

International Workshop

Ancient Jewish Magic

University of Bern, Institute for Jewish Studies, October 31 – November 2, 2018

Room 312, Mittelstrasse 43, CH-3012 Bern

Wednesday, October 31

09:00-09:30	Welcome reception at the cafeteria in Mittelstrasse 43: Coffee and snacks
09:30-09:45	Opening words: René Bloch, head of the Institute for Jewish Studies Chaja V. Duerrschnabel, Organizer
09:45-11:15	René Bloch (University of Bern): Jewish Magic in Graeco-Roman Sources (Workshop)
11:15-11:45	Véronique Dasen (University of Fribourg): Metaphors of Chance
11:45-12:15	Fabio Spadini (University of Fribourg): Can a Horoscope Be Magical?
12:15-13:45	Lunch at Restaurant Vanakam (kosher)
13:45-14:15	Alexander L. Wolfe (independent scholar): Magic Seals and Amulets
14:15-14:45	Rivka Elitzur Leimann (Tel Aviv University): The Angel who Stood in front of Balaam's Donkey' - a Unique Jewish Aramaic defixio from the Circus at Antioch
14:45-16:30	Gideon Bohak (Tel Aviv University): The Lamella Bernensis (Workshop)
16:30-17:00	Coffee at the cafeteria in Mittelstrasse 43
17:00-19:00	Guided Tour at the Antikensammlung (Lamella Bernensis)
	Individual dinner

Thursday, November 1

09:00-09:30	Avigail Manekin Bamberger (Hebrew University): Scribes or Sorcerers: Who Wrote the Jewish Aramaic Incantation bowls?
09:30-10:00	Dorit Kedar (Freie Universität Berlin): Who Wrote the Incantation bowls?
10:00-10:30	Chaja V. Duerrschnabel (University of Bern): Figures of Speech in Jewish Babylonian Curse Bowls
10:30-11:00	Coffee at the cafeteria in Mittelstrasse 43
11:00-12:30	Matthew Morgenstern (Tel Aviv University): Mandaean Religious Themes in the Mandaic Phylactery <i>bit mišqal ainia</i> (Workshop)
12:30-14:00	Lunch at Restaurant Vanakam (kosher)
14:00-15:45	James Nathan Ford (Bar Ilan University): Bowls for Popularity and Success (Workshop)
15:45-16:15	Coffee at the cafeteria in Mittelstrasse 43
16:15-17:45	Gaby Abousamra (Lebanese University): The Magic Background of Syriac Amulets
19:00	Conference Dinner

Friday, November 2

09:00-09:30	Daniel Waller (University of Groningen): Invented Scripts and Charlatans? The Case of the So-Called Pseudo-Scripts in the Mesopotamian Magic Bowls
09:30-10:00	Ilana Wartenberg (University of Bern): Magical Elements in a Medieval Hebrew Calendrical Treatise from Northern France by Rashi's Student Jacob bar Samson
10:00-10:30	Isabel Grimm Stadelmann (Ludwigs-Maximilian-Universität München): Decanal Melothesy in the Late Antique Text Compilations of <i>Testamentum Salomonis</i> and <i>Cyranides</i>
10:30-11:00	Coffee at the cafeteria in Mittelstrasse 43
11:00-12:45	Alexey Lyavdansky (University of Moscow): The Collection of Magic Bowls in State Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg. Selected Readings and Highlights (Workshop)
12:30-14:00	Lunch at Restaurant Vanakam (kosher)
14:00-15:30	Round Table: Jewish Magic in Antiquity?
16:00	Walking tour in the historic center of Bern

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