

WOMEN JEWS VENETIANS



SUNDAY, MAY 22

7-8:30pm

Shaul Bassi ca' foscari, university of venice

From Shakespeare to Erica Jong: Jewish Women and Cultural Politics

8:30pm RECEPTION

MONDAY, MAY 23

9-11am PANEL:

VENICE, PORTAL TO JEWISH MODERNITY

Lisa Calevi university of oregon

Jewish Childhoods

Dr. Leonard Rothman MD OBGYN RETIRED

INDEPENDENT SCHOLAR FORMERLY OF JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Venetian Midwives, and Modern Medicine

Monique Balbuena university of oregon

The Languages of the Conversas

RESPONDENT: Lisa Pon Southern Methodist University

11:15 a m - 12:15 p m

Cynthia Baker BATES COLLEGE

The Essentially Ambiguous Jewess: An Ancient Trope in Modern Europe

12:15-2pm Lunch

Murray Baumgarten UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ Ghetto Matters, the Venice Center, and Planning for 2016: Suggestions and Discussion

2-3:30pm PANEL:

WOMEN AND THE ARTS

JIII Fields CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY FRESNO

The Writing of Peggy Guggenheim: Narrating Gender, Jewish Identity, and the Avant-Garde in Twentieth-Century Venice

Dr Joanna Harris DANCE HISTORIAN

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

Two Historic Italian Women And Their Contribution To The Arts: Isabella Andreini -- Commedia Dell'arte—and Catherine De Medici--Classical Ballet

RESPONDENT: Deanna Shemek UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ

3:30-4:15pm Refreshments

4:15-5:15pm

Gretchen Starr-Lebeau university of kentucky

Judging by Gender: Venetian Jewish Women Before the Inquisition

5:15-6:15pm DINNER

6:15-7:15pm

Howard Adelman Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario

What Jews on the Rialto? The Venetian Adventures of Beatrice and Reyna de Luna

7:30-8:45pm PANEL:

REPRESENTATIONS OF VENETIAN JEWISH WOMEN

Miriam Shein Independent Scholar

Reflection from the Ghetto: Creating a Venetian Jewish Heroine

Yael Chaver UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY 20th Century Jewish Translations of Jessica

RESPONDENT: Robin Russin University of California, Riverside

8:45-9: 15pm REFRESHMENTS

TUESDAY, MAY 24

9-10:15am

Don Harrán the Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Sarra Copia Sulam, A Seventeenth-Century Jewish Poet in Search of Immortality

10:15-10:30am Coffee

10:30am-12:30pm PANEL:

IEWISH WOMEN AND THE PUBLIC WORLD

Dr. Ariella Lang Barnard College

Margheritta Sarfatti, Mussolini, and 20th Century Public Life

Michael Shapiro university of Illinois/Loyola university

Women and Hidden Jews under Nazi Occupation:

Roberto Bassi's Evidence

WIII Wells DEAN, RHODES STATE COLLEGE

Translating the Poems of Sarra Copia Sulam

RESPONDENT: Paul Michelson HUNTINGTON UNIVERSITY

12:30pm Lunch & A Riverderci

L'ITALIE, LABORATOIRE DE LA MODERNITE JUIVE,

– WORKSHOP OF JEWISH MODERNITY— a group of scholars recently characterized Venice and the Ghetto and thereby focused discussion on how this laboratory shaped Jewish modernity. Carrying forward a recently emerging scholarly view about early modern Jewish communities, these essays emphasize the interaction of the Jews in the Ghetto with the larger Venetian populace and polity, reminding us that the Ghetto came to be named "La Citta degli ebrei." An island set apart from and yet part of the city on the lagoon, the Ghetto became a political, social, and cultural locus of historical and symbolic status.



The bridge into the Ghetto Vecchio

Yet the roles women played in this forging of modern Jewish identity are often absent from the conversation. Notable women such as Dona Gracia Nasi and Sarra Copia Sulam appear here and there. However, there is little sustained attentiveness to the ways in which Jewish and Venetian women across the social spectrum responded to emerging modern habits and processes. Their contribution to the "workshop of Jewish modernity" has not been fully charted – and thus we know little as to how and to what extent women were able to express and take agency in many spheres, from cultural practices and financial activities to intellectual pursuits.

Our gathering is directed to bringing women into the Venetian historical account. We focus on the ways in which Jewish women, in part through their connections to other Venetian and Italian women, helped to articulate what it was to be modern, and thus participated in the forging of modern Venetian, Italian, and Jewish identities. We include discussion of the contributions of non-Jewish women in shaping the image and understanding of contemporary Venice and Venetian Jewish life. We approach this objective through multiple disciplines, literature, history, and art history among them.

This conference seeks to help open new lines of scholarly inquiry, which we might continue to build at subsequent gatherings, with the eventual aim of organizing a larger conference in Venice in the near future. In keeping with the exploratory purpose of this gathering, featured lectures are followed by panels, – whose participants will take the conversation forward.



THE SANTA CRUZ CONFERENCE IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

San Francisco Preview Panel at the Museo Italo-Americano in Fort Mason Sunday morning, May 22, 2011 from 9:30am – 12:30pm in conjunctionwith exhibited materials from Il Ghetto: Forging Italian Jewish Identities.

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with staff support from the Institute for Humanities Research. For more information, including disabled access, contact Shann Ritchie at the UCSC Institute for Humanities Research, sritchie@ucsc.edu, (831) 459-5655. Maps: http://maps.ucsc.edu. Web: http://cjs.ucsc.edu.