



WOOLF INSTITUTE



Dear Woolf Friends,

September always feels like a new start. The new academic year for schools and universities brings excitement, potential, and a little nervousness; with a four-year-old starting school for the first time, I know that this is true for parents too!

For Jews, this time of year also brings a new start with preparations for Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year. Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement) which follows ten days later reinforces this idea of renewal, our repentance securing us in the Book of Life for another year. The High Holy day period is one of contemplation and celebration, of busyness and rest, and of endings and beginnings. The change in the season reflects this new cycle: a sunny autumn morning with a slight chill in the air will inspire any member of my family to proclaim that it 'feels like Rosh Hashanah'. Perhaps the Jewish equivalent to 'feeling Christmassy'?!

Like Christmas, the High Holy days come with their own sound as well as feel. As a lifelong synagogue chorister, for me singing the musical liturgy of Rosh Hashanah signifies the true beginning of the festival period. Indeed, the opportunities I've had to perform this repertoire inspired my research into Victorian Jewish music-making, when much of the choral canon was first arranged. It is always interesting to hear responses from the congregation to the introduction of new repertoire; while some welcome change, others are nostalgic for the tunes of their past. I've learned from my research, however, that something new – a melody, an arrangement, a prayer – can quickly become tradition, and that this

Upcoming Events

30 September -
1 October

Symposium:
Searching for the
Sacred in South Asia



11 October

Reading Group:
Qur'an and Bible



13 - 15 October

Musicians and
Artists in Exile:
Preserving, Creating
or Eulogizing Syrian
Culture?



18 October

Webinar: Mobility,
Belonging and
Community in the
Mediterranean City

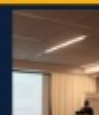


19 October
@18:00

The Islamic
Movement in Israel
by Tilde Rosmer



15 - 16
November



combination of old and new is essential to keeping the spirit of one's faith alive.

In the Woolf Institute's 25th anniversary year, we can reflect on the Institute's tradition of outstanding interfaith education and dialogue, and be excited for new developments in its future. On arriving here last September, I came – like a child on the first day of school, complete with new rucksack and pencil case! – eager to become a member of the 'Woolf Pack'. This year has proven what I had already suspected: that the Institute's warmth, vision, and dedication are things to celebrate, develop, and share. I look forward to what this year will bring.

Best wishes,

Danielle Padley
Research Fellow, Woolf Institute

Woolf Institute
Conference



16 November
Woolf Institute
Research Afternoon



17 November
Living in Harmony
Teachers' Seminar



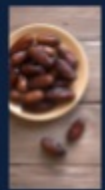
23 November
Interfaith Mixer



1 December
William Kessler
Essay Prize
Competition



30 March
Iftar



WEBINAR 18 OCTOBER @17:00

Woolf Institute and the Society for the Medieval
Mediterranean present:

Mobility, Belonging and Community in the Mediterranean City



**WEBINAR: Mobility, Belonging and Community in the Mediterranean City
18 October @17:00**

The Woolf Institute together with the Society for the Medieval Mediterranean invite you to their webinar series.

This session offers a parallel analysis on the processes of community-building, social advancement and agency in the late medieval Mediterranean. It focuses on three cities that will take us from one shore of

the Mediterranean to the other. The urban contexts of Barcelona, Venice and Constantinople allow us to delve into the different ways that individuals and groups strove to improve their position within the fabric of the late medieval city. Consequently, the papers in this session will consider issues such as the importance of sociability in the creation of belonging, the role of profession in the establishment of urban hierarchies and the agency of foreign communities in the shaping of urban life.

Speakers: Lisa Dallavalle, Özden Mercan, Carolina Obradors-Suazo

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

LIVING IN HARMONY TEACHERS' SEMINAR

17 NOVEMBER 2022



LIVING IN HARMONY TEACHERS' SEMINAR

The Living in Harmony team has created a dynamic outreach programme based on research from the project to teach students across England about faith communities and coexistence through music. Currently, we offer fun and engaging workshops that provide students a unique experience of Middle Eastern music, religion and history. We are now also providing training for teachers who are interested in expanding their knowledge of interfaith relations and acquiring new tools and lesson plans for the classroom.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

QUR'AN AND BIBLE READING GROUP



READING GROUP: QUR'AN AND BIBLE 11 OCTOBER @18:00

This reading group, convened by Rick Sopher and chaired by Dr Esther-Miriam Wagner, is anchored in a project which compares Torah portions of the week to the relevant Qur'anic passages. Matters discussed will include similarities and differences in biblical and Qur'anic narratives, infallibility of prophets, scriptural hostility, the availability of Jewish sources in Arabia in the 7th century and the benefits of studying one another's scriptures.

“Faith and Family in the Qur'an: The Cases of Noah, Abraham, and Moses”

In this session we will be joined by Prof Gabriel Reynolds.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

SHANA TOVA **שנה טובה**

ROSH HASHANA

For those celebrating Rosh Hashana - the Jewish New Year - the Woolf Institute wishes everyone a Happy New Year and Shana Tova! May you be inscribed in the Book of Life for a good year.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

BLASPHEMY ON THE BIG SCREEN

Naked Reflections Podcast x The Woolf Institute

WHEN THE FILM LADY OF HEAVEN WAS
RELEASED, THERE WERE VIGOROUS
PROTESTS AND CINEWORLD WITHDREW THE
FILM. WHAT WAS GOING ON?



PODCAST: BLASPHEMY ON THE BIG SCREEN

When the film LADY OF HEAVEN was released, there were vigorous protests and Cineworld withdrew the film. What was going on?

There is no orthodoxy that could not have been construed as blasphemous

when it started. Christianity was accused by Jews of being blasphemous for proclaiming Jesus as divine, and Muhammad was criticised by his polytheistic Arab contemporaries for preaching monotheism. So how do the movies come into it? Emanuelle Degli Esposti and Mohammed Ahmed explain...

[CLICK HERE TO LISTEN](#)

COMING SOON

Naked Reflections Podcast x The Woolf Institute

FEEDING BODY AND SOUL

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

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