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The New Mexico Jewish Historical Society
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The New Mexico Jewish Historical Society is a beneficiary agency of the Jewish Federation of New Mexico



# New Mexico Jewish Historical Society

# Jewish Identities Lost, Rediscovered, and Reclaimed



November 12 & 13, 2016

New Mexico History Museum
and
The Lodge at Santa Fe
Santa Fe, New Mexico

# New Mexico Jewish Historical Society Optional Pre-Conference Activities

Friday November 11

5:00 p.m. Community Dinner at Temple Beth Shalom with Dr. Fran Levine Reservation required with Temple Beth Shalom

6:30 p.m. Friday Services at TBS followed by Oneg, co-sponsored by NMJHS Friday Services also available at

\*Congregation Beit Tikva

\*The Santa Fe Jewish Center, and

\*Kol BeRamah

#### Saturday November 12

10:00-12:00

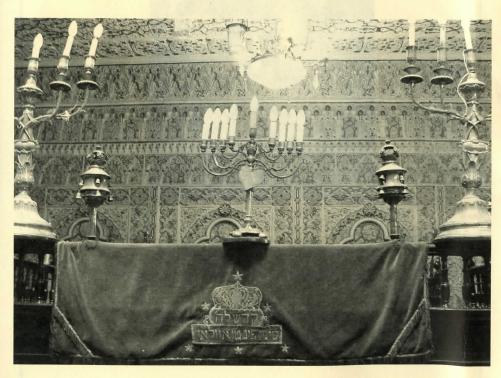
Optional activities.

o Services at local synagogues.

o Walking tour of Jewish Santa Fe

O Unguided tour of the New Mexico History Museum exhibition, "Fractured Faith: Spanish Judaism, the Inquisition and New World Identities"

#### 12:00 Open lunch



Nahon Synagogue, Tangier, Morocco

# Fall Conference Program 2016

New Mexico History Museum Auditorium

1:00 Welcome Director of the New Mexico History Museum, Andrew Wulf NMJHS President, Linda Goff

1:30 Keynote Address

Jonathan Israel, Ph.D., Retired, Institute for Advanced Studies, Princeton Introduced by Murray Tucker

"Why did the Main Persecution of New Christians for Crypto-Judaism End in Mexico in the Middle of the Seventeenth Century?"

Keynote Sponsors: Sandra and David Dietz (IMO Max and Ann Chesler) and Robert and Irene Gale

2:45 Break

# Session 1 The Converso Experience in Spain and Mexico

Moderator: Ron D. Hart

3:00 to 3:30 The Converso Experience in Spanish Literary Expression Estelle E. Quain, Ph.D.

3:30 to 4:00 Was She or Wasn't She? Doña Teresa versus the Inquisition Victoria Erhart, Ph.D.

4:00 to 4:30 New Mexico Inquisition Legacy of Miguel de Quintana Isabelle Medina Sandoval, Ed.D.

4:30 to 5:00 The Twentieth Century Return to Judaism Movement Ron D. Hart, Ph.D.

Session Sponsors: Harvey and Christine Buchalter (IHO our parents); Linda and Ed Goff (IHO Richard Melzer); Carol Sonnenschein and Stuart Feen; Rae Siporin; Marian Silver (IMO Abe Silver)

6:00 Reception & Dinner (The Lodge at Santa Fe Hotel)

7:30 Fran Levine, Ph.D., Director, Missouri History Museum Introduced by Richard Melzer, Ph.D. "Return to Sepharad"

Speaker Sponsors: Cate Dixon and Anonymous

# The Lodge at Santa Fe Hotel

Sunday, Nov. 13

8:30 a.m. Coffee, Tea and Muffins

9:00 Welcome and Introduction to the Sunday Program Conference Co-Chair, Ron D. Hart

#### Conversos and the Return to Jewish Practice

Moderator: Linda Goff

9:15 – 9:45 New Mexico Paradise: Making Jewish Home Practice Meaningful To-

day. Rabbi Jack Shlachter, Ph.D.

Sponsor: Jewish Community Council of Northern New Mexico (IHO Ron D.

Hart and Yaszmina Nedboy)

9:45 - 10:15 Conversos and the Return to Judaism

Rabbi Neil Amswych

General Sponsor: Temple Beth Shalom (IHO Rabbi Neil Amswych)

10:15 to 10:30 - Coffee Break

#### Fractured Faith: Identity and Life Today

Moderator: Isabelle Medina Sandoval

10:45 – 11:15 Judaism, My Identity and Life

Panel with Maria Sanchez, Maria Apodaca, Bianca McDer-

mott

11:15 – 11:45 What Is the Significance of the Spanish Law of Return Today?

Sara Koplik, Ph.D. and Daniel Diaz-Huerta

11:45 – 12:15 The 20th Century South-to-North American Historical Narrative of Fray Angelico Chavez & the 21st Century Discovery of New Mexico's

Crypto-Jews. Joseph Mora

Session Sponsors: Diane Layden (IMO Barbara Layden Bernstein); Dave Gorlick, (IMO Beverly Gorlick, wife and Lillian Gorlick, mother); Lance and Julia Bell, (IMO Irving and Marilyn Bell); Steven and Susan Goldstein; Santa Fe Jewish Film Festival; and Susan Michelson and Bill Stein (IMO Erwin Michelson)

12:15 Conference Wrap Up Linda Goff, NMJHS President

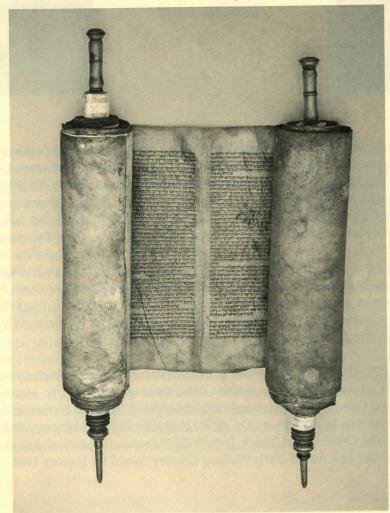
#### **Torah Scroll**

Featured in

"Fractured Faiths:

Spanish Judaism, the Inquisition and New World Identities"

New Mexico History Museum



Collection of Museo Sefardi Toledo, Spain In Exhibition

# **Keynote Speaker**



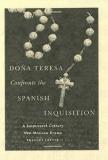
Jonathan Israel



Jonathan Israel's work is concerned with European and European colonial history from the Renaissance to the eighteenth century. His recent work focuses on the impact of radical thought (especially Spinoza, Bayle, Diderot, and the eighteenth-century French materialists) on the Enlightenment and on the emergence of modern ideas of democracy, equality, toleration, freedom of the press, and individual freedom. His books range from European Jewry in the Age of Mercantilism, 1550–1750 (1985); The Dutch Republic: Its Rise, Greatness, and Fall, 1477–1806 (1995); Radical Enlightenment: Philosophy and the Making of Modernity, 1650–1750 (2001); Enlightenment Contested: Philosophy, Modernity, and the Emancipation of Man 1670–1752 (2006); and A Revolution of the Mind: Radical Enlightenment and the Intellectual Origins of Modern Democracy (2009).

Awards: PROSE Award 2015; City of Amsterdam, Frans Banninck Cocq Medal 2012; London Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce, Benjamin Franklin Medal 2010; Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences, Dr. A. H. Heineken Prize in History 2008; Knight of the Order of the Dutch Lion 2004; American Historical Association, Leo Gershoy Award 2001; Wolfson Literary Award for History 1986.

# **Dinner Speaker**



Frances Levine



Frances Levine is the President of the Missouri Historical Society and formerly Director of the New Mexico History Museum. She is an anthropologist (Ph.D. Southern Methodist University), and she did postdoctoral work on museum leadership in the Getty Museum Leadership Institute in Los Angeles. The initial work on organizing the "Fractured Faiths" exhibition was done under the guidance of Dr. Levine.

She is the author of four books, including her most recent one: Doña Teresa Confronts the Spanish Inquisition, which is about the life of Doña Teresa Aguilera y Roche, the wife of New Mexico governor Bernardo Lopez de Mendizábal, who was accused before the Inquisition as a Judaizer and taken to Mexico City for trial. Her other books include Our Prayers Are in This Place: Pecos Pueblo Identity over the Centuries, Through the Lens: Creating Santa Fe (with MaryAnne Redding and Krista Elrick), and Telling New Mexico: A New History (with Marta Weigle and Louise Stiver), a chapter in the 400th anniversary volume All Trails Lead to Santa Fe (with Gerald Gonzalez), and Frontier Battles and Massacres: Historical and Archaeological Perspectives (editor with Ron Wetherington).

# **Conference Speakers and Panelists**

#### Estelle E. Quain, Ph.D.

Education: PhD Romance Languages and Literature, Harvard Professional Background- Senior Technical Advisor, USAID; Director, Centre for Development and Population, Washington, D.C.; and Assistant Professor of Spanish, Boston University.

#### Victoria Erhart, Ph.D.

Erhart has a Ph.D. in religious studies from the Catholic University of America. She was for twenty years in higher education as online and in-class instructor and administrator. Her areas of specialty are communications and journalism expertise with concentration on environmental issues and sustainable technologies; fundraising experience using crowd funding platforms; computer skills including familiarity with Microsoft Office suite, database and project management software.



#### Isabelle Medina Sandoval, Ed.D.

Medina-Sandoval has written two historical novels about the converso background in her family. She has won several short story and poetry contests. She has been listed in Who's Who of American Women, Who's Who in America, and Who's Who Among America's Teachers. She keeps the family home in Mora that was settled by ancestors who were original members of the Mora Land Grant. Her family came to New Mexico in 1598, and she has ancestors from Toledo, Spain.



#### Ron D. Hart, Ph.D.

and postdoctoral work in Jewish Studies at the University of Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies. He is a former University Vice-President and Dean of Academic Affairs. He has awards from the New Mexico Jewish Historical Society, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Endowment for the Arts, the National Science Foundation, Ford Foundation, and Fulbright among others. Hart has written a dozen books, including Sephardic Jews.

#### Rabbi Jack Shlachter, Ph.D.

Rabbi Shlachter has a Ph.D. in Physics from the University of California, and he is the Director of the Theoretical Division of Los Alamos National Laboratory and Rabbi at Congregation HaMakom in Santa Fe. He says of himself, "I have been conducting religious services for most of my adult life. Being gifted with a strong voice allows me to serve as shaliach tzibbur as well as rabbi. I routinely officiate at lifecycle events, from baby namings, b'nai mitzvahs and weddings, to funerals and memorial services, and I teach and lead Torah discussions in New Mexico and out-of-state."

#### Rabbi Neil Amswych

Rabbi Neil studied Astrophysics at St. Andrews' University in Scotland before training to be a Reform Rabbi at the Leo Baeck College in London. He was the Principal Rabbi of Bournemouth Reform Synagogue in the U.K. for ten years before moving to Santa Fe as the Rabbi of Temple Beth Shalom. A keen environmentalist, Rabbi Neil is adamant that faith communities have an essential role in helping the disadvantaged and vulnerable in our society.

#### Panel discussants:

#### Maria D. Sanchez, Ed.D.

Licensed professional clinical counselor with MA in Counseling and doctorate in Pastoral Counseling. She has been involved in Crypto/Converso Sephardi research since the early 1980's. She is working on a Sudadio/Siddur/ Prayer book for the Sephardi Crypto/Converso community.

#### Maria Apodaca

Apodaca is the event coordinator for the Festival Djudeo-Espanyol, Vice President for membership (West coast) Society for Crypto Judaic Studies. Retired from UNMH. Speaker on personal Jewish journey for the Road Scholar program.

#### Bianca McDermott, Ph.D.

With a Ph.D. in psychology from Yale University, McDermott is interested in the psychological impact of discovering the Jewish DNA of her family and the path of return to Judaism through study and synagogue attendance.



#### Sara Koplik, Ph.D.

A Political and Economic History of the Jews of Afghanistan. She has a Ph.D. in Middle Eastern history from the University of London. Her book on the Jews of Afghanistan focuses on how this Jewish community survived due to flexibility, multilingualism, and extensive trading networks. She is editor of The New Mexico Jewish Link and Director of Hillel at the University of New Mexico. She has been involved with information about the recent law of return to Spain for people of Sephardic descent.

#### Daniel Diaz-Huerta

Diaz-Huerta is a graduate of Arizona State University in Spanish and is an independent researcher who focuses on the unique characteristics of northern New Mexico Spanish, Medieval Spanish converso literature, Kabbalah and Crytpo-Jewish Liturgy.

#### Joseph Mora

Education- Santa Barbara City College, Gonzaga University, and Loyola Marymount University. Professional Background- Musical Performances in Theatre and Music.

### **NMJHS Past Presidents**

Thank you for your service.

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Jim Mafchir

Susan Campbell

Stan Hordes

Gunther Aron

Claire Grossman

Sharon Niederman

Phil Saltz

Shirley Jacobson

Lance Bell

Harold Melnick

Noel Pugach

Dorothy Corner Amsden

Naomi Sandweiss

Paula Amar Schwartz

# Honoring Past Recipients of th Dr. Allan and Leona Hurst Award

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Walter Kahn

Henry J. Tobias

Melanie LaBorwit

Claire Grossman

Taos Jewish Center

Leah Kellogg

Rabbi Leonard Helman

Noel Pugach

Abraham Chanin

Lance Bell

Dorothy Corner Amsden

Naomi Sandweiss

Lisa Kaplan Witt

Marian Silver

Ron Duncan Hart

Betsy Nordhaus Messeca

Harvey Buchalter

# Thank You to The New Mexico History Museum

for the exhibition

Fractured Faiths:
Spanish Judaism, the Inquisition and New World Identities

Which has made a major contribution to completing the story of Jewish heritage in New Mexico.

Andrew Wulf, Director Josef Diaz, Curator of Southwest and Mexican Colonial Art and History Melanie LaBorwit, Educator

#### **Special Appreciation to**

Seymour Merrin
Helene Singer Merrin
and the many other donors
who made this exhibition possible

Exhibition Curators
Josef Diaz and Roger Davila Martinez

Historical Consultants Ron D. Hart, Stan Hordes, and Fran Levine

The book on the exhibition is a Finalist for the 2016 Best Book, New Mexico/Arizona Book Awards

Fractured Faiths: Spanish Judaism, the Inquisition and New World Identities, edited by Josef Dias, Roger Davila Martinez and Ron D. Hart.

Albuquerque: Fresco Books

# **Images from Sephardic and Converso Life**



Edict of Expulsion of Jews



Jewish Salt cellar



Sephardic Ketuba from Tudela



Grogger from Spain



Gravestone, New Mexico

#### **Conference Donors**

The Board of Directors of the New Mexico Jewish Historical Society thanks those who have generously donated to make the NMJHS Fall Conference a success.

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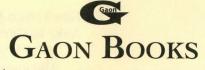
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