



Dear Woolf Friends,

The Woolf Institute takes great pride in being an interdisciplinary and collaborative institution. While much of our work focusses on the social sciences, theology and history, we also understand the importance of the arts and literature for interfaith and intercommunal relations, and we're very pleased that our latest prize focusses on literary works.

In collaboration with the magazine **Jewish Renaissance**, we are delighted to announce the **Peter Gilbert Prize**, which has been awarded today for the very first time. The late Peter Gilbert was the much loved uncle of Adam Glinsman. As a long-time friend and supporter of the Woolf Institute, Adam has established the Prize in his uncle's name.

Peter was an old school, self styled North London Jewish intellectual with one semi-autobiographical novel to his name, *Laughter in a Dark Wood*, described by Eva Hoffman as a "rueful comedy of Anglo-Jewish manners". A contributor to *The Jewish Quarterly*, teacher of creative writing, and passionate about 20th century Jewish literature - especially Primo Levi - he was a characterful man who inspired affection, curiosity and conversation amongst his family and friends.

The prize will be awarded on a biennial basis to the best article of the past two years. The first recipient of the Prize is Shalom Auslander for his outstanding piece on Kafka published in January 2021 (please find the winning article [here](#)). Winners will receive £1000 of prize money, an invitation to give a Woolf Institute lecture and a dinner in their honour.

Finally, I'd like to wish you all a relaxing and restorative summer break. This will be our last weekly newsletter until the beginning of September although there will be an update on our work in early August. We look forward to seeing you in the autumn as we start a new academic year and our focus turns to the 25th anniversary of the Woolf Institute next year. We hope you join us in celebrating this momentous milestone through the many events, talks and the ongoing work of our many academics and students. From all of us, happy summer!

Best wishes,

Dr Esther-Miriam Wagner
Executive Director, Woolf Institute

Upcoming Events

13 - 15 October

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



19 October
@18:00

The Islamic Movement in Israel
by Tilde Rosmer



15 - 16
November
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



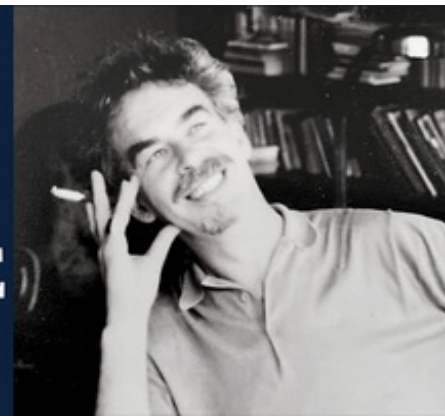
6 June

Woolf Institute
Garden Party



Jewish Renaissance & The Woolf
Institute have awarded:

PETER GILBERT PRIZE



JEWISH RENAISSANCE: PETER GILBERT PRIZE

We are delighted to team up with the Jewish Renaissance, to award the first ever Peter Gilbert Prize. This brand new literary honour will be given to the writer of the best article from the archive of 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. “Jewish Renaissance seemed a perfect partner, sharing as it does the same central aspiration.”

We are pleased to announce that the winner of the 2022 Peter Gilbert Prize is Shalom Auslander for his imaginative, humourous and perceptive insight into Franz Kafka and the great writer's relationship with his home city, Prague. “As an old school, self-styled ‘north London Jewish intellectual’, Gilbert adored Kafka,” said Glinsman. “His one semi-autobiographical novel was even described by Eva Hoffman as “Kafka meets Italo Svevo”. Auslander writes about the centrality of Kafka's Jewishness, and Gilbert held that close too, despite being at the same time devoutly secular.”

[CLICK HERE TO READ THE ARTICLE BY SHALOM AUSLANDER](#)

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE ABOUT THE PRICE](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION ON JEWISH RENAISSANCE](#)

SUMMER SCHOOL 2022

18 - 29 JULY 2022



WOOLF INSTITUTE SUMMER SCHOOL 18 - 29 JULY 2022

The world is changing and there are growing opportunities to make a difference. We hope that our Summer School 2022 will motivate and inspire you!

The Summer School aims to increase tolerance and interdependence through the design of a curriculum and a learning environment conducive to academic study and fostering understanding of the diversity of beliefs, attitudes and perspectives.

The Woolf Institute Summer School offers a programme of study for students that will draw on the research and teaching expertise of academics and doctoral scholars at the Woolf Institute, as well as academics within Cambridge. Given the remit of our work at the Woolf Institute, the curriculum will include an interdisciplinary approach to the study of interreligious and interfaith relations.

"Only through the study of the past, of cause and of circumstance, we can thoroughly understand present issues, attitudes and actions. "

Dr Esther-Miriam Wagner (Executive Director)

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE](#)

ISGAP CONFERENCE

Global Antisemitism,
A Crisis of Modernity
Revisited



ISGAP CONFERENCE

ISGAP is pleased to announce a ground breaking international conference on critical contemporary antisemitism studies to take place at Cambridge University. In the contemporary context of globalised relations, it appears that the oldest and most complex forms of hatred, antisemitism, has taken on new

and changing forms that need to be decoded, mapped and critiqued. Given the recent rise of manifestations of antisemitism globally, this interdisciplinary conference is timely and imperative. The continual minimal response by academia and the human rights community to the onslaught of antisemitism points to a growing crisis of modernity, which impacts democratic principles, notions of citizenship, and human rights. Antisemitism is also an indicator of the growth of other forms of prejudice, racism(s), sexism, gendered relations, xenophobia and discrimination.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

SAYING GOODBYE TO

SAMUEL VICTOR

PHD SCHOLAR



SAMUEL VICTOR SAYING GOODBYE

This past term was my last as a resident PhD student at the Woolf Institute. My dissertation writing will continue through the summer, and I'm slated to submit in September. The Woolf Institute occupies a special place in my scholarly development as an anthropologist. It's with sincerest gratitude that I thank everyone at the Woolf Institute, students, fellows, and staff alike, for the opportunity to hold a studentship there. The Woolf creates an environment for growth (professionally and personally) that over the years of my course I have come to see as unique compared to others in my department cohort. The workspace, the interdisciplinary interactions, the public engagement, the teaching opportunities, etc. I will certainly be staying in touch.

As for my first next step, I'll be doing a postdoctoral fellowship at McGill University's *Centre de recherches interdisciplinaires en études montréalaises* (CRIEM), where I'll be working with an anthropologist at the School of Religious Studies. Our project explores how religious groups are reimagining the social value of sacred spaces by salvaging historical church buildings that are at risk for being repurposed into private commercial lots. We'll focus on one evangelical Anglican congregation in particular whose leadership have purchased a 19th century church from a recently defunct parish in order to transform it into a multifaith centre that doubles as a religious space for the congregation and as a so-called "community hub" for others.

The Woolf:

Within Living Memory 

CALLING ALL ALUMNI OF THE WOOLF INSTITUTE

Were you a student at the Woolf? What was it like? Did it change your life? We are collecting memories from our alumni about their experiences of studying in Cambridge at the Woolf Institute, particularly those who studied here in the early days of the Institute. Please tell us where you came from, what you studied, what your first impressions of Cambridge were and how your research at the Woolf affected you and the decisions you took afterwards. What are you doing now? Have you kept in touch with people you met back then? Do you come back to Cambridge?

We would love to hear from you. If you would like to contribute a short piece of around 300 words, please send it to Liz Winter at ejw39@cam.ac.uk, together with any relevant photos you have.

We look forward to hearing from you.

[CLICK HERE TO SEND IN YOUR MEMORIES](#)

MEMORIES AND MEMORISING

Naked Reflections Podcast x The Woolf Institute

MEMORY IS MYSTERIOUS AND WE ARE ONLY
NOW BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND HOW IT
WORKS IN OUR BRAINS...



PODCAST: MEMORIES AND MEMORISING

Memory is mysterious and we are only now beginning to understand how it works in our brains...

Memory is unreliable and can even be treacherous. Think of all those criminal trials where two witnesses recall an event in totally contradictory ways. So how does memory operate? Amy Milton and Aliya Ali give us some answers...

[CLICK HERE TO LISTEN](#)

COMING SOON

Naked Reflections Podcast x The Woolf Institute

FORTRESS EUROPE

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION

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for as little as £10 a month

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