# Program

## Monday 29 October

**11.00 -16.30**  
*Masterclass* (only for selected PhD candidates and research master students)  
with Jörg Rüpke about his book *Pantheon: A New History of Roman Religion*

## Opening of the Conference

**14.00-15.30**  
Walking Tour of Leiden: starts at IBIS Hotel

**17.00-18.00**  
Registration and drinks  
[Academy Building](#), Rapenburg 73 Leiden

**18.00-18.05**  
Word of welcome: Prof. Erik-Jan Zürcher, Academic Director of the Leiden Institute for Area Studies  
Klein Auditorium (Academy Building)

**18.05-19.00**  
**Keynote Lecture by Aaron Hughes** (University of Rochester)  
‘Contextualizing Jewish Studies through the Study of Ritual’  
Chair: Judith Frishman

## Tuesday 30 October

**10.00-11.00**  
**Keynote Lecture by Nurit Stadler** (Hebrew University Jerusalem)  
‘The Many Voices of the Ritual: Devotions to Female Saint Shrines in Israel/Palestine’  
Chair: Cristiana Facchini  
Room A.144 ‘Lorentzzaal’

**11.00-11.30**  
Coffee/tea at Restaurant Kamerlingh Onnes Building

**11.30-13.00**  
*Sessions 1, 2, 3, 4*
Session 1 ‘Jewish Life Cycle’
Room B. 013 | Chair: Leon Mock

Belin Benezra (Bosphorus University, Istanbul & Leiden University)
‘The Transformation and (Reinvented) Traditions of Social and Religious Life Cycle Events of the Sephardic Community of Istanbul’

Sasha Goldstein-Sabbah (Leiden University)
‘Jewish Henna Ceremonies in the 21st Century’

Hizky Shoham (Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan & Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem)
‘The Conceptual and Anthropological History of Bat Mitzvah: Between Rite de Passage and Augmented Birthday’

Session 2 ‘Rituals of Violence and the Jews’
Room B.014 | Chair: Karin Neutel

Jan Bremmer (University of Groningen)
‘Rites of Violence in Alexandria AD 38: The First Pogrom?’

Jan Willem van Henten (University of Amsterdam)
‘Razis’ Self-Killing (2 Maccabees 14:37-46) as a Jewish Ritual’

Rebecca Sebbagh (Universität Erfurt)
‘Stereotyped Description of Ritual? – Narratives of Kiddush ha-Shem (Sanctification of the Name) and Their Halakhic Sources’

Session 3 ‘Ritual in Narrative’
Room B.016 | Chair: Shana Schick

Jacqueline Borsje (University of Amsterdam)
‘Powerful Texts for Protection and Invisibility’

Reuven Kiperwasser (Ariel University, Ariel)
‘Every Day Rituals, Funeral Scenes and Rabbinic Subject’

Session 4 ‘Ritual and Modern Identity 1’
Room B.017 | Chair: Judith Frishman

Adi Sherzer (The Ben-Gurion Research Institute for the Study of Israel & Zionism, Be'er Sheva)
‘The National Holiday and the Jewish Rituals: The Case of Yom Ha'Atsmaut (1948-1958)’

Paul Michael Kurtz (Faculty of Divinity & Queens’ College, Cambridge)
‘Jewish or Jew-ish? Marking Boundaries of Ancient Identity in 19th Century Judaism’

_Davide Mano_ (EHESS, Paris)

‘Rediscovering Jewish Rituals of Commemoration from Late 18th Century Italy: Virtual Citizenship, Positive Memory and Political Message’

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<td>13.00-14.00</td>
<td>Lunch at Restaurant Kamerlingh Onnes Building</td>
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**Session 5 ‘Ritual and Modern Identity 2’**  
Room B. 013 | Chair: Davide Mano

_Bram Colijn_ (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)  
‘Pluriprax Households in Modern China: Contested Family Rituals in a Shifting Religious Landscape’

_Gerard Wiegers_ (University of Amsterdam)  
‘Ritual, Conflict, and Memory: Kristallnacht Commemorations in the Netherlands and Jewish-Muslim Relations’

_Martijn Stoutjesdijk_ (Tilburg School of Catholic Theology)  
‘Judaism, Slavery and Transfer of Ritual: from Seder Meal to Keti Koti’

**Session 6 ‘Ritual Theory 1’**  
Room B.014 | Chair: Tamás Biró

_William Arfman_ (Tilburg University)  
‘A History of Liminality: Plurality and the Problem of the Liminoid’

_Ab de Jong_ (Leiden University)  
‘What Zoroastrianism Lacks (and What that Means, and Why Everyone Should Care)’

_Nathal Dessing_ (Leiden University)  
‘Setting Oneself Apart? Ritual Practice in Pluralistic Contexts’

**Session 7 ‘Art/Drama 1’**  
Room B.016 | Chair: Megan Blocksom

_Elza Kuyk_ (Utrecht University & Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)  
‘Is there Liturgy in Contemporary Art Performances? ’

_Levi Weinstein_ (Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Be’er Sheva & Herzog College)
‘Hasidic Legal Drama Therapy. Jewish Ritual as Therapeutic Legal Norms at the Interface between Performance and Psychotherapy’

_Hadas Reshef_ (Freie Universität Berlin)
‘Interpreting Rituals: Three Initial Activities of Modern Preoccupation with Jewish Art’

**Session 8 ‘Ritual Model, Ritual Disruption and the Beginning of Christianity’**
Room B.017 | Chair: Jan Willem van Henten

_Tom Blanton_ (Universität Erfurt)
‘Abraham as Ritual Model in Genesis, Jubilees, and Pauline Epistles’

_Karin Neutel_ (University of Oslo)
‘Ritual Disruption: Circumcision as a Rite of Exclusion and Inclusion at the Beginning and End of Christianity’

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<td>15.30-16.00</td>
<td>Coffee/tea at Restaurant Kamerlingh Onnes Building</td>
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<td>16.00-17.30</td>
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**Session 9 ‘Ritual Theory 2’**
Room B.013 | Chair: William Arfman

_Tamás Biró_ (ELTE Eötvös Loránd University & Jewish Theological Seminary - University of Jewish Studies, Budapest)
‘Modes of Religiosity and the History of Jewish Rituals’

_Thomas Cowan_ (University of Amsterdam)
‘Storm the Citadels: Archontism and the Resistance to Secularized Ritual’

_Mark Beumer_ (Tilburg University)
‘Temple Sleep: A Close Encounter of Ritual Dynamics. An Historiographic Exploration’

**Session 10 ‘Art/Drama 2’**
Room B. 014 | Chair: Hadas Reshef

_Megan Blocksom_ (Baldwin Wallace University, Berea, Ohio)

_Francesco Trentini_ (Ca’ Foscari University, Venezia)
‘Beyond Stereotypes. Jewish Ritual Influencing Christian Liturgical Imagery’

_Miriam Sklarz_ (Orot Israel College, Rehovot)
‘Three Rituals Attributed to Melchizedek: Rabbinic, Christian & Polemic’

**Session 11 ‘Rituals in Antiquity’**
Room B. 016 | Chair: Benedikt Kranemann

*Peter-Ben Smit* (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)
‘Ritual Competition and Ritual Failure in Philo’s *De vita contemplativa*’

*Maureen Attali* (Université Rennes 2)
‘The Jewish Depositio of Jacob and David in 6th Century Hebron: Christian Misunderstanding or First Testimony of a Newer Jewish Ritual?’

*Kristel Henquet* (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam & Leiden University)
‘Offering Body Parts: Dedicating Terracotta Anatomical Votives in Hellenistic Central Italy’

**Session 12 ‘Transformation of Ritual’**
Room B. 017 | Chair: Corey Williams

*Agata Rejowska-Pasek* (Jagiellonian University, Krakow)
‘Between Ritual and Performance. Humanist Marriages in Poland’

*Wouter van Beek* (Leiden University)
‘African Masks in Changing Contexts. General Ritual?’

*Leon Mock* (Tilburg University)
‘The Evil Spirit and the Washing of the Hand in Contemporary Rabbinic Responsa’

18.00-20.30 Conference dinner at restaurant Puur
Pieterskerk Choorstegg 9 Leiden
Wednesday 31 October

10.00-11.30  **Sessions 13, 14, 15**

**Session 13 ‘Liturgy 1’**
Room B. 020 | Cristiana Facchini

*Benedikt Kranemann* (Universität Erfurt)
‘Liturgy as a Church Performance. Paradigms of Liturgical Studies in the 19th Century’

*Gerard Rouwhorst* (Tilburg University)
‘The Scholarly Study of Liturgy: From Modernist Interests to 21st Century Methodology’

*Judith Frishman* (Leiden University)
‘Elbogen, Liturgy and the Historiography of the *Wissenschaft de Judentums*’

**Session 14 ‘Hinduism 1: Asia’**
Room B. 031 | Chair: Freek Bakker

*Tineke Nugteren* (Tilburg University)
‘Bare Feet and Sacred Ground: Viṣṇu Was Here’

*Catrien Notermans* (Radboud University Nijmegen)
‘Prayers Made of Cow Dung’

*Deborah de Koning* (Tilburg University)
‘Celebrating the Nation: Ritualizing Ravana’

**Session 15 ‘Spatial Arrangements and Foci of Ritual in Antiquity’**
Room B. 035 | Chair: Ab de Jong

*Jürgen K. Zangenberg* (Leiden University)
‘Exploring the *Bemah* in the Byzantine Synagogue of Horvat Kur’

*Diana Pavel* (Universität Erfurt)
‘Interpreting Depictions of Altars within Etruscan Iconography’

*Jörg Rüpke* (Universität Erfurt)
‘Focusing Ritual Attention’
11.30-11.45  Coffee/tea

11.45-13.15  Sessions 16, 17, 18

**Session 16 ‘Liturgy 2’**  
Room B. 020 | Gerard Rouwhorst

*Cristiana Facchini* (Alma Mater Studiorum, University of Bologna)  
‘Jewish Preaching and Baroque Culture. Christians and Jews Performing in the City’

*Veronika Klimova* (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań)  
‘Rituals in the Light of *The Karaite Catechism in Brief* by Moses Firkovich’

*Jonathan Pater* (Tilburg University)  
‘Revisiting *Afikoman*: Between Roman Drinking Customs and Jewish Ritual’

**Session 17 ‘Hinduism 2: The Netherlands’**  
Room B. 031 | Chair: Tineke Nugteren

*Freek Bakker* (Utrecht University)  
‘The Ritual’s Home in Dutch Hinduism’

*Priya Swamy* (Leiden University)  
‘Cuddling the Gods: ’Cute’ Hanuman as a Ritual Object among Surinamese Hindu Communities in the Netherlands’

*Pieter van der Woude* (Utrecht University)  
‘Hindu Temple Processions in the Dutch Public Space’

**Session 18 ‘Death Mentalities through the Lens of Rituals of Death and Dying 1’**  
Room B. 035 | Chair: Janieke Bruin-Mollenhorst

*Caroline Brasjen-Mudde* (Utrecht University)  
‘Emancipation and Negotiation in Early Modern Catholic Mourning in the Dutch Republic’

*Kim van der Weegen* (Erasmus Medical Center, Rotterdam)  
‘Ritualization as Meaning-Making Practice in Palliative Care’

*Brenda Mathijsen* (University of Groningen)  
‘Corpse Mentalities: Cultures of Post-mortem Care among Funerary Professionals and the Bereaved’
Lunch at Restaurant Kamerlingh Onnes Building

Sessions 19, 20, 21

**Session 19 ‘Rabbinic Ritual’**
Room B. 020: John-Harmen Valk

*Meir Bar-Ilan* (Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan)
‘Worshipping Demons: Between Spain and the Land of Israel’

*Shana Schick* (University of Haifa)
‘The Emergence of Ritual as a Distinct Category in Rabbinic Thought’

*Nathan MacDonald* (Saint John’s College, University of Cambridge)
‘Nadab and Abihu's Ritual Innovation (Leviticus 10)’

**Session 20 ‘Death Mentalities through the Lens of Rituals of Death and Dying 2’**
Room B. 035 | Chair: Brenda Mathijsen

*Janieke Bruin-Mollenhorst* (Tilburg University)
‘Ave Maria between the Religious and Personal Sacred’

*Joanna Wojtkowiak* (University of Humanistic Studies, Utrecht)
‘Death Representations and Aesthetics in Western Funerals’

*Martin J.M. Hoondert* (Tilburg University)
‘Renewal in the Material Culture of Cremations since 2000’

**Session 21 ‘Good Quality Teaching Materials for Religion Education’**
Room B. 031 | Chair: Markus Davidsen

*Markus Altena Davidsen* (Leiden University)
‘The NGG Working Group on Religion Education: Plans and Goals’

*Wanda Alberts* (Leibniz Universität Hannover)
‘School Education about Religion Beyond the World Religions Paradigm?’

*Sissel Undheim* (University of Bergen)
‘The Study of Religion and the New Core Curriculum in the Norwegian School Subject Religion’

*Joël Valk* (Corderius College Amersfoort)
‘Image Use in Religion Text Books: The Case of the Dutch “Perspectief Series”

15.45-16.15 Coffee and tea
16.15-16.30 walk to Klein Auditorium (Academy Building)

16.30-17.30 **Keynote Lecture by Leo Samama**

‘Music as Ritual, Rituals in Music’

Klein Auditorium (Academy Building)
Chair: Birgit Meyer

17.30-18.00 **Concert by Irene Maessen** (soprano) & **Eleonore Pameijer** (flute)
Klein Auditorium

Psalm 16:8 (Hebrew)
Dajan Ha-emet (Hebrew)
Jeff Hamburg-Joshe Kalb Songs (4 songs in Yiddish)
Louis Lewandowski-Hashkivenu (Hebrew)
Maurice Ravel-L'Enigme éternel (Yiddish)
Maurice Ravel- Kaddish (Hebrew)
Leon Stein-Adagio and Chassidic Dance (flute and tambourine)
Mordechai Gebirtig- Hershele, Yiddish folk song