

Framing the Sacred Shrines in European Architecture

International Workshop of
The Torah Ark in German Lands Research Project

June 19-20, 2018

Bar-Ilan University, Building 410, room 311



June 19

9:00-9:30 **Registration**

9:30-10:00 **Greetings and Opening
Remarks:**

Eliahu Assis, Dean, Faculty of Jewish
Studies, Bar-Ilan University

Ilia Rodov, Workshop Organizer, Bar-Ilan
University

10:00-11:30 **Session 1. Keynote Lecture**
Chairperson: **Elisheva Revel-Neher**,
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Jelena Bogdanović, Iowa
State University
*Nesting of the Altar Canopy and the Church
in the Byzantine-rite Tradition*

11:30-12:00 **Coffee break**

12:00-14:00 **Session 2. Sanctity on
Display**

Chairperson: **Katrin Kogman-Appel**,
Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität

Elisheva Revel-Neher, The Hebrew
University of Jerusalem
*Unseen Presence, Ever-present Absence:
From the Biblical Ark of the Covenant to the
Torah Ark*

Steven Fine, Yeshiva University
*From Torah Chest to Ark of the Master
of Heaven: The Earliest History of the
Synagogue Torah Shrine*

Yesu Dray, Restoration of Ancient
Technology Center, Kinneret Institute for
Galilean Archaeology
*The Hechalit (Torah Shrine) of Umm el-
Qanatir: Orientation Correction?*

Maria Stürzebecher, Culture Directorate,
City of Erfurt
*Disappearance on Display: Torah Arks in
German Museums*

14:00-15:00 **Lunch**

15:00-16:30 **Session 3. Sanctity and
Ritual**

Chairperson: **Steven Fine**,
Yeshiva University

Leor Jacobi, Bar-Ilan University
*An Art Historian on the Talmud, Calling the
Holy Ark "Arna" and Dangerous Things*

Yechiel Goldhaber, Jerusalem
*Opposition Override: The Decalogue Tablets
on the Torah Ark*

Jeffrey Woolf, Bar-Ilan University
*Between Aron and Kapporet: The Torah Ark
in Halakhah*

June 20

9:30-11:30 **Session 4. German Torah
Shrines in the Middle Ages and Beyond**

Chairperson: **Jelena Bogdanović**, Iowa
State University

Simon Paulus, University of Stuttgart
and Braunschweig University
of Technology
*The Torah Ark in the Medieval Synagogue:
Structural and Tectonic Characteristics*

Annette Weber, University of Heidelberg
*The Torah Ark as the Gate of Mercy in the
Middle Ages and Beyond*

Ilia Rodov, Bar-Ilan University
*Mystery Encircled and Enclosed: Pediments
of Medieval Ashkenazi Torah Arks*

Zvi Orgad, Bar-Ilan University
Paint me... the Ark

11.30-12:00 **Coffee Break**

12:00-14:00 **Session 5. Modern Torah
Shrines: Structure and Message**

Chairperson: **Annette Weber**, University
of Heidelberg

Sergey Kravtsov, The Hebrew University
of Jerusalem
*Domed Torah Arks in Eastern Europe:
Breaking Baroque Schemes*

Bracha Yaniv, Bar-Ilan University
*The Warka Torah Ark: A Test Case of Jewish
Iconography*

Miriam Grobman, The Central Archives
for the History of the Jewish People,
Jerusalem
*Triumph of the Torah: Gate-Shaped
Synagogue Arks in Belarus*

Mirko Przystawik, Braunschweig
University of Technology
*Aedicula, Ciborium, and Baldachin:
Architectural Patterns in Nineteenth-
Century Torah Arks*

14:00-15:30 **Lunch**

15:30-17:00 **Session 3. Sanctity in
Contexts**

Chairperson: **Bracha Yaniv**, Bar-Ilan
University

Yoram Meital, Ben-Gurion University
Cairo Synagogues, Past and Present

Vladimir Levin, The Hebrew University
of Jerusalem
*Sephardi Religious Reform? Synagogues of
Izmir and their Prayer Leader's Pulpits*

Susan Nashman Fraiman, The Hebrew
University of Jerusalem
*Influence and Innovation: Arthur Szyk's
Torah Ark*

17:00-17:30 **Closing Remarks**

Organizers: **Ilia Rodov**, **Leor Jacobi**,
Zvi Orgad