Chris-Fest 2024: A Symposium in Celebration of Christine Hayes

Prof. Christine Hayes
Sterling Professor of Religious Studies in Classical Judaica

April 4 & 5, 2024
320 YORK STREET HUMANITIES QUADRANGLE, RM. 276

THURSDAY, APRIL 4:
9AM COFFEE/PASTRIES
9:30AM OPENING REMARKS
10:00AM-11AM RECONCEIVING RABBINIC CATEGORIES
Orit Malka - “His four fringes came and appeared to him like four witnesses” (Sifre Deuteronomy 115): On Testimony, Forewarning, and Oaths.
Allessia Bellusci - Jewish Maternal Knowledge in Late Antiquity: Conceptualizing the Fetus between Law and Magic
11AM-12PM CONTEXTUAL REIMAGINATIONS
Shira Eliassian - Between Babylonian and Palestinian Representations of Death: Reflections on the Postmortal in Tractate Berakhot
Simcha Gross - Synagogue on a Hill or in the Plain: Frontier Imaginaries in the Babylonian Talmud
12PM-1:30PM LUNCH
1:30PM-2:30PM THE RABBIS AND THE END OF TIME
Ayelet Libson - Guarantorship: The History of a Metaphor in Rabbinic Literature
Jenny Labendz - Post-Apocalypticism in Rabbinic Literature
2:30PM-3:30PM ENCOUNTERING THE DIVINE
Noah Bickart - Lashes of Fire: The Prehistory of a Talmudic Punishment for Angels
3:30PM-3:45PM COFFEE BREAK
3:45PM-4:45PM RABBINIC ATTENTION AND DESIRE
Chaya Halberstam - What Women Want: Reassessing a Cryptic Pericope in Yerushalmi Yevamot
Erez DeGolan - Exploring Atteniveness in the Amidah
4:45PM-5:45PM TERMINOLOGICAL GENEALOGIES
David Flatto - The Pairs (Zugot): History, Ideology and Authority
Shlomo Zuckier - Gemiri in Rabbinic Sources: A Methodological Case Study
6PM-8PM RECEPTION AND DINNER
FRIDAY, APRIL 5:
8AM-8:30AM BREAKFAST
8:30AM-9:30AM JEWS AND ROMANS
Alan Appelbaum - The Aurum Coronarium: The Historical Significance of Patriarchal Taxation of the Jews.
Joshua Burns - Shabbat as Defence of Roman Law.
9:30AM-10:30AM RABBINIC GRAMMARS
Elizabeth Shanks Alexander - The Rabbis as Readers of Grammatical Gender
Alexander Marcus - Vernacular Gender in the Barli’s Folk Rhetoric
10:30AM-11:30AM IDENTITY, HUMANITY, AND THE POWER OF RELATIONSHIPS
Emilie Amar-Zifkin - Comedy and Comity at the Edge of the Abyss: Humor and Self-Definition in Sefer Hasidim
Beth Berkowitz - Revisiting the So-Called Humanitarian Rationale for the Bible’s Laws about Animal Families: From Philo to the Rabbis to Today.
11:30AM CLOSING REMARKS
11:45AM LUNCH

CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS
MICHAL BAR-ASHER SIEGAL, SARA RONIS, TZVI NOVICK, SIMCHA GROSS, CONVENERS - MARIA DOERFLER AND ELLI STERN

MADE POSSIBLE BY THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF THE WILLIAM & MIRIAM HOROWITZ FUND AND SPONSORED BY THE PROGRAM IN JEWISH STUDIES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES AT YALE.