האוניברסיטה העברית בירושלים
THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM
IIAS ISRAEL INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES
ISRAEL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
The Lechter Institute for Literary Research
Faculty of Humanities
Bar-Ilan University
The Samuel Braun Chair for the History of the Jews in Germany
Department of Jewish History & Contemporary Jewry
Faculty of Jewish Studies
Bar-Ilan University
Department of Comparative Literature
Faculty of Humanities
Bar-Ilan University

"Sacred Sensoria Jewish and Christian Embodied Experience in Early Modern Europe"

Research Workshop of the Israel Science Foundation

25–28 October 2026

Israel Institute for Advanced Studies, Jerusalem (Monday & Wednesday)

Prima Park Hotel (Tuesday, Election Day)

Sunday 25 October — Pre-Conference

From morning	*Participant arrivals and hotel check-in*
10:00–15:00	**Guided tour of the Old City of Jerusalem**

Monday 26 October — Day 1: Frameworks

Location: IIAS, Edmond J. Safra Campus, Givat Ram, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

9:00–9:30	*Registration and welcome coffee*
9:30–10:00	**Conference Opening** Dr. Yaakov A. Mascetti (Bar-Ilan University) Prof. Itzhak Hen, Director, Israel Institute for Advanced Studies
10:00–11:00	**Keynote 1: Prof. Bruce Gordon (Yale University)**
11:00–11:30	*Coffee break*
11:30–13:30	**Panel 1 - The Christian Sensorium: Perception, Knowledge, Polemic** Prof. Stephanie Shirilan (Syracuse University) Prof. Raz Chen-Morris (Hebrew University of Jerusalem) Dr. Reut Barzilai (University of Haifa) Prof. Annette Kern-Stähler (University of Bern) *Chair: Prof. Noam Reisner (Tel Aviv University)* *Respondent: Prof. Pinchas Roth (Bar-Ilan University)*
13:30–14:30	*Lunch (extended)*
14:30–16:30	**Panel 2 - The Jewish Sensorium: Mysticism, Hermeneutics, Embodiment** Dr. Elke Morlok (University of Hamburg) Dr. Maximilian de Molière (University of Haifa) Prof. Yossi Chajes (University of Haifa) Prof. Alexander Van der Haven (University of Bergen) *Chair: Prof. Daniel Abrams (Bar-Ilan University)*
16:30–17:00	*Coffee break*

17:00–18:30 **Panel 3 - Religious Literature: Devotion, Poetics, Sermon**
Prof. Kimberly Johnson (Brigham Young University)
Dr. Yaakov A. Mascetti (Bar-Ilan University)
Prof. Noam Reisner (Tel Aviv University)
Chair: Prof. William Kolbrener (Bar-Ilan University)
Respondent: Prof. Christine Göttler (University of Bern) - undecided

18:30 onward *Reception at the Israel Institute for Advanced Studies*

Tuesday 27 October — Day 2: Contact Zones

Location: Prima Park Hotel, Jerusalem (conference hall rental)

9:00 – 9:30 *Coffee and cake*

9:30–10:30 **Keynote 2: Prof. Magda Teter (Fordham University)**

10:30–11:00 *Coffee break (Prima Park refreshments)*

11:00–12:30 **Panel 4 - Polemic, Conversion, and Sensory Boundaries**
Prof. David Graizbord (University of Arizona)
Dr. Maria Diemling (Canterbury Christ Church University)
Prof. Debra Kaplan (Bar-Ilan University)
Chair: Prof. Maoz Kahana (Tel Aviv University)
Respondent: Serena Di Nepi (Sapienza Università di Roma)

12:30–13:30 *Lunch (catered at Prima Park)*

13:30–15:00 **Panel 5 - Sound, Voice, and the Affective Pulpit**
Prof. Massimo Carlo Giannini (Università degli Studi di Teramo)
Ms. Elisabeth von Baumbach (Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz)
Eliana Miraglia (Independent Scholar)
Chair: Prof. Serena Di Nepi (Sapienza Università di Roma)
Respondent: Prof. Stephanie Shirilan (Syracuse University)

15:00–15:30 *Coffee break (Prima Park refreshments)*

15:30–17:00 **Panel 6 - Urban Sensoria and Jewish-Christian Coexistence**
Prof. Niall Atkinson (University of Chicago)
Prof. Serena Di Nepi (Sapienza Università di Roma)
Dr. Piergabriele Mancuso (Medici Archive Project)
Chair: Dr. Yaakov A. Mascetti (Bar-Ilan University)

17:00 onward *Free evening — participants return to their hotels*

Wednesday 28 October — Day 3: Comparative Senses

Location: IIAS, Edmond J. Safra Campus, Givat Ram, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

9:00 – 9:30 *Coffee and cake*

9:30–10:30 **Keynote 3 (delivered remotely): Prof. Stefan Michels (Goethe-Universität Frankfurt)**

10:30–11:00 *Coffee break*

11:00–12:30 **Panel 7 - Rabbinic Literature, Hermeneutics, and the Senses**
Prof. Pinchas Roth (Bar-Ilan University)
Prof. Martin Lockshin (York University, Canada)
Dr. Yael Fisch (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
Chair: Prof. Tamar Herzig (Tel Aviv University)
Respondent: Prof. Annette Kern-Stähler (University of Bern)

12:30–13:30 *Lunch*

13:30–15:30 **Panel 8 - Sight, Image, and Materiality**
Prof. Christine Göttler (University of Bern) - Zoom
Prof. Nirit Ben-Aryeh Debby (Ben-Gurion University of the Negev)
Prof. Talya Fishman (University of Pennsylvania)
Prof. Renana Bartal (Tel Aviv University)
Chair: Dr. Yaakov A. Mascetti (Bar-Ilan University)
Respondent: Dr. Alessio Assonitis (Medici Archive Project)

15:30–16:00 *Coffee break*

16:00–17:30 **Panel 9 - Translating the Other: Jewish and Christian Textual Engagement in Early Modern Europe**
Prof. Cristiana Facchini (Università degli Studi di Bologna)
Dr. Yaacov Deutsch (David Yellin College / Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
Dr. Ahuvia Goren (Van Leer Jerusalem Institute)
Chair: Dr. Piergabriele Mancuso (Medici Archive Project)
Respondent: Dr. Yael Fisch (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

17:30–18:00 **Closing Synthesis**
Dr. Yaakov A. Mascetti (Bar-Ilan University)

19:00 *Conference dinner at a restaurant in central Jerusalem*