CJMC Newsletter No. 7  
(June 5, 2017)

With this newsletter, we invite you to events taking place at CJMC and provide information about new projects and publications in the field of Jewish Studies in the Scandinavian countries. By establishing a network that connects researchers from different disciplines, we hope to facilitate interdisciplinary and international cooperation.

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The “Center for the Study of Jewish Thought in Modern Culture” (CJMC) at the University of Copenhagen was launched in March 2014.

It offers a public forum for exchanges of thought between scholars interested in Judaism and its impact in modern and postmodern philosophy, theology, psychology, history, sociology, literature, art, and culture in general.

The center’s aim is to create an academic home for the discussion of three focal areas which are particularly prominent in Jewish thought, but which also have a much broader significance: (1) post-Holocaust hermeneutics and philosophy of language  
(2) trauma, witnessing, and memory mediation  
(3) images of (in)humanity in religion, art, and ethics.

CJMC’s multi-disciplinary approach is propelled by scholarly interests not only in classic, but also in forgotten or understudied Jewish sources and their capacity to enrich contemporary culture. Thereby we wish to initiate a dialogue between foreign and familiar voices from the past and present, and to link internal and outside perspectives on Jewish thought.

NEWS

CJMC has received a new website, see [http://teol.ku.dk/cjmc/english/](http://teol.ku.dk/cjmc/english/)

• News from CJMC’s affiliated researchers and our network in Scandinavia

Jessica Ortner co-organizes the Annual Conference of the “Memory Studies Association” (MSA), which will take place at the University of Copenhagen later this year, see the call for papers below.
P. Johan Lose (MA in Comparative Literature, University of Southern Denmark) interned with us at CJMC between April 1 and May 31, 2017. From June 1 until July 31, 2017, he is employed as editorial assistant.

On May 6, 2017, Oriol Poveda Guillén successfully defended the PhD thesis According to whose will: The entanglements of gender & religion in the lives of transgender Jews with an Orthodox background at Uppsala University.


• Activities at CJMC in spring 2017

March 3, 2017
Book launch
Poetologie „nach Auschwitz“: Narratologie, Semantik und sekundäre Zeugenschaft in Elfriede Jelineks Roman Die Kinder der Toten by Jessica Ortner
Read more

April 7, 2017
Film presentation
New Documentary: "Shadows – when the past rules the present" by Anne Gyrithre Bonne
Read more

Master courses including Jewish sources, topics, and learning methods such as chavruta:
- Claudia Welz, “Religion and society” (on the reading list are, e.g., texts by Franz Rosenzweig, Walter Benjamin, Martin Buber, and Emmanuel Levinas).
- Claudia Welz and Laila Bomose, “Grief, memory, and religious language” (on the reading list are, e.g., trauma and memory studies and classic texts by Freud).

UPCOMING EVENTS
Fall 2017

• Events at CJMC in Copenhagen (NB: participation is free, but online registration required)

September 15, 2017
Open Lecture by Holger Schulze
The Sonic Persona
Read more

October 20, 2017
Research Seminar
Phenomenology of Listening (no.1): Theology
Read more

November 10, 2017
Open Lecture by Andrew Benjamin
Listening, Writing and the Founding of the Law: Notes on Exodus 32:10-20
Read more
For updates, please see the CJMC calendar

• **Call for papers: Annual Conference of the “Memory Studies Association” (MSA)**

The submission system closes on July 1, 2017.

• **International conference on Vilna**

International conference on “Vilna – Jerusalem of Lithuania – A Multicultural Memory Site” (November 16, 2017) at Lund University about the Jewish religious and cultural center, Vilna, which ceased to exist after its destruction in the Holocaust during World War II. Today the primary memory site of Vilna, a main Ashkenazi center of Eastern Europe, is a rich textual heritage in multiple languages, primarily Yiddish and Hebrew. Among keynote speakers are Cecile Kuznitz, Justin Cammy, and Jan Schwarz.

• **PhD Courses offered in Jewish Studies**

For PhD courses at CJMC, see [http://teol.ku.dk/cjmc/english/calendar/](http://teol.ku.dk/cjmc/english/calendar/)
For PhD courses at all universities in Denmark, see [https://phdcourses.dk/](https://phdcourses.dk/)

• **Open positions**

Achvat Amim is now accepting applications for a 5-month volunteer experience based in Jerusalem that directly engages with the reality of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, based on the core value of self-determination for all peoples. The next program is beginning September 4, 2017. Applications are open for both September and February cohorts. Grants are available. For more details, background, and what you’ll learn and do, see the website [http://www.achvatamim.org/](http://www.achvatamim.org/) and any questions you have can be directed to the Program Director, Daniel Roth, at daniel@achvatamim.org.

**RECENT PUBLICATIONS**

**By affiliated researchers in Scandinavia**

Since the field of Jewish Studies is still under-represented at universities in the Nordic countries, and since many scholars in this field do their work more or less in isolation, without the support of active research environments, we include an overview of recent Scandinavian publications in the newsletter.


  
  - “Editorial: Ethics and aesthetics of Holocaust memory” (1-2) by Claudia Welz and Inge Birgitte Siegumfeldt
  
  - “Landscape, boundaries, and the limits of representation: The *Stolpersteine* as a commemorative space” (4-21) by Miriam Volmert
  
  - “The aesthetics and ethics of performative Holocaust memory in Poland” (22-37) by Diana Isidora Popescu
  
  - “The reconfiguration of the European Archive in contemporary German-Jewish migrant-literature: Katja Petrowskaja’s novel *Vielleicht Esther*” (38-54) by Jessica Ortnet
  
  - “Lightning flashes of my burning memory’: Dissociation and trauma in a second-generation perpetrator novella by Thomas Lehr” (55-66) by Claudia Benthien

  - “Presence and absence of the belated witness in two short stories by Mavis Gallant” (67-76) by Joseph Ballan

  - Essay: “Memory, shame and dignity” (77-85) by Göran Rosenberg

- Oriol Poveda Guillén, *The entanglements of gender & religion in the lives of transgender Jews with an Orthodox background* (PhD thesis), Uppsala: Acta Universitatis Upsaliensis 2017 (online access via [https://shar.es/1FIZbj](https://shar.es/1FIZbj)).


*If you want to become part of the network and submit references to your recent work, you are welcome to contact Claudia Welz at [cwe@teol.ku.dk](mailto:cwe@teol.ku.dk).*