Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies

OSAJS CONFERENCE: "On the Word of a Jew": Oaths, Testimonies and the Nature of Trust



11-12 March 2014

at Yarnton Manor, Yarnton, Oxford, OX5 1PY

Convenors: Mitchell Hart and Nina Caputo

Tuesday 11 March

13.00: LUNCH (in the Common Room)

14.00:

Session 1: To Swear an Oath? Chair: Sara Lipton (State Univ. of New York, Stony Brook)

Ephraim Shoham-Steiner (Ben-Gurion University)

"And in most of their give and take they rely on this": Jews and Oaths in the Commercial Arena in 13th century Europe

Joshua Curk (Wolfson College, Oxford)

The Oath of a Jew in the 13th Century English Legal Context

Lisa Leff (American University)

The Jewish Oath in Post-Revolutionary France

16.00: TEA

16.30:

Session 2: The Business of Trust Chair: Todd Endelman (University of Michigan)

Daniel Strum (University of São Paulo)

Use of Litigation in Trade Related Cases by and among Jews and Conversos in the late 16th and early 17th century in Brazil, Portugal and the Netherlands

Hasia Diner (New York University)

Trust Went Both Ways: Jewish Peddlers and their New World Customers

Stefanie Fischer (Berlin)

Negotiating trustworthiness: Jewish Cattle Dealers in the Public Rhetoric around a Trustworthy Businessman in post-WWI Germany

18.30: DRINKS/DINNER (by invitation only)

Tuesday 11 March cont'd......

20.00: KEYNOTE LECTURE OPEN TO ALL

George Rousseau (Oxford)

Trust a Jew.....? Some Riddles of American Psychiatry between the Great Depression and McCarthyism

Wednesday 12 March

9.30: BREAKFAST

10.00:

Session 3: Cultural Testimonies Chair: Mitchell Hart (University of Florida)

Mitch Numark

(California State University, Sacramento)

The 'Favourite Soldiers' in the Bombay Army: British Representations of India's Bene Israel Jews, c. 1786-1860

Robert Leventhal

(College of William and Mary)

The Jewish Physician as Respondent, Confidant and Proxy: The Case of Marcus Herz and Immanuel Kant 1770- 1790

Adriana X. Jacobs

(Oxford)

"He is too French for us": Baudelaire in Hebrew

12.00: Concluding round table discussion

1.00: LUNCH