

Dear Woolf Friends,

Powerful – Evocative – Moving. These are just some of the words used to describe the Cambridge Theological Federation's Holocaust Memorial Day Commemoration. There is a long-held tradition within the CTF for the Woolf Institute to host this annual event. Over the years, it has been my privilege and honour to have worked with a number of Federation students from across the Houses. The students have led us through a time of informative reflection, highlighting the atrocities of genocide and what we can do to make 'never again' become a reality. They have always organised both a moving and heartfelt commemoration. I have asked a student from this year's organising committee – Dr Karen Smith – to write about her experiences.

'As an Ordinand at Westcott House, I was fortunate to be involved with the St Edmundsbury Cathedral Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) Service in 2021 and, in 2022, I visited Yad Vashem as part of a St George's College, Jerusalem Ministry Formation Pilgrimage to the Holy Land and felt profoundly moved by the experience. What I learnt there will inform my Ministry and my belief in the importance of interfaith dialogue and cooperation for the rest of my life.

It was, therefore, very timely that my CTF Interfaith Module (led by Dr Emma Harris and Dr Beth Phillips) dovetailed with this pilgrimage as it highlighted what work was currently being done in this area both globally and locally and explored what future opportunities are evolving. I was able to visit the local synagogue here in Cambridge as part of my



#### **Upcoming Events**

31 January Making martyrs in medieval Iberia



31 January

The Rehearsal: Jewishness, Psychoanalysis and Repetition



7 February

Reading Group: Qur'an and Bible



7 February

The Final Stage of Hatred is Denial: Blaming Jews for Antisemitism



ISG≜P

8 February



group work and talk at length to the Rabbi there and hear of encouraging local developments first-hand.

It was during that module I learned of the 2023 CTF HMD Commemoration and the opportunities for students from across the Federation to be involved in its planning. I was immediately drawn to the prospect of working with, and getting to know, students from other CTF Houses and contributing to such an important service. It has been an enriching experience as our small organising group has meshed together to choose the right music, appropriate Psalms, survivor stories, prayers and so on, and sort out technical video equipment challenges. Teamwork, planning and organisation skills honed with Emma's fantastic support.

The privilege and sense of humility of being part of such an important commemoration, remembering all victims of genocide really hit home on reading the extraordinary Ravensbrück prayer, found on a scrap of paper in the clothing of a Jewish girl at the concentration camp: "and when they come to judgement, let all the fruits we have borne be their forgiveness."

Best wishes,

Dr Emma Harris Director of Studies, Woolf Institute London Research



22 February Auslander Lecture Cambridge



23 February Auslander Lecture London (by invitation only)



30 March Iftar



6 June Woolf Institute Garden Party



#### WEBINAR 31 JANUARY @ 17:00

Woolf Institute and the Society for the Medieval Mediterranean present:

### Making Martyrs in Medieval Iberia





DR KATI IHNAT



DR MELANIE



CATHRIEN HOIJINCK

#### WEBINAR 31 JANUARY @17:00 MAKING MARTYRS IN MEDIEVAL IBERIA

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

Devotional culture in early medieval Iberia was dominated by martyrs. With very few records of non-martyr saints, we are left to wonder what made martyrs such compelling figures. In this seminar, we will explore some of the ways martyrs were imagined and constructed in Iberia through a variety of different source types: theological, liturgical and musical. Placing the veneration of martyr saints in its historical context will allow us to address

broader questions of its role in Christian-Muslim relations, cultural transfer across the Mediterranean, and the meaning of sanctity for medieval Christians.

The speakers are: Kati Ihnat (Radboud University Nijmegen), Melanie Shaffer (Radboud University Nijmegen) and Cathrien Hoijinck (Radboud University Nijmegen)

#### **CLICK HERE TO REGISTER**

WEBINAR 31 JANUARY @ 16:00

**ISGAP-Woolf Institute Lecture Series** 

# The Rehearsal: Jewishness, Psychoanalysis and Repetition



As part of ISGAP's landmark Fellowship Training Programme on Critical Antisemitism Studies, Discrimination and Human Rights at the Woolf Institute, ISGAP is pleased to announce the ISGAP-Woolf Institute Series titled "Creating a Conceptual Framework for the Critical Study of Contemporary Antisemitism."

The series will allow ISGAP Visiting Scholars to deliver their latest research to the broader Cambridge community. It will also bring ISGAP's network of scholars to the Woolf Institute, allowing for new ideas to be integrated into one of the most important academic institutions on issues of contemporary antisemitism. The seminar series will include presentations from top experts in the field of contemporary antisemitism.

The Rehearsal: Jewishness, Psychoanalysis and Repetition

**Dr. Chloe Pinto**, ISGAP Visiting Scholar in Critical Antisemitism Studies, Discrimination and Human Rights, Cambridge, U.K.

**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER** 

Wednesday 22 February 2023 @17:00

## The day Kafka killed his iPhone

by Shalom Auslander

WOOLF INSTITUTE | KC SHASHA SUITE MADINGLEY ROAD | CAMBRIDGE | CB3 0UB

Shalom is the first recipient of the Peter Gilbert Prize, an award jointly supported by the Woolf Institute and Jewish Renaissance.

Scan the QR code to register





On Wednesday 22 February 2023, renowned US author Shalom Auslander will speak on 'The day Kafka killed his iPhone'. Shalom is the first recipient of the Peter Gilbert Prize, an award jointly supported by the Woolf Institute (Cambridge) and Jewish Renaissance.

This literary honour is given to the writer of the best article from Jewish Renaissance magazine, as judged by an expert panel. "This award should engage the contribution of the Jewish creative spirit to the intellectual and artistic life of the 20th century," said Adam Glinsman, who established the

prize, which is named for his much-loved uncle. Shalom won the award for his imaginative, humorous and perceptive insight into Franz Kafka and the great writer's relationship with his home city, Prague.

#### **CLICK HERE TO REGISTER**



**Contact Flora Moffie for more information** 

#### TIME TO STOP TALKING?

Naked Reflections Podcast x The Woolf Institute

IS IT SOMETIMES NECESSARY OR EVEN PRODUCTIVE TO STOP NEGOTIATING?



#### PODCAST: TIME TO STOP TALKING?

Is it sometimes necessary or even productive to stop negotiating?

If you asked the Astronomer Royal, Martin Rees, to discuss cosmology with a "flat-Earther", he would probably politely decline. But when it comes to more nuanced matters than scientific truth, is there ever a case for calling a halt to dialogue? Alfred Moore and Chris Wadibia consider the question...

**CLICK HERE TO LISTEN** 

## **COMING SOON**

Naked Reflections Podcast x The Woolf Institute

## **GOOD LUCK**

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