

Magic in Late Antiquity

Objects, Texts and Contexts

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Mount Scopus

1-3.3.2020

Sunday (1.3) , Tuesday (3.3) | Mandel Building, Room 530 • Monday (2.3) | Beit Maersdorf, Room 502



Alessia Bellusci (Yale University) | **Nancy Benovitz** (Israel Museum) | **Siam Bhayro** (University of Exeter) | **Gideon Bohak** (Tel Aviv University) | **Robert Daniel** (Universität zu Köln) | **Véronique Dasen** (University of Fribourg / ERC Locus Ludi) | **Theodore de Bruyn** (University of Ottawa) | **Vera Duerrschnabel** (University of Bern) | **Esther Eidinow** (University of Bristol) | **Rivka Elitzur-Leiman** (Tel Aviv University) | **Christopher A. Faraone** (University of Chicago) | **James Nathan Ford** (Bar Ilan University) | **Juraj Franek** (Masaryk University) | **Mark Geller** (UCL) | **Richard Gordon** (Universität Erfurt) | **Fritz Graf** (Ohio State University) | **Yuval Harari** (Ben Gurion University) | **Dan Levene** (University of Southampton) | **Avigail Manekin-Bamberger** (Hebrew University) | **Matthew Morgenstern** (Tel Aviv University) | **Árpád M. Nagy** (Museum of Fine Arts, Budapest) | **Eleni Pachoumi** (Hellenic Open University) | **Yakir Paz** (Hebrew University) | **Ortal-Paz Saar** (Utrecht University) | **Shaul Shaked** (Hebrew University) | **Guy Stiebel** (Tel Aviv University) | **Daniela Urbanová** (Masaryk University) | **Jacques van der Vliet** (Leiden University) | **Hatty Walker** (University of Exeter)

Sponsored by The Azrieli Foundation

Organizers: Avigail Manekin-Bamberger, Gideon Bohak, Yakir Paz

For more information: <https://buberfellows.huji.ac.il/event/magic-late-antiquity>

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SUNDAY | 1.3.2020 | Mandel Building, Room 530

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| 10:45 | Greetings | Yigal Bronner (Martin Buber Society of Fellows, Hebrew University) and Gideon Bohak (Tel Aviv University) |
| 11:00-12:30 | Session 1 | Esther Eidinow (University of Bristol) - <i>Victim Mentality? Some Observations on the Psychology of Ancient Magic</i> Eleni Pachoumi (Hellenic Open University / Oxford University) - <i>Magico-theurgic Prayers in Late Antique Magic</i> Gideon Bohak (Tel Aviv University) - <i>Divination and Magic in Late Antique Judaism</i> |
| 12:30-13:30 | Lunch | |
| 13:30-15:00 | Session 2 | Siam Bhayro (University of Exeter) - <i>Moses in the Aramaic Magic Bowls</i> Yakir Paz (Hebrew University) - <i>Eternal Chains and the Mountain of Darkness: The Fallen Angels in the Incantation Bowls</i> James Nathan Ford (Bar Ilan University) - <i>The Havdala de-Rabbi Aqiva in the Light of the Magic Bowls</i> |
| 15:30-17:00 | Session 3 | Árpád M. Nagy (Museum of Fine Arts, Budapest) - <i>"A Stumbling Block to Jews" but no "Folly to Gentiles" - Judaizing Amulet Gems from the Roman Imperial Period</i> Rivka Elitzur-Leiman (Tel Aviv University) - <i>"And Inscribe it on a Piece of Gold" - the Book of Mysteries in Context</i> Guy Stiebel (Tel Aviv University) - <i>Arma Magica - Military Equipment and Ritual in Roman Judaea</i> |
| 17:30-19:00 | Roundtable | <i>Recent Trends in the Study of Ancient Magic</i> Discussants: Gideon Bohak , Véronique Dasen , Esther Eidinow , Christopher A. Faraone Moderator: Avigail Manekin-Bamberger |
| 19:00 | Reception at Mandel Building | |

MONDAY | 2.3.2020 | Beit Maierdorf, Room 502

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| 11:00-12:30 | Session 4 | Juraj Franek (Masaryk University / Czech Academy of Sciences) - <i>Bilingual Bronze Amulet from the Collection of Gustave Schlumberger</i> Ortal-Paz Saar (Utrecht University) - <i>Funerary Protection: Jewish Curses against Grave Desecration</i> Nancy Benovitz (Israel Museum) - <i>The Magic of the Shema (Deut. 6:4): An Upcoming Israel Museum Exhibition</i> |
| 12:30-13:30 | Lunch | |
| 13:30-15:00 | Session 5 | Matthew Morgenstern (Tel Aviv University) - <i>Mandaic Magic Texts, Early and Late</i> Hatty Walker (University of Exeter) - <i>BT Shab 115a and the Aramaic Magic Bowls: A Scribal Rationale for the Burial of Overturned Jewish Bowl Texts</i> Mark Geller (UCL) - <i>Mind the Gap: Akkadian background to the Mandaic Phylactery of Rue (šapta d-šambra)</i> |
| 15:30-16:30 | Session 6 | Yuval Harari (Ben Gurion University) - <i>Hanina the Exorcist: A Contribution to the Study of Folk Traditions in Antiquity</i> Alessia Bellusci (Yale University) - <i>Early Roots of Hebrew Secreta Literature</i> |
| 16:45-18:15 | Session 7 | Vera Duerrschnebel (University of Bern) - <i>Hebrew and Aramaic Adjuration Formulae within the Context of Mediterranean Magic</i> Daniela Urbanová (Masaryk University) - <i>Strategies of Addressing Higher Powers from Greco-Roman Antiquity to the Latin Middle Ages</i> Robert Daniel (Universität zu Köln) - <i>The Curse Tablets from the University of Pennsylvania 1994 Excavations at Promontory Palace in Caesarea</i> |
| 19:00 | Dinner | |

TUESDAY | 3.3.2020 | Mandel Building, Room 530

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| 9:30-11:00 | Session 8 | Shaul Shaked (Hebrew University) - <i>'Writtleness' in Magic Bowls</i> Dan Levene (University of Southampton) - <i>The Writing of a Magical Text as a Performative Act</i> Avigail Manekin-Bamberger (Hebrew University) - <i>Scribal Variability in the Bowls: Rethinking the 'Corpus' of the Jewish Magic Bowls</i> |
| 11:30-13:00 | Session 9 | Fritz Graf (Ohio State University) - <i>Cursing against Cursing: A Clash of Categories</i> Véronique Dasen (University of Fribourg / ERC Locus Ludi) - <i>Magical Games</i> Richard Gordon (Universität Erfurt) - <i>Achieving Rhetorical 'Weight' in Incantation: The Example of Determinative Compound Words</i> |
| 13:00-14:00 | Lunch | |
| 14:00-15:30 | Session 10 | Theodore de Bruyn (University of Ottawa) - <i>Locating Power in Christian Contexts in Late Antique Egypt: A Conversation between Amulets and Graffiti</i> Jacques van der Vliet (Leiden University) - <i>Divine Bodies and Celestial Landscape in Late-Antique Egyptian Magic</i> Christopher A. Faraone (University of Chicago) - <i>A Bronze Head of Augustus in Nubia, a Curse in a Galilean Synagogue and the Long-Afterlife of Pharaonic Trampling Magic</i> |
| 16:30-19:00 | Israel Museum Tour (for conference participants) | |
| 19:00 | Dinner | |

Further Information

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