the oral tradition of Jewish women.

PENINA ADELMAN

F. THE ART OF MAKING MIDRASH This workshop introduces participants to midrashic techniques for the interpretation of biblical stories. Marc Gellman focuses on improvisational dramatics as well as creating midrashim for children and for adults.

RABBI MARC GELLMAN

3:00-5:00 p.m.

G. COLLECTING FOLK HUMOR

Larry Litt traces Jewish folk humor from Europe to America and explores the role of the badkhn in Jewish life.

LARRY LITT

H. TO RAISE THE SPARKS: STORYTELLING IN JEWISH EDUCATION In this demonstration/workshop, Robin Goldberg shares traditional stories through a variety of techniques appropriate for all different ages, from pre-school children to senior adults.

ROBIN GOLDBERG

TUESDAY, MAY 15, 1984

LIVING TRADITION PROGRAM at CUNY Graduate Center Auditorium

9:30-11:30 a.m. FOLK CREATIVITY IN THE FACE OF CRISIS

Discussant: BARBARA MYERHOFF, University of Southern California

"Hasidic Tales of the Holocaust: Literary and Historical Continuum"
YAFFA ELIACH, Brooklyn College

"Purim Shpil in Fairfax: Changing Times in an Orthodox Enclave"
VIMALA JAYANTI, University of Southern California

"Cheating Death: The Joke Repertoire of Elderly Jews in the South Bronx"
JACK KUGELMASS, YIVO

"A Little Bit of Everything: The Jewish Puppet Theater of Paris"
ANDREW ACKERMAN, The Jewish Museum

11:30-12:00 noon "David and Goliath"

A documentary film on the Jewish Puppet Theater of Paris.

12:00-1:10 p.m. "The Miracle at Intervale Avenue"

A documentary film on an elderly Jewish community in the South Bronx.

1:30-3:30 p.m. ORAL CREATIVITY IN A LITERARY SOCIETY

Discussant: DAN BEN-AMOS, University of Pennsylvania

"The Folk Hero of the Jewish Legend: A Comparative Perspective"
DOV NOY, The Hebrew University

"Modern Yiddish Cinderella Tales: A Case of Creative Adaptation"
BEATRICE WEINREICH, YIVO

"Ha'chizbat: The Emergence of an Israeli Humor"
ELLIOTT ORING, California State University, Los Angeles

"Old Wine in New Flasks: The Transition from Ethnic Languages to Hebrew in Folk Narration in Israel"

GALIT HASAN ROKEM, The Hebrew University

4:00-6:00 p.m.

RITUAL BEHAVIOR:

INTEGRATING THE PAST AND THE PRESENT

Discussant: BARBARA KIRSHENBLATT-GIMBLETT, NYU and YIVO

"Sabbath Prayer in a Jewish Community: The Dilemma of Tradition"
RIV-ELLEN PRELL, University of Minnesota

"Bitter Celebrants: Passover in a Displaced Persons Camp in Postwar Germany"
TOBY BLUM-DOBKIN, Columbia University and YIVO

"The Great and Little Tradition: Passover as an Occasion for Storytelling and Transmission of Tradition"

BARBARA MYERHOFF, University of Southern California

EVENING PROGRAM at CUNY Graduate Center Auditorium, 8:00 p.m.

**CELEBRATING JEWISH WEDDINGS
in Dance, Music and Story**

From "Hora" to Hasidic "Hustle"

JILL GELLERMAN'S discussion of dance continuity and creativity is illustrated by videotapes of contemporary Lubavitch weddings in Brooklyn.

Badkhn's Tales

LARRY LITT, a storyteller and humorist, presents humorous tales traditionally performed by the badkhn in East European Jewish weddings.

Klezmer Wedding Music

HENRY SAPOZNIK, LAUREN BRODY and KENNETH MALTZ, members of the Kapelye, perform and discuss traditional klezmer wedding music and its revival in the United States.

Moderator: ADRIENNE COOPER GORDON, YIVO

JEWISH STORYTELLING FESTIVAL PROGRAM at CUNY Graduate Center

11:30-1:00 p.m.

I. THE SPACES IN BETWEEN THE WORDS OF SACRED TEXT—Room 829 This workshop is designed to give participants a metaphor by which to understand and teach the biblical text. Based on insights of dream interpretation, Lawrence Kushner discusses the biblical text as the collective dream of the Jewish People.
RABBI LAWRENCE KUSHNER

J. THE STORY LIVED, THE STORY TOLD—Room 1629 In this lecture/demonstration, Robin Goldberg focuses on Eastern European storytelling traditions: misnagdim, hasidim, and maskilim—and even proste yidn.
ROBIN GOLDBERG

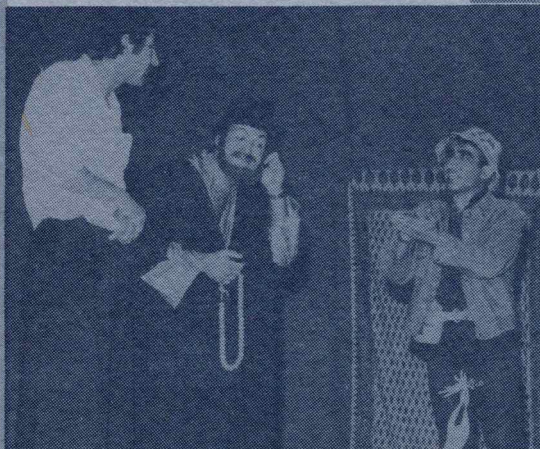
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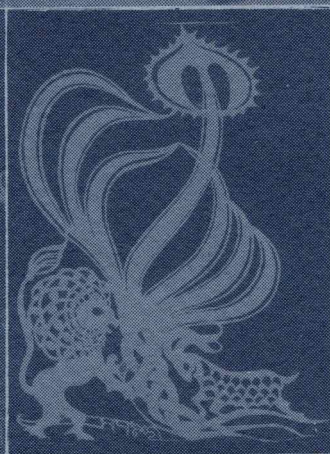
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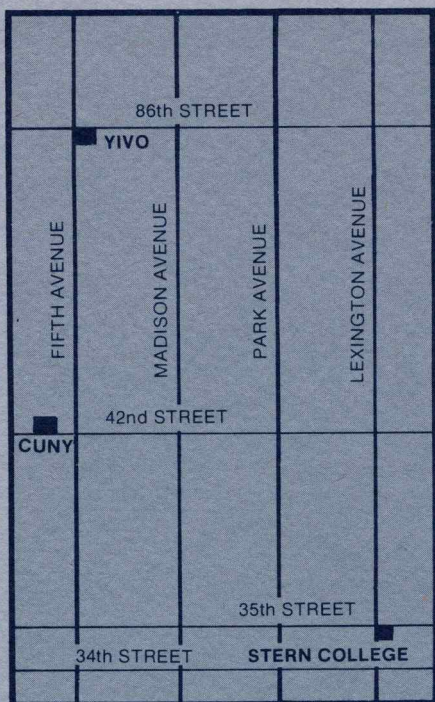


Photo: E.B. Weill



For further information call:

Center for Jewish Studies
CUNY Graduate Center 790-4404/5
YIVO Institute for
Jewish Research 535-6700
Stern College for Women 481-0587



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Locations

CUNY Graduate Center
33 West 42nd Street (between 5th & 6th)
New York, New York 10036

YIVO Institute for Jewish Research
1048 Fifth Avenue (corner 86th St.)
New York, New York 10028

Stern College for Women
Yeshiva University
245 Lexington Avenue (corner 35th St.)
New York, New York 10016

PRE-REGISTRATION/THE JEWISH STORYTELLING FESTIVAL

Pre-registration for all the Festival workshops is essential due to limited space. In order to enroll in the workshops, complete the attached pre-registration form and return with your check promptly.

1-3 workshops	\$8.	each
4 workshops	\$28.	total
6 workshops	\$36.	total

For further information, please call Stern College (212) 481-0587.

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

I wish to enroll in the following workshops:

SUNDAY, MAY 13

9:30-11:00 a.m.

- _____ A. Three Tellers Tell Tales
_____ B. I Tell A Story: You are the Storytellers

11:00-12:30 p.m.

- _____ C. Remembering What's Necessary
_____ D. Hand-Me-Down-Tales

MONDAY, MAY 14

1:00-3:00 p.m.

- _____ E. Re-Digging Miriam's Well
_____ F. The Art of Making Midrash

3:00-5:00 p.m.

- _____ G. Collecting Folk Humor
_____ H. To Raise the Sparks

TUESDAY, MAY 15

11:30-1:00 p.m.

- _____ I. The Spaces In Between
_____ J. The Story Lived

No. of Tickets

Amounts

_____ x \$8. = _____

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If you have enrolled in a total of 4 workshops Total = \$28. = _____

If you have enrolled in a total of 6 workshops Total = \$36. = _____

Total enclosed = _____

Please make check/money order payable to Stern College for Women. Mail completed form with self-addressed stamped envelope to JEWISH STORYTELLING FESTIVAL, Stern College for Women, 245 Lexington Avenue, New York, New York 10016.

NAME _____ TELEPHONE (____) _____

Please print

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION _____

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Project Director, CUNY: Yael Zerubavel
Coordinator for YIVO: Adrienne Cooper Gordon
Festival Director, Stern College: Peninnah Schram
Coordinators for National Foundation for Jewish Culture:
Richard Siegel, Diane Dorf
Project Coordinator, CUNY: Lisa Schnall

CO-SPONSORING INSTITUTES

THE CENTER FOR JEWISH STUDIES of the CUNY Graduate Center is an educational institute which serves both the academic and non-academic communities in New York. The Center organizes conferences, lectures, seminars and workshops, sponsors research and publications on a wide range of themes relating to Jewish Studies.

THE YIVO INSTITUTE FOR JEWISH RESEARCH, founded in Vilna, Poland, in 1925, is dedicated to the preservation and study of the history and culture of East European Jews. YIVO's diverse resources include a center for advanced study, a research institute, and public programs.

STERN COLLEGE FOR WOMEN is Yeshiva University's undergraduate college that offers students the dual program of Jewish Studies and liberal arts.

THE NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR JEWISH CULTURE is a national coordinating body for the promotion and dissemination of Jewish culture, particularly in the areas Jewish scholarship and the arts.

CREDITS FOR CONTRIBUTORS

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The Storytelling Festival was made possible, in part, by the generous support of the Atran Foundation.

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Besht } ⑤
Shabazi } ⑥

Elijah > Enoch > Jesus

their popularity derives from their non-normative
status; totally independent of canonized texts
builds on inherent ambiguity in normative biography

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