

Wandering beyond the Boundaries: Defining the Natural in Jewish and Hebrew Literature

International Conference

November 25-26, 2024

Inalco, Auditorium Georges Dumézil
2 Rue de Lille 75007, Paris



November 25, Monday

13:00 Registration and Lunch

14:15 **Opening Remarks**

14:30 **Session 1: The Natural World in Premodern Jewish Literature**

Chair: Dorit Lemberger

The Donkey and Classical Philosophy | Giuseppe Veltri, Hamburg University

Premienion in Leprosy: The Grotesque as a Metaphor for Human-Nature Relations in the Babylonian Talmud | Yael Bruchim, Ben Gurion University of the Negev

Fantastic Flora: A Medieval Kabbalistic Reading of Plants | Jonnie Schnytzer, Ben Gurion University of the Negev

The Golden Peacock: An Eternal Flight between Life and Death | Aviv Livnat, Tel Aviv University & New York University

16:30 Coffee Break

17:00 **Session 2: Literary Animals**

Chair: Raffaele Esposito

Orpaz's Animals | **Anna Lissa**, Université Paris 8 – Inalco, Cermom

Some Reflections on *The Bear* by Assaf Schur: Or the Natural History of Zionist State Noam Pines, University at Buffalo

Dinka's Language in *Someone to Run With*: The Theory of Speech-Acts as a Literary Method | **Dorit Lemberger, Bar-Ilan** University

Attitude to the Custom of Atonement in Agnon's Work | Dan Misheiker, Levinsky College

19:30 Dinner

November 26, Tuesday

09:30 **Session 3: Ecocriticism in Yiddish and Hebrew Literature**

Chair: Anna Lissa

A Maskilic Vision of the Jewish Farmer ca. 1838: Joseph Perl's Bokhen Tzaddik Jonathan Schorsch, Universität Potsdam

Early Environmentalism in the Early Work of Sholem Yankev Abramovitch

Shai Abadi, Tel Aviv University

Animals Protest against Their Victimization in Hebrew and Yiddish Literature Naama Harel, Columbia University

The Rabbi of Animals: The Hagiographic Character of the Hassidic Rebbe David of Lelov as a Dialogical Righteous Man of Man-Nature | Zeev Kitsis, Bar-Ilan University

11:00 Coffee Break

12:00 **Session 4: Climate Change and Speculative Fiction**

Chair: Vered Karti Shemtov

Human Parts: A Discussion of Orly Castel Bloom's Book in the Context of Climate Crises | Oshrat Lopez, Ben Gurion University of the Negev

Blurring Symbolic Boundaries between Center and Periphery through Climate Change Discourse in Israel and Hebrew Fiction | **Ilanit Ben Dor Derimian, Université de Lille** SHS

No Longer a Land of Milk and Honey: Hostile Nature in Hebrew Speculative Fiction | Raffaele Esposito, University of Naples L'Orientale

13:30 Lunch Break

Session 5: The Poetry of Nature / The Nature of Poetry

Chair: Ilanit Ben Dor Derimian

The Anger of Nature: A Reading in Chaim Nachman Bialik's "I Knew in a Night of Fog" | **Vered Karti Shemtov, Stanford** University

"Adjectives stretch like cats": The Role of the Animal in Zuzanna Ginczanka's Poetic Language | **Gilad Shiram, Stanford** University

Isn't the Sky? New Perspectives on Hebrew Garden Poetry of Al-Andalus

Yarden Ben Tzur, Tel Aviv University

Beyond the Human and the Rhetoric: Nature in Natan Yonatan's Poetry | **Einat Davidi, Haifa** University

16:00 Coffee Break

16:30 **Session 6: Environment and Ecology in Modern Hebrew Prose**

Chair: Shai Abadi

Vibrant Matter Writing: Eco-Ethical Possibilities in Shimon Adaf's Work | Danny Luzon, Haifa University

"Everyone out of the tree": Nature & People, Word & Image in Etgar Keret's 'shesek' | Ronit Rapp, David Yellin College of Education

"The River's Fault": Ecofeminism in the Poetry of Nurit Zarchi | Riki Traum Avidan, Ramapo College of New Jersey

Odors, Nature and Nativity in 1960's Hebrew Prose | Tal Yehezkeley, Tel Aviv University

18:30 Closing Discussion and Final Remarks