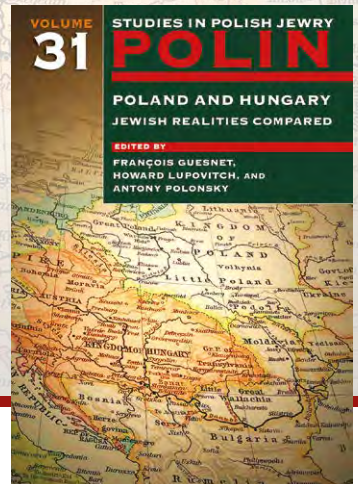


POLAND AND HUNGARY: JEWISH REALITIES COMPARED

A ONE-DAY CONFERENCE TO LAUNCH
STUDIES IN POLISH JEWRY: **POLIN 31**

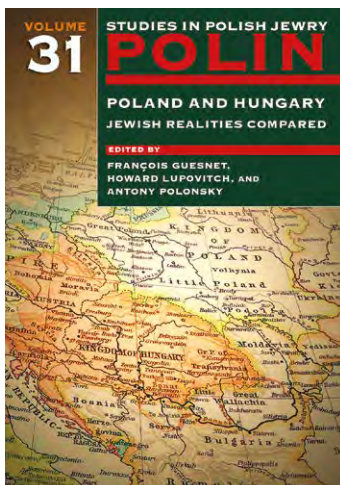
Tuesday 29th January 2019
9.30am - 5.30pm

Embassy of the Republic of Poland
47 Portland Place
London W1B 1JH



POLAND AND HUNGARY: JEWISH REALITIES COMPARED

A ONE-DAY CONFERENCE TO LAUNCH
STUDIES IN POLISH JEWRY: **POLIN 31**



Tuesday 29th January 2019
9.30am - 5.30pm

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47 Portland Place, London W1B 1JH

Organised by the **Institute for Polish-Jewish Studies** and the **Institute of Jewish Studies, UCL**. Co-organised and supported by the **Embassy of the Republic of Poland in London** and the **Polish Cultural Institute, London** with additional support from the **UCL European Institute**.

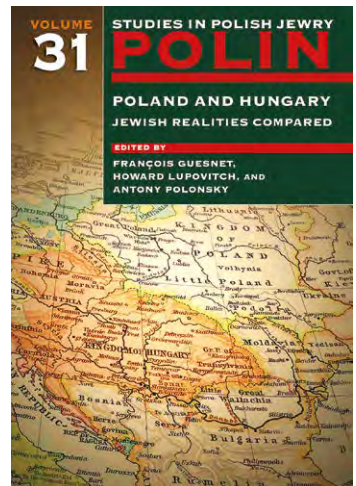


STUDIES IN POLISH JEWRY
POLIN 31
POLAND AND HUNGARY:
JEWISH REALITIES COMPARED

Edited by François Guesnet, Howard Lupovitch
and Antony Polonsky.

Published by the Littman Library of Jewish
Civilization.

The volume will be available at the conference
at a 25% discount.



At the beginning of the twentieth century, the Jewish communities of Poland and Hungary were the largest in the world and among the most culturally vibrant, yet they have rarely been studied comparatively. Despite the obvious similarities, historians have mainly preferred to highlight the differences and emphasize instead the central European character of Hungarian Jewry. Speakers at this conference will reflect on the usefulness of historical comparisons regarding the different social and cultural trajectories of Hungarian and Polish Jews, the Holocaust, historical consciousness, and the role of Jews in the respective entertainment industries. In conclusion of the conference, author Barry Cohen (London) reflects on conversations he has had with Poles who discovered their Jewish origins late in life. He will be joined by photographer Witold Krassowski (Warsaw).

RESERVATION IS ESSENTIAL

Registration fee £15, student concession £10, plus booking charges.



Registration on-line only:

<https://polandandhungary.eventbrite.co.uk>

For all enquiries: Sara Ben-Isaac, Institute of Jewish Studies,
University College London. Email: ijs@ucl.ac.uk

Conference convenors:

Professor Antony Polonsky
(Brandeis University),
Dr François Guesnet
(University College London)

Conference coordinators:

Ms Sara Ben-Isaac
(Institute of Jewish Studies,
University College London)

Susan Storrington
(IPJS)

POLAND AND HUNGARY: JEWISH REALITIES COMPARED

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STUDIES IN POLISH JEWRY: **POLIN 31**

Tuesday 29th January 2019
9.30am - 5.30pm

Embassy of the Republic of Poland,
47 Portland Place, London W1B 1JH

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

9.30 am **Registration**

10 am **Welcome**

H.E. Arkady Rzegocki, Ambassador of the Republic of Poland
Vivian Wineman, President of the Institute for Polish-Jewish Studies
Ben Helfgott, Chairman of the Institute for Polish-Jewish Studies

10.15 am **Session 1: General introduction to the topic and the volume**

Howard Lupovitch, Wayne State University, USA, in discussion with Antony Polonsky,
Professor Emeritus, Brandeis University, USA

10.45 am **Coffee break**

11.15 am **Session 2: Similar but Different? The Potential of Historical
Comparison**

Chair: François Guesnet, University College London (UCL), UK

The logic of nationalization: Poland and Hungary before and after 1919
Victor Karady, Central European University, Budapest

Warsaw and Budapest - the scale of comparison
Tim Cole, University of Bristol, UK

***National narratives and "Jewish history" in Polish and Hungarian
museums today***
Anna Manchin, Budapest

continued...

continued...

1.15 pm **Lunch (provided)**

2.45 pm **Session 3: Jews in Polish and Hungarian entertainment before World War Two**

Chair: Antony Polonsky, Brandeis University, USA

Scandal of the Budapest Orpheum

Mary Gluck, Brown University, USA

Lopek Dancing: The Jewish Creators of Interwar Polish Cabaret

Beth Holmgren, Duke University, USA

4 pm **Tea break**

4.30pm **Session 4 : Book presentation**

Barry Cohen, London: *Opening the Drawer. The Hidden Identities of Polish Jews* (2018), with Witold Krassowski

5.30pm **Conference concludes**

Please note that the programme may be subject to change.

January 26, 2019 and in association with the conference launching **POLIN 31**

FILM SCREENING

The Polish Cultural Institute (PCI) London in co-operation with the Institute for Polish-Jewish Studies will screen

Heroes of War - Witold Pilecki: A Volunteer for Auschwitz

(dir. Josh Whitehead) at JW3. www.imdb.com/title/tt5145444/

This will be followed by a wider conversation about the Auschwitz concentration camp led by the IPJS's renowned specialist in the history of Jews in Eastern Europe, Professor Antony Polonsky. For further details, please see p. 14.

The **Institute for Polish-Jewish Studies** wishes to thank the **Embassy of the Republic of Poland in London** and the **Polish Cultural Institute, London** for their generous support of this event.



Conference convenors:
Professor Antony Polonsky
(Brandeis University),
Dr François Guesnet
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Ms Sara Ben-Isaac
(Institute of Jewish Studies,
University College London)

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(IPJS)

NOTES ON SPEAKERS



Barry Cohen is a writer and journalist based in London who has worked as an editor and author for many publications, including foreign editor of the *New Statesman*. Much of his work has focused on foreign affairs, international business and financial issues. He is the co-author of *The Kissinger Study of Southern Africa*. He holds degrees in political science and international relations from universities in Canada and Britain.

Opening the Drawer brings together illustrated profiles of three generations of Poles who discovered their hidden Jewish identity in often surprising ways. Drawing on interviews with child survivors of the Holocaust, the post-war second generation and the post-Communist third generation, these voyages of discovery provide memorable depictions of unearthing long-buried family histories and secrets. They include the stories of a Catholic priest, a former anti-Semitic football hooligan, students, academics and renowned writers. Each generation has confronted a specific Polish environment which shaped their lives. Holocaust survivors were usually raised as Catholics whereas younger Poles have had the advantage of growing up in a more tolerant civil society. This phenomenon of emerging Jews has generated growing interest in Polish society. Their wide-ranging profiles also reflect a growing spectrum of communal activities that defy the view that Poland is a land of ghosts where Jewish life has ceased to exist.



Tim Cole is Professor of Social History and Director of the Brigstow Institute, University of Bristol. He has wide ranging interests in social and environmental histories, historical geographies and digital humanities and also works within the creative economy. His core research has focused in the main on *Holocaust landscapes* - both historical and memory landscapes - writing books on Holocaust representation (*Images of the Holocaust/Selling the Holocaust*, 1999), the spatiality of ghettoization in Budapest (*Holocaust City*, 2003), social histories of the Hungarian

Holocaust (*Traces of the Holocaust*, 2011) and the spatiality of survival (*Holocaust Landscapes*, 2016) as well as co-editing a collection of essays emerging from an interdisciplinary digital humanities project he co-led (*Geographies of the Holocaust*, 2015). Alongside this research, he has also developed interests in environmental history, being a co-editor of a study of military landscapes (*Militarised Landscapes*, 2010) and he is now working on a new book that explores social, cultural, landscape and environmental change in post-war Britain (*About Britain*).



Mary Gluck (Ph.D. Columbia University) is a cultural and intellectual historian of Central Europe with a special interest in the Jews of the Habsburg Monarchy. She teaches courses at Brown University (Providence, R.I.) in modern European intellectual history, the Fin de Siècle, modernism, Parisian urbanism, Central European Jewish modernism, and the cultural function of Jewish humor. Her research focuses on the intersections between aesthetics, politics and popular culture, as well as on the social and cultural aspects of Jewish assimilation. She is

the author of *George Lukács and His Generation* (1985), *Popular Bohemia: Modernism and Urban Culture in Nineteenth-Century Paris* (2005) and most recently, *The Invisible Jewish Budapest: The Genesis of a Metropolitan Culture at the Fin de Siècle* (2016).

continued...

NOTES ON SPEAKERS



François Guesnet is Reader in Modern Jewish History in the Department of Hebrew and Jewish Studies at University College London. He holds a Ph.D. in Modern History from Albert-Ludwigs-Universität, Freiburg im Breisgau, and specializes in the early modern and 19th century history of Eastern European, and more specifically, Polish Jews. He is co-chair of the editorial board of *Polin: Studies in Polish Jewry* and held research and teaching fellowships at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, the University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia), the University of Oxford and at Dartmouth College, and serves on the Executive Committees of the European Association for Jewish Studies, the British Association for Jewish Studies, and the Institute for Polish-Jewish Studies. His book publications include *Polnische Juden im 19. Jahrhundert: Lebensbedingungen, Rechtsnormen und Organisation im Wandel* (1998), *Der Fremde als Nachbar. Polnische Positionen zur jüdischen Präsenz in Polen. Texte seit 1800* (2009), and, with Gwenyth Jones, *Antisemitism in an Era of Transition: The Case of Post-Communist Eastern Central Europe* (2014). Together with Glenn Dynner, he published *Warsaw. The Jewish Metropolis. Studies in Honor of the 70th Birthday of Professor Antony Polonsky* (2015) and most recently the volume *Negotiating Religion. Cross-disciplinary perspectives*, co-edited with Cécile Laborde and Lois Lee (2017).



Beth Holmgren is Professor and Chair of Duke University's Slavic and Eurasian Studies Department. Recent books include *Starring Madame Modjeska: On Tour in Poland and America* (Indiana, 2012), which won four national awards in the United States, and *Transgressive Women in Modern Russian and East European Cultures: From the Bad to the Blasphemous*, ed. with Yana Hashamova & Mark Lipovetsky (2016). In 2018 she published *Warsaw is My Country: The Story of Krystyna Bierzyńska, 1928-1945*, a cultural biography of a Jewish Varsoviennne who fought in the 1944

Warsaw Uprising when she was sixteen years old and was interned in one of the only POW camps designated for women during World War II. Her current research focuses on Polish and Jewish Warsaw during the city's transformation into a modern metropolis and imperial marketplace (1890-1914).



Victor Karady is emeritus research director of the French CNRS and distinguished research associate at the History Department of the Central European University (CEU) in Budapest. He had a dual career of historical sociologist at the Parisian EHESS (Bourdieu Institute) and, since 1992, at the CEU. He served as principal investigator in two European research ventures: ELITES08 (on historical trends of elite selection in six formerly socialist countries) and as the Hungarian partner of the INTERCO-SSH project (on the social sciences since 1945). His main interests concern the historical sociology of higher education, social history of modern Jewry, dynamics of modernization of Central European societies, and historical transformations of the social sciences. His recent English books include: *Ethnic and Denominational Inequalities of Elite Training in Modern Central Europe* (2012), *The numerus clausus in Hungary* (ed. with P.T. Nagy 2012), *Shaping Human Science Disciplines* (ed. with C. Fleck, M. Duller, 2018) and *Sociology in Hungary. An Institutional History* (forthcoming, 2019).

continued...

NOTES ON SPEAKERS



Witold Krassowski is a photographer who has specialised in social documentary and reportage for over 30 years. His work has been widely published across Europe, especially in Britain. Born in 1956 he is considered one of the most important contemporary Polish photo-reporters. Although he studied linguistics at the University of Warsaw and the Sorbonne, he received his doctorate in photography in 2009 at the Radio and Television Faculty of the University of Silesia in Katowice, and three years later he received his post-doctoral degree. To date,

he still teaches, nowadays mainly at the Faculty of Media Art at the Warsaw Academy of Fine Arts. His work has won two World Press Photo Awards and he has served on the jury of World Press Photo Contest. He was equally successful in other photographic competitions in Poland, Britain and Iran. He has presented his work in many European cities. He published *Visages de l'Est, After-Images of Poland*, and *Grand Finale*.



Howard Lupovitch was born in Baltimore and grew up in Detroit. He is associate professor of history and director of the Cohn-Haddow Center for Judaic Studies at Wayne State University in Detroit. He was educated at the University of Michigan and Columbia University, where he received a Ph.D. in History. Before coming to Wayne, he taught at Cornell University, the University of Western Ontario, and the University of Michigan, where he was also a fellow at the Frankel Institute for Advanced Judaic Studies. He is the author of *Jews at the Crossroads: Tradition and Accommodation during the Golden Age of the Hungarian Nobility* (2007) and is currently completing a history of the Jews of Budapest and writing a history of the Neolog Movement in Judaism.

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Anna Manchin received her Ph.D. in Modern European History from Brown University. She has held the Ray D. Wolfe post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Toronto, the Aresty Visiting Scholarship at Rutgers University, the Prins post-doctoral fellowship at the Center for Jewish History in New York and the Fred and Ellen Lewis Fellowship at the Joint Archives in Jerusalem. She is an independent researcher focussing on Jewishness in visual culture and popular culture in 20th century Hungary. She has written articles about museums, interwar Hungarian

popular film, and contemporary Jewish ethnicity in Hungarian popular culture that have appeared in *East European Jewish Affairs*, *Shofar*, and *Hungarian Quarterly*, among others. She is currently completing a book on Jewishness and popular film in interwar Hungary.

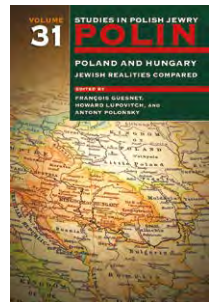
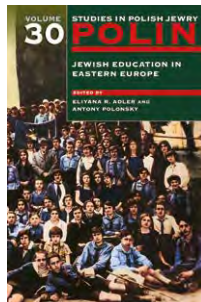
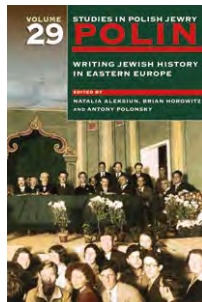
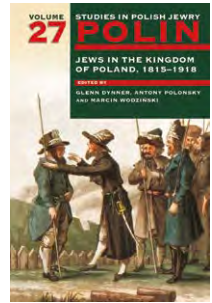
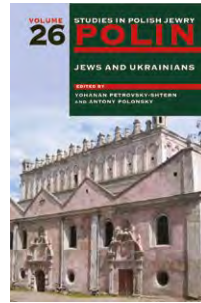
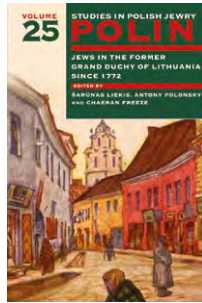
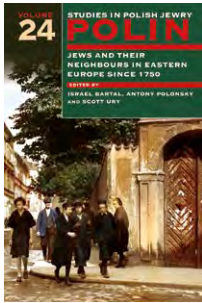


Antony Polonsky is Chief Historian of the POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews, Warsaw and emeritus professor of Holocaust Studies at Brandeis University. Until 1991 he was Professor of International History at the London School of Economics and Political Science. He is co-chair of the editorial board of *Polin: Studies in Polish Jewry*, author of *Politics in Independent Poland* (1972), *The Little Dictators* (1975), *The Great Powers and the Polish Question* (1976); co-author of *A History of Modern Poland* (1980) and *The Beginnings of Communist Rule in Poland*

(1981) and co-editor of *Contemporary Jewish writing in Poland: an anthology* (2001) and *The neighbors respond: the controversy over the Jedwabne Massacre in Poland* (2004). His most recent work is *The Jews in Poland and Russia, volume 1, 1350 to 1881; volume 2 1881 to 1914; volume 3 1914 to 2008* (2010, 2012), published in 2013 in an abridged version *The Jews in Poland and Russia. A Short History*.

POLIN

STUDIES IN POLISH JEWRY



POLIN is a volume of scholarly papers co-edited by the historians Antony Polonsky (Brandeis University) and François Guesnet (University College London). Since 1994 the series has been published on its behalf by the Littman Library of Jewish Civilization, and since 1998 the publication has been linked with the American Association for Polish-Jewish Studies.

In March 2000 **Polin** was honoured with a National Jewish Book Award by the Jewish Book Council in the United States.

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Since 1984, the Institute for Polish-Jewish Studies (IPJS) has been an international leader in the presentation and dissemination of academic research on eastern European Jewish history and culture, with a strong focus on the Polish-Lithuanian Jewish community. It is the key educational institution in Britain devoted to the history and culture of Polish and East European Jewry.

The IPJS is best known for its yearbook *Polin: Studies in Polish Jewry*, publishing original research by leading scholars from the fields of history, literary criticism, history of the Holocaust, and the history of Jewish-non-Jewish relations. Recent volumes have been dedicated to the history of the Jews in Lithuania, the Ukraine, Jewish education in Eastern Europe. The IPJS has hosted a number of significant public events, with the yearly conference to launch the new volume of *Polin: Studies in Polish Jewry* being the most important. These events have been held in cooperation with the Embassy of the Republic of Poland, and the Polish Cultural Institute, London. The IPJS cooperates with the Polish Cultural Institute, London, the Institute of Jewish Studies at University College London, and the American Association of Polish-Jewish Studies.

Public events devoted to a number of topics are organized throughout the year, focusing on the rich and variegated history and culture of eastern European Jewish communities, as well as the Holocaust. Members of the Institute of Polish-Jewish Studies engage actively in academic research and education, and are frequent public speakers on the history and culture of Polish and eastern European Jewry, as well as on the history of the Holocaust.

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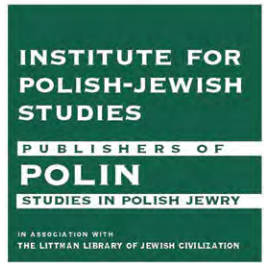
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- Preserving the history of Polish Jewry on an international basis;
- Disseminating the results of research by means of publications, lectures, conferences, seminars and documentary films;
- Focusing attention of the world public on what is most significant and precious in this legacy of Polish and East European Jewry;
- Collaborating with our East European colleagues to understand our shared past.

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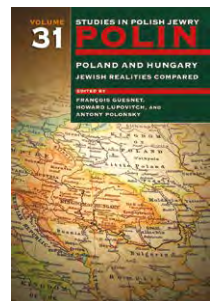


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JEWISH ROOTS WORKSHOP 2019

Sunday, 2 June 2019, 10am - 6pm

JW3, 341-351 Finchley Road, London NW3 6ET



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Do you have a story you would like to tell, about your family in Eastern Europe?

If so, please tell us about it! Just email us at jewishrootsworkshopipjs@gmail.com we would love to hear from you.

We are delighted to announce that we are planning to hold our second Jewish Roots Workshop on Sunday 2nd June 2019. The focus this year will be on general questions of genealogy, and especially on the fate of Jewish families during the Holocaust. We also want to include your reflections on engaging with your family's eastern European roots.

We are planning four sessions: two speakers on genealogy, and two family-research presentations. This year, our 2 very special speakers are:

- **Michael Tobias**, a Vice-President of JewishGen, Inc and co-founder and Board member of Jewish Records Indexing-Poland (JRI-Poland), who enthused so many at last year's workshop; and
- **Sima Velkovich**, from the Reference and Information Department of **Yad Vashem**, the internationally-leading research centre for Holocaust history.

We will also be introducing the **YIVO Institute for Jewish Research UK**, a new London branch of this internationally renowned institution from NYC.

We look forward to continuing our much-appreciated conversations between family-researchers and participants, with our specialist IPJS historians of Jewish history in Eastern Europe, Prof Antony Polonsky and Dr François Guesnet. They will join us again for this mutual exploration and enrichment, which this time should include lunch and a film screening.

Should you know anyone who might be interested in this workshop, please feel free to forward these details to them. For those who have not yet done so, please consider signing up to our emailing list, here <http://eepurl.com/dskFPf>

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FILM SCREENING in association with the conference launching POLIN 31:

WITOLD PILECKI

Q&A with Professor Antony Polonsky

Saturday 26th January 2019, 8pm, at JW3

The Polish Cultural Institute (PCI) London in co-operation with the Institute for Polish-Jewish Studies screens

Heroes of War WITOLD PILECKI: A Volunteer for Auschwitz

(dir. Josh Whitehead). www.imdb.com/title/tt5145444/

Witold Pilecki volunteered to go into Auschwitz so he could learn about conditions there. On his escape he passed the information to the Western democracies.

This film, directed by Josh Whitehead, will be followed by a wider conversation about Auschwitz camp led by Professor Antony Polonsky, renowned specialist in history of Jews in Eastern Europe. The date has been chosen to coincide with Holocaust Remembrance Day, commemorating the day when Auschwitz was liberated. This is a partner event with the Polish Cultural Institute.

Venue: JW3 - Jewish Community Centre, London. www.jw3.org.uk

Tickets: £12.00 to £15.00.

Members of JW3 save 10% on most JW3 events.

Concessionary tickets are available through the JW3 Box Office for recipients of Universal Credit, Pension Credit, Disability Living Allowance, full-time students in possession of NUS/ISIC cards, and companions/carers of people with disabilities. An appropriate card will need to be shown. Please note discounts cannot be combined. Ticket prices for some events are subsidised and are therefore not eligible for concessionary discounts. To book concessionary tickets, or for further information on our concessionary policy, please contact the JW3 Box Office by calling 020 7433 8988.



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