



The 34th Annual Symposium
on Jewish Civilization

Chronicling Jews and Crime: From Law-Makers to Law-Breakers

Sunday, October 23–Monday, October 24, 2022

CO-HOSTED BY

The Klutznick Chair in Jewish Civilization
Creighton University

The Kripke Center for the Study of Religion and Society
Creighton University

The Harris Center for Judaic Studies
University of Nebraska–Lincoln

The Natan and Hannah Schwalb Center for Israel & Jewish Studies
University of Nebraska–Omaha

The Jewish Federation of Omaha



Sunday, October 23

University of Nebraska at Omaha | 6001 Dodge Street
College of Public Affairs and Community Service, Room 132D

9–9:15 a.m. Introductions

9:15–11:25 a.m. Session 1

9:15–9:55 a.m. **Menachem Keren-Kratz**, Independent Scholar, Israel
Ideologically Justified Violence Among Israel's Ultra-Orthodox Society

10–10:40 a.m. **Motti Inbari**, University of North Carolina Pembroke
*How did Settlers' Rabbis respond to Violence and Incitement?
The Case of the Massacre in the Tomb of the Patriarchs in Hebron
(1994) and the Assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin (1995)*

10:45–11:25 a.m. **Jesse Abelman**, Museum of the Bible, Washington, D.C.
*Legal Autonomy, Violent Crime, and Informing to Gentile Courts
in High Medieval Ashkenaz*

Omaha Jewish Community Center | 333 South 132 Street
Weissman Room

Noon–1 p.m. Lunch

1:05–2:30 p.m. Session 2

1:05–1:45 p.m. **Joseph E. Kraus**, University of Scranton
Breaking the Frame: The Jewish Gangster Figure's Defiance of Narrative

1:50–2:30 p.m. **Mara W. Cohen Ioannides**, Missouri State University
Murder-Suicide in the Ozarks: The Story of William and Malinda Lowenstein

2:30–2:50 p.m. Break

2:50–5 p.m. Session 3

2:50–3:30 p.m. **Kimmy Caplan**, Bar Ilan University
*Revisiting Fraud, Corruption, and Holiness: American Immigrant Orthodox Rabbis
and Crime*

3:35–4:15 p.m. **Victoria Khiterer**, Millersville University
*The Queen and King of the Russian Underworld: Son'ka the Golden Hand
and Mishka Iaponchik*

4:20–5 p.m. **Jeffrey A. Marx**, Independent Scholar, Los Angeles
*But How do You Make a Flood? Jewish Arsonists at the Turn
of the Nineteenth Century*

Beth El Synagogue | 14506 California Street

7:30–9 p.m. **Session 4: Keynote**
Nathan Abrams, Professor in Film, Bangor University Wales
Cops and Criminals: Jews in Twenty-First Century Film and Television

Monday, October 24

Creighton University | 2500 California Plaza
V.J. and Angela Skutt Student Center, Room 105

9:15–9:30 a.m. Introductions

9:30–11:40 a.m. Session 5

9:30–10:10 a.m. **Joel Gereboff**, Arizona State University
*Yirat Elohim and Yirat Hora'ah: Fear and Other Character Traits of Judges
in Biblical and Rabbinic Thought*

10:15–10:55 a.m. **Yonatan S. Miller**, University of Toledo
Hidden Talents: Examining Tales of Israelite Priestly Corruption

11–11:40 a.m. **Chaya Halberstam**, King's University College at the University of Western Ontario
Interrogating Witness Interrogation in Susanna and the Mishnah

11:45 a.m.–12:20 p.m. Lunch

12:20–2:30 p.m. Session 6

12:20–1 p.m. **Elena Hoffenberg**, University of Chicago
*Between Social Scientific Objectivity and Jewish Political Subjectivity:
Liebmann Hersch's Analysis of Jewish Criminality in Poland*

1:05–1:45 p.m. **Motti Zalkin**, Ben Gurion University
Between Odessa and Vilna – Jewish Organized Crime as a Social Phenomenon

1:50–2:30 p.m. **Dan Clanton**, Doane University
'Frightfully Decent': Jews in Golden Age Crime Fiction

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