Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies

OCHJS

Clarendon Institute
Walton Street
Oxford, OX1 2HG

01865 610422
enquiries@ochjs.ac.uk
www.ochjs.ac.uk

THE SIXTH ALFRED LEHMANN MEMORIAL LECTURE

Week 3
Wednesday, 28 October

Professor Dr Simone Lässig
TU Braunschweig

German Cities, Jewish Spaces: Representation, Belonging, and Cultural Change (1830s-1860s)

Professor Dr Simone Lässig is professor of modern history at Braunschweig University and the author of the book *Jewish Life and Social Change in Central Europe: Coping with Modernity* (forthcoming at Cambridge University Press, Spring 2027).

Abstract:
Jewish urban spaces were in the grip of great changes in the late *Sattelzeit*. This presentation focuses specifically on changes in synagogues from both an internal and an external perspective. For Jews, synagogues were becoming laboratories for adopting new cultural norms and practices. And from the outside, the meanings assigned to synagogues within urban topographies were also being transformed. By focusing on the new synagogues built up to the 1860s, I highlight German Jews' agency and explain their developing collective confidence during this period despite their ambiguous legal status.

Week 3, Wednesday, 28 October 2026, 5 pm (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, Clarendon Institute, Oxford

In order to participate in this lecture online, please register at this link:
https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/Y2cE90WJQ_2ldtWnqfSf-Q

OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC
Refreshments to follow

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