This conference is part of the 2024 Congress of the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences

Université McGill University
June 16-18, 2024 | du 16 au 18 juin 2024
PRELIMINARY PROGRAM | PROGRAMME PRÉLIMINAIRE

SUNDAY, JUNE 16 COMMUNITY DAY | DIMANCHE 16 JUIN JOURNÉE OUVERTE

Room MB-9D, Université Concordia, John Molson School of Business, 1450 Guy, H3H 0A1

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE SUNDAY SESSIONS ARE BEING HELD AT CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY
VEUILLEZ NOTER QUE LES SÉANCES DU DIMANCHE AURONT LIEU À L'UNIVERSITÉ CONCORDIA

10:15 a.m. – 10:30 p.m. : Welcome and Refreshments | 10h15 – 10h30 Accueil et rafraîchissements

10:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. : Concurrent Sessions | 10 h 30 – 12 h 15 : Séances de conférence
1A Walking Tour of Back River Cemetery RESERVATIONS REQUESTED | VEUILLEZ RÉSERVER
Sonia Bazar, Naomi Frost, Anna Sheftel, and Romy Shoam “Montreal’s oldest continuously operating Jewish Cemetery”

1B Bilingual session HISTOIRE JUIVE CANADIENNE (1B)
Pierre Anctil « Adrien Arcand tel que perçu par la presse yiddish de Montréal, 1929-1939 »
Tyler Wentzell “A Brilliant Young Canadian”: English Media Discourse on Adrien Arcand
Simon Pierre Lacasse « La presse juive montréalaise de langue anglaise ... l'antisémitisme d'après-guerre »
Henry Milner Quebec politics and antisemitism 1970s-1980s

12 :15 p.m. – Lunch (onsite) and book displays | 12 h 15 – Déjeuner, et dernières parutions

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. : Session 2 | 13 h – 15 h : Séance de conférence 2
JEWISH CULTURE AND MULTICULTURE (2)
David Weinfeld Canadian multi-culturalism and the American melting pot
David Koffman Kurelek’s Jewish Life in Canada
Yasmine Lucas Montreal Holocaust Museum and Transnational Holocaust Remembrance

3:00 p.m. – 4:50 p.m. : Session 3 | 15 h – 16 h 50 : Séance de conférence 3
HISTORIOGRAPHY AND HISTORICAL MOVEMENTS (3)
Jordan Molot The rise and fall of Canada’s founding Jewish settlers, 1945-1999.
Jonathan Slater Emile Berliner’s Zionist Manifesto
Irving Rosen Eastern European Jews and Toronto’s “The Ward Clinic”
Rhona Seidelman Historiography of Medicine and the Holocaust

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. : EVENING PROGRAM | 17 h – 19 h : PROGRAMME DU SOIR
Louis Rosenberg Canadian Jewish Studies Distinguished Service Award & Presentation
followed by ‘The Contemporary Leonard Cohen: Panel, Readings, and Book Launch’, with
editors Norm Ravvin, Joel Deshaye, and Kait Pinder, and a musical element (to be confirmed.)
MONDAY, JUNE 17 | LUNDI 17 JUIN
ROOM 139, Burnside Hall, McGill University, SALLE 139

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.: Session 4 | 9 h – 10 h : Séance de conference 4
EARLY LEFTISTS (4)
Samuel Bick Jewish Socialists and Anarchists in Montreal, 1900s and 1910s
Eddie Paul, JPL Jewish Leftist Movements in 20th century Canada

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10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.: Annual General Meeting & Open Board Meeting - open to all | 10 h – 12 h : Assemblée générale annuelle - ouverte à tous

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12:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.: Lunch (onsite) and Book displays | 12 h – 13 h : Déjeuner sur site / livres

1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.: Session 5 | 13 h 15 – 15 h 15 : Séance de conférence 5
ROUNDTABLE - JEWS, RACE AND THE BRITISH EMPIRE (5)
Moderator Richard Menkis, UBC; Panellists Eliana Hadjisavvas, Birkbeck, University of London; Dr. Sara Halpern, St. Olaf College in Minnesota; Gavin Schaffer, University of Birmingham

2:30 p.m. – 4:10 p.m.: Session 6 | 15 h 30 – 17 h 10 : Séance de conference 6
“COMMUNITIES IN CONFLICT” (6)
Sterling Stutz Antisemitism and Jewish Life in the Toronto Jewish Community
Hadassah O-Reilly The Festival of Sukkot in Kingston – Alleviating Antisemitism
Kenneth Grad The Prosecutions of Ernst Zundel and James Keegstra
Yael Machtinger Divorcing in the Shadows of Legal Pluralism

4:10 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.: Break | 16 h 10 – 16 h 15 : Pause

4:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.: Session 7 | 16 h 15 - 18 h : Séance de conference 7
“CULTURAL ENCOUNTERS” (7)
Miranda Crowdu Canadian-Jewish Encounters with Jewish Cultural Heritage in Germany
Catherine Khordac Mythes bibliques et gréco-romains dans l’œuvre de Monique Bosco
Zoe Belk Yiddish-language children’s literature in a multi-lingual community
Peng Yu The Kaifeng Jewish Community and the Fieldwork of William Charles White
TUESDAY, JUNE 18 | MARDI 18 JUIN
ROOM 139, Burnside Hall, McGill University, SALLE 139

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Additional meeting time, if needed | 8 h 30 – 9 h : Fin de l'AGA, si nécessaire

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. : Session 8 | 9 h – 10 h 30 : Séance de conference 8
CANADIAN JEWISH LITERATURE (8)
Aaron Kreuter Israel/Palestine in Canadian Jewish Fiction
Nora Gold Reconceptualizing Canadian Jewish Fiction
Simone Grossman Jakob, fils de Jakob, par Alain Gagnon

10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. Break | 10 h 30-10 h 45 Pause

10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. : Session 9 | 10 h 45 – 12 h 15 Séance de conference 9
SESSION, ROUNDTABLE: ARCHIVES – Gatekeepers and Gateways (9)
Melissa Castron, ADCJA; Maya Pasternak, JPL-A; Faye Blum, OJA; Carly Heffner, JAHSENA

12:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. : Lunch Break | 12 h 15 – 13 h 30 : Pause-déjeuner

1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. : Session 10 | 13 h 30 – 15 h : Séance de conférence 10
LITERARY THEMES (10)
Ira Robinson Chaim Kruger as Author of Serialized Novels in the *Keneder Adler*
Noa Billick "What Kind of Book Are You?: Navigating Canada as The People of the Book"
Renee Karp Writing historical Fiction - My Father’s Children

3:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. : Break | 15 h – 15 h 15 : Pause

3:15 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. Round table | 15 h 15 – 16 h 45 : Table ronde
La Collectif Judéité(s), Université du Québec à Montréal, animée par Valentina Gaddi
« Les orthodoxies au Canada et les questions du genre. »

4:45 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Closing words | 16 h 45 – 17 h : Séance de clôture
SPEAKER BIOS/ À PROPOS DES CONFÉRENCIERS


Sonia Bazar is a 33- year- old Montreal-born artist. Sonia earned a MFA at Concordia University. Through sculpture, photography and poetry, their practice examines notions of alien landscapes and how the body belongs to space. Their work has been shown as part of a Zine at the Museum of Contemporary Art Barcelona. Sonia’s current project ‘BACK RIVER’ explores research, erasure, time and death; within the framework of the Back River Cemetery, Montreal’s oldest Jewish cemetery.

Zoë Belk’s research focuses on Contemporary Hasidic Yiddish worldwide, with particular emphasis on describing the syntax and morphology of Hasidic and Haredi Yiddish spoken worldwide. She completed her PhD in the Department of Linguistics at University College London. Her dissertation concentrated on adjectival modification and explored other areas of syntax including linearity and adjacency constraints. She currently teaches Yiddish at McGill University and elsewhere in Montreal.

Samuel Bick is a first year PhD student in the History department at York University. He graduated from City University of New York in 2013 with an MA in Labor studies. Between 2015-2020, Sam hosted and produced the Treyf Podcast at CKUT 90.3 FM in Montreal.

Noa Vigny Billick is a Jewish book artist and first-year Ph.D. student in the Communication and Culture program at Toronto Metropolitan University. Her research is rooted in the idea of Jews as books, centering Jewish storytelling as a method of survival. She aims to reshape how Jewishness is understood, and hopes to help us remember that Jews are an Indigenous people with unique, humorous, and persistent communication methods.

Faye Blum is an archivist and Outreach staff person at the Ontario Jewish Archives Blankenstein Family Heritage Centre, with a background that includes previous roles at the CBC Museum and a boutique marketing agency. In her current role, Faye actively engages with the community to acquire archival materials, preserve, and celebrate community history through public exhibitions. Faye is a graduate of York University and is presently pursuing a master’s degree in archives and records management at the University of Dundee.

Melissa Castron has been working as the Archives Technician at the Alex Dworkin Canadian Jewish Archives since 2022, following almost 10 years of research contracts that kept bringing her back in to visit the collections. She holds a graduate degree in History with a specialization in Archival Studies from the University of Manitoba (Winnipeg), and undergraduate degrees in art history and history from Concordia University (Montreal).

Miranda Crowdus is an assistant professor at the Department of Religions and Cultures at Concordia University where she also holds the Research Chair in Canadian Jewish Studies. Her research interests lie at the intersection of ethnomusicology and Jewish Studies. She earned her doctorate at City University London in 2016. She was a research associate at the European Centre for Jewish Music in Hanover, Germany. Her book Hip Hop in Urban Borderlands was published in 2018. She is currently working on a DFG-funded project “Queering Jewish Cultural Heritage in Europe: Jewish Transformations Through Reparative Response and Creative Encounter.”
Joel Deshaye is an Associate Professor in the English Department at Memorial University, Newfoundland.

Claudine Gélinas-Faucher est chargée de cours au Département de littérature, théâtre et cinéma de l' Université Laval, Quebec.

Naomi Frost is a PhD Candidate in the Department of History at Concordia University. She completed her MA in history at Monash University in Melbourne, where she served on the committee for Oral History Victoria. Her research focuses on the oral histories of 1.5 and second-generation migrants and transgenerational memory and storytelling in the Cambodian post-genocide diaspora in Canada, Australia, and the United States. She is currently appointed as Concordia University Library’s Researcher-in-Residence (2023-2024) and is a research assistant for the project *Cemetery as Metaphor: An Oral History of Montreal’s Back River Memorial Gardens.*

Nora Gold, formerly an Associate Professor at McMaster University, is a prize-winning author of four books and the editor of the literary journal *Jewish Fiction*. Gold’s writings have won a Vine Canadian Jewish Book Award, a Canadian Jewish Literary Award, and praise from Alice Munro. Her most recent books are *18: Jewish Stories Translated From 18 Languages* (Academic Studies Press, Boston) and *In Sickness and In Health/Yom Kippur in a Gym* (Guernica).

Kenneth Grad is a Ph.D. Candidate at Osgoode Hall Law School, where I taught first-year criminal law as an adjunct professor in Fall 2023. Prior to commencing my doctorate, I practiced criminal, regulatory, and civil litigation, most recently with Henein Hutchison Robitaille LLP in Toronto. My Ph.D. research studies the efficacy of the criminal sanction and other regulatory measures as tools for combating hate and racist speech, focussing on the social and legal history surrounding the prosecutions of Holocaust deniers Ernst Zündel and James Keegstra.


Eliana Hadjisavvas is a historian of migration and displacement, with a particular interest in the British Empire. She completed her DPhil in History at The University of Birmingham and was the Postdoctoral Fellow in Jewish History at the Institute of Historical Research, University of London, between 2018-2021, where she completed her manuscript on the internment of Jewish refugees in Colonial Cyprus at the end of the Second World War. She has held fellowships at the Library of Congress’ Kluge Center in Washington D.C and since October 2023, the Remarque Institute at New York University. In January 2022, she began her term as Alfred Landecker Lecturer at the Birkbeck Institute for the Study of Antisemitism and the Department of History, Classics and Archaeology, Birkbeck, University of London, where she is leading a project on the history of global detention practices in the British Empire.

Sara Halpern is a Visiting Assistant Professor of History at St. Olaf College in Minnesota. She is currently revising her PhD thesis into a monograph, *Saving the Unwanted: Shanghai’s Jewish Refugees and Many Faces of Humanitarianism.*

Carly Heffner is the archivist at the Jewish Archives and Historical Society of Edmonton and Northern Alberta.

Renée Karp was born in Montreal and educated in West End schools of the Protestant School Commission. She attended McGill University (B.A. Honors English 1974), Concordia University (M.A. English 1979) and received her Doctor of Philosophy in English from McGill (1982). For the past thirty-five years she has been teaching in the English Department of Vanier College. Renée has spoken about her pedagogical innovations and methodologies at various international conferences, most recently the Mediterranean Literature Symposium in Jerusalem, Israel (July 2023). The publication of her first novel *Fathers’ Children* marks the completion of a lifelong project.

David S. Koffman is the J. Richard Shiff Chair for the Study of Canadian Jewry, and an associate professor in the Department of History at York University. His published works include The Jews’ Indian: Colonialism, Pluralism, and Belonging in America (2019), and No Better Home?: Jews, Canada, and the Sense of Belonging (2021). He serves as the editor-in-chief of the journal Canadian Jewish Studies / Études juives canadiennes.

Aaron Kreuter is an assistant professor of English literature at Trent University, in Ontario, Canada. His monograph, Leaving Other People Alone: Diaspora, Zionism, and Palestine in Contemporary Jewish Fiction, came out last spring with University of Alberta Press. His other recent book, the poetry collection Shifting Baseline Syndrome was shortlisted for a Governor General’s Award, a Vine Award for Jewish Literature, and a Raymond Souster Award. He has two forthcoming books: Rubble Children, a collection of interlinked short stories centered around a fictional reform synagogue in Toronto; and Lake Burntshole, a novel set at a Jewish sleepover camp.

Simon-Pierre Lacasse est titulaire d’un doctorat en histoire (Université d’Ottawa, 2020), d’une maîtrise en histoire (Université d’Ottawa, 2016), ainsi que d’un baccalauréat en histoire (Concordia University, 2013). Ses recherches portent sur la communauté juive canadienne, plus particulièrement les rapports entre les Juifs et le Canada français au XXe siècle à partir des approches de l’histoire sociale et politique. Son ouvrage récent, « Les Juifs de la Révolution tranquille : regards d’une minorité religieuse sur le Québec de 1945 à 1976 » analyse les discours présentés par différents périodiques juifs sur le Québec et les Canadiens français durant les trois décennies qui succèdent à la Deuxième Guerre mondiale. À la maitrise, il s’est aussi penché sur l’émergence de la communauté hassidique à Montréal durant cette même période. Dans le cadre plus large de l’histoire canadienne, ses travaux considèrent l’importance d’intégrer les voix de minorités ethniques et culturelles dans les récits historiques.

Yasmine Lucas is a Ph.D. candidate in Anthropology and Jewish Studies at the University of Toronto. She is scheduled to defend her dissertation, Holocaust Sublime: The Making of Neoliberal Affect, in May 2024. Her critical and creative writing has appeared in several literary magazines, including Mayday Magazine and Lunch Ticket. Originally from Montreal, she is the grandchild of Holocaust survivors.

Richard Menkis is an Associate Professor Jewish History at the University of British Columbia. His recent books include, with Pierre Anctil, In a ‘Land of Hope,’ Documents on the Canadian Jewish Experience, 1627-1923 (2023); with Harold Troper, More than Just Games: Canada and the 1936 Olympics (2015). He is the author of numerous articles on: Canadian Jewish historiography and historical memory; expressions of religiosity among Canadian Jews; and Canadian responses to the Third Reich and the Holocaust. He has co-authored museum exhibitions and has served on the advisory committee of others. In 2018 he won the ACJS’s Louis Rosenberg Distinguished Service, and in 2023 the Dean of Arts Award Dean of Arts Award “for his outstanding contributions to the Faculty of Arts.”

Henry Milner is a research fellow at the Chair in Electoral Studies, Université de Montréal and a senior scholar in the Institute for Ethics in Public Life at the State University of New York at Plattsburgh. A native of Montreal, he was a key English-speaking spokesperson for the YES side in the Referendum of 1980 and was elected to the Parti Québécois national executive in 1981. In 2004-05 Milner held the Chair in Canadian Studies at the Sorbonne and in 2005-06 he was the Canada-US Fulbright Chair at SUNY (Plattsburgh). He has been a visiting professor or researcher at universities in Finland, Australia, New Zealand and Sweden. Milner is co-publisher of Inroads and has just published his autobiography, Participant/Observer.

Yael Machtinger earned her PhD in Socio-Legal Studies, at York University. Her award winning Doctoral Dissertation, funded by a SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship, OGS, and Religion and Diversity Project Fellowship, focusing
on the nexus between law, religion, and gender, is the first comprehensive, interview-based study of get refusal in the world and the first comparative study between American and Canadian jurisdictions, assessing ‘get laws’ in both locales. Dr. Machtinger is currently an Azrieli International Postdoctoral Fellow at The Rackman Center for the Advancement of the Status of Women at Bar Ilan Faculty of Law, where she is working on her new project: examining legal responses to religion’s role in domestic violence in diverse communities. She has lectured around the world, made contributions to scholarly work and popular presses, and is working on her groundbreaking first book manuscript under contract.

**Jordan Molot** is a third-year PhD student in the Department of Religions and Cultures at Concordia University. His research focuses on 18th-century Jewish settlement in Canada, Atlantic history, and decolonial methodologies.

**Hadassah Danit O’Reilly** is an Educator and Researcher in Holocaust & Its Genocide Integrating Visual Art and Culture. She sees the nature of interdisciplinary and interconnectedness in approaching these subjects while being cognizant that utilising the arts is integral to obtaining insight as to how a society documents tradition, customs, and the people pertaining to that culture. What she knows is that hatred of ‘the other’ is continuous. She is tenacious in the giving of her knowledge and brings to light those words that continue to be uttered; Why? and Never Again. Her praxis is to demystify through a scholarly and artistic approach a way for people to comprehend the Holocaust and Its Genocide. Hadassah’s areas of expertise cross many disciplines. Her strength is in the areas of the Holocaust, Its Genocide Visual Art and Culture. Heather’s additional interest explores the study of Hate and Antisemitism.

**Maya Pasternak** is the Director of Archives at the Jewish Public Library of Montreal. With a background in interdisciplinary art and social practice and a Masters of Information from the University of Toronto in Archiving and User Experience Design, she has managed the archives of the Center for Digital Art (Holon, Israel), the Center of Contemporary Art (Tel Aviv, Israel), and the Noa Eshkol Foundation for Movement Notation (Holon, Israel). She has also curated international archival exhibitions such as the Sydney Biennale (Australia), the Kunstverein (Amsterdam), Badischer Kunstverein (Karlsruhe, Germany), La Filature (Mulhouse, France) and the Jerusalem Film Festival (Israel).

**Eddie Paul** is Senior Director of the Jewish Public Library’s Learning Services. He has been developing workshop and lecture programs for the Library to explore new ideas and old antiquities.

**Kait Pinder** is Associate Professor in the English Department of Acadia University, Nova Scotia.

**Norman Ravvin** is Professor in the Department of Religion, Concordia University, Montreal, and also a critic, fiction writer, and journalist. Ravvin is currently the president of ACJS, the Association for Canadian Jewish Studies.

**Ira Robinson** is Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Jewish Studies in the Department of Religions and Cultures at Concordia University, where he taught for 42 years. He served as the Chair of the Department of Religion and Director of the Concordia University Institute for Canadian Jewish Studies. Robinson has written, edited, and translated nineteen books and has published over seventy articles in journals. He is past president of the Canadian Society for Jewish Studies, the Association for Canadian Jewish Studies, and the Jewish Public Library of Montreal and is the 2013 winner of the Louis Rosenberg Canadian Jewish Studies Distinguished Service Award from the Association for Canadian Jewish Studies.

**Irving Rosen** was born in Toronto in 1930, was educated in the city’s public school systems. Graduated with MD from UT faculty of Medicine in 1954 and completed studies in General Surgery by 1960. Now retired, he still holds professorial position in Temarty Faculty of Medicine. He spends his time now in clinical research in history of Medicine and platform presentations of the results of that research.

**Gavin Schaffer** is Professor of Modern British History at the University of Birmingham. He is presently completing
a postwar history of the British Jewish community, supported by a Leverhulme Major Research Fellowship Award. Previously, Schaffer has published books on Racial Science, and Multiculturalism & Television.

Rhona Seidelman is the Schusterman Chair of Israel Studies and Associate Professor of History at the University of Oklahoma. Her research is on the history of medicine and public health, immigration and Israel. Professor Seidelman’s book Under Quarantine: Immigrants and Disease at Israel’s Gate was published with Rutgers University Press in 2020. It tells the story of Shaar Ha’aliya, Israel’s “Ellis Island”, focusing on the conflicts surrounding the camp’s medical quarantine of Israel’s new immigrants. Dr. Seidelman’s articles on health and immigration have been published in various academic journals including Jewish Social Studies, The American Journal of Public Health and The Journal of Israeli History. Her work is also accessible to a broader public audience, through her appearances on various podcasts and editorials in journals such as in geveb and Ha’aretz. In spring of 2023 she appeared as an historical consultant on the BBC production ‘My Family, the Middle East and Me’.

Anna Sheftel is Principal and Associate Professor in the School of Community and Public Affairs at Concordia University. She is an oral historian of genocide, immigration, and activism. She has published extensively on oral history practice and ethics, most notably Oral History Off the Record: Toward an Ethnography of Practice (Palgrave Macmillan, 2013), co-edited with Stacey Zembrzycki, which won the Oral History Association’s (OHA) 2014 Book Award. She also co-developed Refugee Boulevard: Making Montreal Home After the Holocaust (www.refugeeboulevard.ca), which won both the 2020 OHA and Canadian Historical Association (CHA) Digital and Public History prizes. Her current project, funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, is an oral history of a historic Jewish cemetery in Montreal.

Romy Shoam has recently completed her undergraduate degree from Concordia University, where she studied Community, Public Affairs and Policy Studies. She works as a research assistant on Dr. Anna Sheftel’s project, Cemetery as Metaphor: An Oral History of Montreal’s Back River Memorial Gardens. Romy has also conducted oral history and archival research as part of her work at the Museum of Jewish Montreal on Montreal’s LGBTQ Jewish history.

Jonathan Slater is a veteran communication professional and professor emeritus of public relations at SUNY Plattsburgh. Slater founded the institution’s Jewish Studies program and is emeritus director of the college’s Institute for Ethics in Public Life. Slater’s research interests include the mediation of Leonard Cohen’s posthumous celebrity and mass media’s role in the Jewish experience. He is working on a book project about television’s social and political influence in Québec during the 1960s.

Sterling Stutz (she/they) is a PhD student at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health and the Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies, University of Toronto. Sterling’s doctoral research examines contemporary Jewish community wellbeing in Toronto. Sterling lives on Michi Saagiig territory in Ontario and is an active member of Jewish communities in Toronto and Peterborough.

David Weinfeld has been assistant professor of World Religions at Rowan University in Glassboro, NJ since 2022. He lives in Philadelphia but was born and raised in Montreal. His book, An American Friendship: Horace Kallen, Alain Locke, and the Development of Cultural Pluralism, was published in 2022 by Cornell University Press.

Tyler Wentzell is an SJD candidate (PhD in law) at the University of Toronto. His research interests include the use of intelligence and military force domestically, foreign fighters, and working-class movements in Canada, the United States, and Europe during the 1930s. He is almost finished a book on the League for a Revolutionary Workers’ Party, a predominantly Jewish working-class organization in Toronto, Montreal, and New York.

Peng Yu is a researcher with diverse interests spanning from Jesuit China Missions to the history of Kaifeng Jews. His 2017 Journal of Jewish Studies (Oxford) publication revised the historical timeline of Jewish arrival in Kaifeng, China. Based in Montreal, he currently contributes as a managing board member at the Sino-Judaic Institute.