American Jews and Their (Various) Others:
Sketching New Maps of Identity, Religion, Civil Religion, and Society

November 18-20, 2018
Opening Session: November 18, 18:00 | Van Leer Institute, Jerusalem

Greetings and Introductions:
Prof. Richard I. Cohen (Hebrew University), Director of ICORE-Daat Hamakom
United States Embassy: Greetings
Prof. Eli Lederhendler (Hebrew University), Conference Chair

Keynote Address
Prof. Steven Zipperstein (Stanford University):
Excavating Philip Roth: Reflections on a Biography’s Beginnings
Response: Prof. Hana Wirth-Nesher (Tel-Aviv University)

November 19, Hebrew University | Mt. Scopus campus, Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School For Advanced Studies in the Humanities

Room 520 | 9:30-12:30, Religious Crossroads and Social Landscapes
Chair: Prof. Edwin Seroussi (Hebrew University)
Dr. Michelle Shain (Brandeis University): Whence Orthodox Feminism? Cognitive Dissonance and Religious Change in the United States
Prof. Adam Ferziger (Bar-Ilan University): Orthodox Responses to Feminism: Between North America and Israel
11:15 - short break

Room 530 | 13:45-17:00, (Self-) Inventions and Interventions
Chair: Prof. Eli Lederhendler (Hebrew University)
Dr. David Stromberg (Shalem College, Jerusalem):
A Deal with the Devil: Isaac Bashevis Singer in Wartime – America and Israel
Prof. Joel Perlmann (Bard College): Harry Austryn Wolfson: His Views on Ethno-National Realities in America in 1918 and the Future of American Jews
15:30 - short break
Prof. Yaakov Ariel (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill): From a Jewish Communist to a Jewish Buddhist: the Social, Cultural and Spiritual Journeys of Allen Ginsberg
Dr. Assaf Shelleg (Hebrew University): "Negro Strains" Haftorah Gains: Leonard Bernstein's Jeremiah

November 20, Hebrew University | Mt. Scopus campus, Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School For Advanced Studies in the Humanities

Room 530 | 10:00-12:00, Jewish Peoplehood, Local and Trans-local Dimensions
Chair: Prof Uzi Rebhun (Hebrew University)
Dr. Sara Hirschhorn (Northwestern University): From Jackson to Johannesburg to Jerusalem: How the 1967 War Turned Diaspora Jewish Zionists into White People
Prof. Michael Alexander (University of California, Riverside): The Exilic Imperative of American Jewry

Room 530 | 14:00-15:45, Local and Trans-local Dimensions in Literature
Chair: Dr. Naomi Mandel (Hebrew University)
Prof. Victoria Aarons (Trinity University, San Antonio): American Jewish Writing in the 21st Century: A New Diaspora
Prof. Eli Lederhendler (Hebrew University): America and Israel in Recent American Jewish Fiction
15:45 - short break
16:00-17:00, Round-table Discussion

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Front Cover Illustration:

Philip Roth (1933-2018)

Erika Polevoy's
Bat-Mitzvah service,
2018.