

Wednesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2008

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CHAIR: SETH WOLITZ

9:00 – 10:30 ***Di kupe* from the Perspective of German Expressionism:  
Perets Markish and Gottfried Benn Compared**  
*Hugh Denman (London)*

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**Soviet Yiddish Poets in Canada**  
*Rebecca Margolis (Ottawa)*

10:30 – 11:00 COFFEE/TEA BREAK

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11:00 – 12:30 ***In pogrom sezon: Leyb Kvitko's 1919***  
*Daniela Mantovan-Kromer (Heidelberg)*

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MODERATION: JOSEPH SHERMAN –  
DANIELA MANTOVAN-KROMER

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ROUND-TABLE DISCUSSION

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12:30 LUNCH AT THE IWH

## PROGRAM

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM  
FIRST HEIDELBERG INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
IN MODERN YIDDISH STUDIES

# Yiddish Poets and the Soviet Union, 1917 – 1948

December 1st – 3rd, 2008

This conference has been organised in cooperation with the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies; in particular we wish to thank Dr. Joseph Sherman, Woolf Corob Fellow in Yiddish Studies at the Centre.

**Organisation:** Dr. phil. Daniela Mantovan-Kromer,  
Hochschule für Jüdische Studien Heidelberg

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SUPPORTED BY

Stiftung  
Universität Heidelberg



Deutsche  
Forschungsgemeinschaft  
**DFG**

Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008

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**18:15** **BEGRÜSSUNG UND ERÖFFNUNG / OPENING**  
*Johannes Heil · Prorektor der Hochschule  
für Jüdische Studien  
Heinz Dietrich Löwe · Dekan der Philosophischen Fakultät,  
Ruprecht-Karls Universität Heidelberg*

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**ÖFFENTLICHER ABENDVORTRAG /  
OPENING SPEECH:**

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**Die Tragödie der jiddischen Schriftsteller  
in der Sowjet Union** (deutsch)  
*Arno Lustiger Historiker und Schriftsteller,  
Frankfurt am Main*

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**19:30** **RECEPTION AT THE IWH**

Tuesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008

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**CHAIR: JOSEPH SHERMAN**

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**9:00 – 10:30** **Time and Space as Revolutionary Principles  
in Interwar Soviet Yiddish Poetry**  
*Jordan Finkin (Oxford)*

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**Chaim Grade's Yiddish Poetry Written  
in the USSR, 1941 – 1945: An Artistic Rendering  
that Forms a Primary Historical Source**  
*Ben Furnish (Kansas City)*

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**10:30 – 11:00** COFFEE/TEA BREAK

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**CHAIR: DANIELA MANTOVAN-KROMER**

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**11:00 – 13:00** **Soviet Patriot and Yiddish Nationalist:  
The Poetry and Tragic Biography of Itsik Fefer**  
*Frank Grüner (Heidelberg)*

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**Markish's Death Sentence Poem [Brokhshtiker]**  
*Joseph Sherman (Oxford)*

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**Osher Shvartsman and Soviet-Yiddish Literary Criticism:  
A Mythopoetic Discourse**  
*Roland Gruschka (Düsseldorf)*

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**13:15 - 15:00** LUNCH AT THE IWH

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**CHAIR: JORDAN FINKIN**

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**15:00 – 17:00** **Cross-cultural Relationships and their  
Impact on Literary Production:  
The Brigand Character in Kulbak's Work**  
*Astrid Starck (Basel)*

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**Chana Levin and her Poetic Criticism of Soviet "Free Love"**  
*Gennady Estraiikh (New York)*

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**Gegreyt hob ikh mayn shtile lider...  
The "Quiet Poems" of the Stormy Epoch:  
the Poetry of Mirra Khenkin.**  
*Galina Eliasberg (Moskau)*

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**17:00 – 17:30** COFFEE/TEA BREAK

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**CHAIR: GENNADY ESTRAIKH**

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**17:30 – 19:00** **Markish's *Radyo* (1922): Yiddish Modernism as *Agitprop***  
*Seth Wolitz (Austin)*

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**Yiddish-Russian Language Transfer and 20th Century  
Russian verbal Art: Toward a Research on "Jewish Humor"**  
*Laura Salmon (Genova)*

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**19:30** DINNER AT THE HERRENMÜHLE,  
HAUPTSTRASSE 237-239, ALTSTADT HEIDELBERG