

# The *Purim-shpil* and Beyond: A Seminar on Jewish Theatre

Michaelmas Term 2012

Convenor: Dr Zehavit Stern

Thursdays, 2.30-4.00pm, Room 314 Oriental Institute, Pusey Lane

Focusing on the interwar period, the seminar series will examine Modern Jewish theatre in the broader context of European culture and the (real or alleged) heritage of Yiddish and Hebrew culture



**Week 1:** 11 Oct **Dr Zehavit Stern** (Oxford)  
*How to Begin the Story of Yiddish Theatre? The Quest for Origins and the Rediscovery of the Purim-shpil*

*Theatre in the Yishuv (Jewish Palestine)*

**Week 2:** 18 Oct **Dr Hizky Shoham** (Tel Aviv/OCHJS)  
*Purim Balls in Jewish Palestine: From Community Theatre to Environmental Theatre*

**Week 3:** 25 Oct **Professor Glenda Abramson** (Oxford)  
*Conflict and Rejection: Three Plays of Settlement*

**Week 4:** 1 Nov **Dr Dorit Yerushalmi** (University of Haifa)  
*New Readings in the History of Hebrew Theatre: The Workers' Theater of Eretz Yisrael Staging 'The Good Soldier Švejk' (1935)*

*Israeli Theatre*

**Week 5:** 8 Nov **Professor Freddie Rokem** (Tel Aviv University)  
*The Dramaturgy of Loss and Suffering: Hanoach Levin's Play 'The Torments (Passion) of Job'*

*Eastern and Central European Jewish Theatre*

**Week 6:** 15 Nov **Dr Brigitte Dalinger** (University of Vienna)  
*'Fun shenk biz tsum kunst-teater': Yiddish Theatre in Vienna Between "Jargon" and Art*

**Week 7:** 22 Nov **Diego Rotman** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)  
*Staging the Hebrew Nation: On Dzigán and Schumacher's Yiddish Parody 'The New Dybbuk'*

**Week 8:** 29 Nov **Dr Lisa Peschel** (The University of York)  
*The Cultural Life of the Terezín/Theresienstadt Ghetto: Czech-language Cabaret and Prague's Interwar Avant-garde*

**Special Performance at 5pm on 22 November:**

*'Albatros 2003 oder 2003 Albatros'* – a performance by the Sala-manca group will re-visit Modernist Yiddish Poetry and manifestos and pay homage to their revolutionary spirit by using experimental technology  
(Venue to be announced)