



**LATIN AMERICAN JEWISH STUDIES ASSOCIATION (LAJSA)  
SECOND REGIONAL CONFERENCE  
New York City**

Sunday, March 25, 2012, 1 pm - 8:30 pm  
Center for Jewish History  
15 West 16th Street, New York City

Monday, March 26, 2012, 10 am - 7:30 pm  
The Graduate Center, CUNY, Rooms 9206-9207  
368 Fifth Avenue at 34th Street, New York City

**Jews and the City:  
Latin American Jewish  
Culture in its Urban Setting**

This multi-disciplinary conference will explore the place of Jews and Jewish culture in the urban spaces of the Americas, Europe, and Israel, through literary, artistic, musical, sociological and historical perspectives.

Conference coordinators:  
Nora Glickman (Queens College, CUNY)  
Ronnie Perelis (Yeshiva University)



**SUNDAY, MARCH 25, CENTER FOR JEWISH HISTORY**  
**15 West 16th Street, NYC**  
**Main Hall**

**Registration/coffee** **1:00 PM – 1:30 PM**

**Opening remarks.** **1:30 PM – 1:45 PM**  
 LAJSA Co-Presidents Edna Aizenberg (Marymount Manhattan College), Raanan Rein (Tel Aviv University) and Jacob Wisse (Yeshiva University Museum)

**Book Presentations** **1:45 PM – 2:30 PM**  
 Daniela Gleizer, *El exilio incómodo* (Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana- Unidad Cuajimalpa)  
 Darrell B. Lockhart, ed. *Critical Approaches to Mexican-Jewish Literature / Aproximaciones críticas a la literatura judeomexicana* (University of Nevada, Reno)  
 Alicia Borinsky, *One Way Tickets* (Boston University)

**SESSION I** **2:30 PM – 4:00 PM**  
**CINEMATIC REPRESENTATIONS OF URBAN JEWISH LIFE**

*Chair:* Leo Spitzer (Columbia University)  
**“Escenarios de la memoria en Ajo para el diablo de Manuela Fingueret”**  
 Mónica Agrest (The Graduate Center, CUNY)  
**“Mi Buenos Aires judío: Mapping the Jewish City in the Work of Marcelo Birmajer”**  
 Darrell B. Lockhart (University of Nevada, Reno)  
**“El contraste de la (ex)ploración judaica en Réquiem para un viernes a la noche de Germán Rozenmacher y en Cinco días sin Nora, de Mariana Chenillo”**  
 Alexandru V. Lefter (University of Pittsburgh)

**SESSION II** **4:15 PM – 5:15 PM**  
**LITERARY REPRESENTATIONS: DIASPORIC ALTERNATIVES**

*Chair:* Nora Glickman (Queens College, CUNY)  
**Identidad y diversidad: libros de artistas** (A Power Point Presentation)  
 Steve Sadow (Northeastern University)  
**Identidad y antisemitismo: “From the Shtetl to the City”**  
 Deborah A. Bensadon (Eckerd College)  
**“Juegos de identidad: humor diaspórico y antisemitismo”**  
 Alicia Borinsky (Boston University)  
**“Recorridos kabalísticos y espacios urbanos en la narrativa de Mario Satz”**  
 Ariana Huberman (Haverford College)

**SESSION III** **5:30 PM – 7:00PM**  
**LATIN AMERICAN WRITERS' CONCEPTION OF THE CITY**

*Chair:* Malva E. Filer (Brooklyn College, CUNY)  
**“Marcos Aguinis, Asalto al paraíso”**  
 Dalia Wassner (Northeastern University)  
**“Las ciudades malditas en la narrativa de Samuel Rawet”**  
 Naomi Lindstrom (University of Texas at Austin)

**“Actos de rebeldía en la ciudad – Exploring the Concept of ‘Jewishness’ in the Latin American Urban Setting: Luisa Futoransky”**  
 Militzia Machuca Franco (independent scholar)  
**“Borges, el espacio urbano y el trasfondo bíblico”**  
 Daniel Nahson (College of Oneonta, SUNY)

**WINE, REFRESHMENTS, AND MUSIC** **7:00PM – 8:30 PM**

A night of Sephardic music with **Samuel Torjman Thomas** (Ethnomusicologist, multi-instrumentalist, and bandleader of ASEFA) and **David Buchbut** (percussionist)

**MONDAY, MARCH 26, THE GRADUATE CENTER, CUNY**  
**365 Fifth Ave (at 34th Street), NYC**  
**Rooms 9206-9207**

**Registration/coffee** **10:00 AM – 10:15 AM**

**Welcome:** **10:15 AM – 10:30 AM**  
 Conference Coordinators Nora Glickman (Queens College, CUNY) Ronnie Perelis (Yeshiva University); Manfred Philipp (CUNY Academy President) and José del Valle (CUNY Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Studies, Chair)

**SESSION IV** **10:30 AM – 12:00 PM**  
**SEPHARDIC PRESENCE IN THE AMERICAN CITY**

*Chair:* Fortuna Calvo Roth (Coral Communications Group)  
**“Jews in the Suburbs: Syrian Jewish Mexican Students in a Catholic University”**  
 Evelyn Dean Olmstead (Southern Illinois University)  
**“Revisiting ‘the ghetto’: Sephardic Settlement Patterns in Buenos Aires Neighborhoods”**  
 Adriana M. Brodsky (St. Mary’s College of Maryland)  
**“Reinscribing the City: Sephardic and Latino Places in NYC”**  
 Kenya C. Dworkin (Carnegie Mellon University)  
**“Make Space for Japheth”: Curaçao and the Rise of an American Jewish Center”**  
 Hilit Surowitz-Israel (Rutgers University)

**LUNCH** **12:00 PM – 1:15 PM**  
**GRADUATE CENTER CAFETERIA, 8th FLOOR**

**SESSION V** **1:15 PM – 2:30 PM**  
**GLOBALIZATION AND TRANSNATIONALISM IN JEWISH URBAN LIFE**

*Chair:* Ronnie Perelis (Yeshiva University)  
**“The Other Polonia: Almanakh far Poylishe Yidn, Jewish Communal Politics, and the Yiddish Landsmanshaft Press in Interwar Buenos Aires”**  
 Rebecca Kobrin (Columbia University)

**“Where Memory Shapes Justice: Performing Jewish Music at the  
Asociación Mutualista Israelita Argentina (AMIA) in Buenos Aires”**

Lilian Wohl (University of Chicago)

**The Wandering Jew in Latin America**

Regina Igel (University of Maryland)

**SESSION VI**

**2:45 PM – 3:45 PM**

**THE LATIN AMERICAN JEWISH METROPOLIS**

*Chair:* Raanan Rein (Tel Aviv University)

**“Rabinas’ Practices and Innovations: The Case of Conservative  
Congregational Rabinas in Buenos Aires”**

Valeria Cababié Schindler (Florida International University)

**“Post Holocaust Survivors and their Children in Latin American Cities”**

Cristina Chavarría (U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum)

**“Inmigrantes judíos y barrios obreros. La expansión urbana de Bogotá  
entre 1913 y 1933”**

Enrique Martínez Ruiz (Tel Aviv University)

**SESSION VII**

**4:00 PM – 5:00 PM**

**JUDIOS EN GRINGOLANDIA: LATIN AMERICAN JEWS AND THE NORTH  
AMERICAN CITY**

*Chair:* Gabriel Cwilich (Yeshiva University)

**“South American Jewish Writers Moving toward the City”**

Juanita Heredia (Northern Arizona University)

**“Ethnic Options? Latin American Jewish Immigrants in the New York  
Area”**

Laura Limonic (The Graduate Center, CUNY)

**The Jew in the Latino, the Latino in the Jew: Responding to the Immigrant  
Narrative in the Urban Setting of Miami**

Miriam Moussatche-Wechsler (Jewish Community Services of South Florida)

**COFFEE BREAK**

**5:00 PM – 5:15 PM**

**SESSION VIII**

**5:15 PM – 6:15 PM**

**ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION:**

**JEWS AND THE CITY / LA CIUDAD Y LOS JUDIOS**

*Chair:* Edna Aizenberg (Marymount Manhattan College)

Edna Aizenberg, Ronnie Perelis (Yeshiva University), Naomi Lindstrom

(University of Texas at Austin), Raanan Rein (Tel Aviv University), Nora

Glickman (Queens College, CUNY)

**WINE, REFRESHMENTS, AND MUSIC WITH JOSEPH ALPAR**

**6:15PM – 7:30 PM**

**This event is partly sponsored by the CUNY Academy for the Humanities and  
Sciences, the Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures at Queens  
College, CUNY, the Yeshiva University Sephardic Studies Programs, the YU  
Museum, and the YU Center for Israel Studies.**