



האוניברסיטה העברית בירושלים
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
הפקולטה למדעי הרוח
The Faculty of Humanities



המרכז לחקר הנצרות
נוסד על ידי הוברט ואלדגונדה ברנינקמייזר וורהן
The Center for the Study of Christianity
Established by Hubert and Aldegonde Brennikmeijer-Werhahn

The First Post-Doctoral Workshop of the CSC

**Books of Threats
and Threatening Books:
Perceptions of Threat
in Late Antique Book Culture**



This invitation permits entry to campus and the Humanities parking area

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May 26-27, 2014

Mt. Scopus Campus, Rabin Building, Room 2001

Monday, May 26

- 9:30 Coffee and Registration
9:45 **Brouria Bitton-Ashkelony**: Greetings
Flavia Ruani and Joseph E. Sanzo:
Introduction

Chairperson: Shaul Shaked

- 10:00 **Keynote Lecture, Gideon Bohak** (Tel-Aviv
University)
Dangerous Books: Magic in the *Toledoth Yeshu*
11:00 Coffee break

Chairperson: Nicole Belayche

- 11:30 **Naama Vilozny** (Hebrew University)
Does it Look Threatening as Well? On the
Relations between Drawings and Texts in the
Babylonian Incantation Bowls
12:15 **Daniele Tripaldi** (University of Bologna)
Secret Books and Corporate Oaths: Coping with
the Danger of Transmitting "Sacred" Texts in
Early Christian Literature (2nd-4th Century)
13:00 Lunch

Chairperson: Serge Ruzer

- 14:30 **Joseph E. Sanzo** (CSC, Hebrew University)
Late Antique Church Fathers and the Threats of
Amulets
15:15 **Theodore de Bruyn** (University of Ottawa)
How Threatening were "Books of the Magic
Art" in Late Antiquity?
16:00 Coffee break
16:15 **Chrysi Kotsifou** (Van Leer Jerusalem Institute)
The Use of Threats in Late Antique Manuscript
Colophons

Tuesday, May 27

Chairperson: Guy G. Stroumsa

- 9:30 **Shai Secunda** (Martin Buber Society of Fellows)
"Their Wisdom in Books": The Politics and
Polemics of Religious Text Production in Eastern
Late Antiquity
10:15 **Eduard Iricinschi** (Van Leer Jerusalem Institute)
"They fabricate books in Ialdabaoth's name"
(*Panarion* 25,3,5): Books as Ambiguous
Religious Artifacts in Epiphanius' Heresiology

11:00 Coffee break

- 11:15 **Flavia Ruani** (CSC, Hebrew University)
Books of Protection, Books of Perdition: Book
Imagery in Syriac Heresiology

12:30 Lunch

Chairperson: Brouria Bitton-Ashkelony

- 14:00 **Emiliano Bronislaw Fiori** (Humboldt University
of Berlin)
Victim of Threat, Threatening Weapon:
Neoplatonism in the Justinianic Era between
Dionysius the Areopagite and the *Book of
Hierotheus*
14:45 **Gregory Kessel** (University of Marburg)
Domesticating the Other across Ecclesiastical
Borders: The Case of East Syriac Monastic Texts
in Syrian Orthodox and Melkite Contexts

15:30 Coffee break

Chairperson: Paula Fredriksen

- 15:45 **Yonatan Moss** (Martin Buber Society of
Fellows)
Severing Severus: Just How Threatening were
Severus of Antioch's Books to the Byzantine
Church?
16:30 **David Frankfurter** (Boston University)
Concluding Remarks