

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 ‘Lorentztaal’

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 Benzra (Bögaziçi 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'

13.00-14.00	Lunch at Restaurant Kamerlingh Onnes Building
14.00-15.30	Sessions 5, 6, 7, 8

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 Ketzi 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'

15.30-16.00 Coffee/tea at Restaurant Kamerlingh Onnes Building
16.00-17.30 Sessions 9, 10, 11, 12

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)

'The Rhetoric of Religious Rituals: 17th Century Dutch Processional Imagery in an Increasingly Secular Context'

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 Choorsteeg 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 Mathijssen (University of Groningen)
‘Corpse Mentalities: Cultures of Post-mortem Care among Funerary Professionals and the Bereaved’

13.15-14.15	Lunch at Restaurant Kamerlingh Onnes Building
14.15-15.45	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 Mathijssen

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