

The David Patterson Lectures Week 4

Professor Susanne Marten-Finnis
(University of Portsmouth/
University of Bremen)

'Modern Jewish Art Criticism in Berlin at One Hundred: *Rachel Wischnitzer - El Lissitzky - Ilya Ehrenburg*'

Susanne Marten-Finnis is an Anglo-German scholar who has specialised in the study of Jewish periodicals in the European countries of former Jewish residency and migration. Her research methods explore the nexus between European thought and a unique textual tradition as the principal subject of Jewish heritage. Exemplary in this respect are her pioneering studies and publications on the transformative character of Jewish periodicals in Vilna, Czernovitz and Berlin. Her academic career includes positions at Queens University Belfast (Northern Ireland) and the universities of Portsmouth (United Kingdom) and Bremen (Germany) as well as visiting scholarships at the universities of Heidelberg, Berlin, Minsk and Oxford.

Abstract: The year 1922 saw the launch of two avant-garde reviews in Berlin: *Milgroym-Rimon* and *Veshch-Gegenstand-l'Objet*. These publications marked the early steps of professionalization in modern Jewish art criticism. *Milgroym* was launched in Yiddish, together with its cognate Hebrew issue *Rimon*, by the art historian Rachel Wischnitzer who sparked a new Jewish style by merging the Jewish artistic heritage and the modernist spirit. *Veshch* was the most advanced and spectacular review of avant-garde creativity, and it appeared in Russian, German and French under the editorship of El Lissitzky and Ilya Ehrenburg. This lecture will discuss *Milgroym* and *Veshch* within a historical narrative of the Jewish press landscape in 1920s Berlin.

**Thursday, 9 February 2023
6-7pm (UK time)**

**This lecture will be a hybrid session which will be accessible both online
(see below) and in person in the Catherine Lewis Lecture Room
(refreshments to follow)**

No need to register if attending in person.

In order to participate in this lecture online, please register at this link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcpcO6hqzItG9LkwHIYajwN91kYecGDuy8c>

ALL LECTURES ARE OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Refreshments to follow