

Yitzhak Y. Melamed

Curriculum Vitae (11.12.2017)

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EDUCATION

- 1996-2005 **Yale University** - Ph.D., Philosophy (2005). Dissertation *The Metaphysics of Substance and the Metaphysics of Thought in Spinoza*. Advisor: Professor Michael Della Rocca.
- 1992-1996 **Tel Aviv University** - M.A. in History and Philosophy of Science, *Summa cum laude*. Master's thesis: *The Liar Paradox, Sentence Construction, and the atemporality of Logic*.
- 1991-1995 **Tel Aviv University** - B.A.-M.A. Program, The Elkana-Lautman Interdisciplinary Program for Outstanding Students. Main fields of study: Philosophy, Neuropsychology, and Mathematics.
- 1990-1991 **Tel Aviv University** - B.A. Studies, Psychology and Philosophy.

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Early Modern Philosophy; German Idealism.

AREAS OF COMPETENCE

Metaphysics (primarily, tropes, mereology, and time); 19th Century Philosophy; Medieval Philosophy; History & Philosophy of Science; Philosophy of Religion; Political philosophy.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- July 2016 - **Johns Hopkins University**. Charlotte Bloomberg Professor of the Humanities.
- 2013 - **Johns Hopkins University**. Professor. Department of Philosophy.
- Courses taught: “The Identity of Indiscernibles”; “Spinoza’s Metaphysics”; “History of Modern Philosophy”; “Spinoza’s *Theological Political Treatise*”; “Spinoza and German Idealism” (co-taught with Eckart Förster); “Topics in Metaphysics: Mereology”; “Spinoza and the Pantheism Controversy” (co-taught with Eckart Förster); “Descartes”; “Kant and the Early Moderns” (co-taught with Eckart Förster); “Possible Worlds: Metaphysics and Logic” (co-taught with Justin Bledin); “Spinoza’s Political Theology”; “Introduction to Contemporary Metaphysics”; “The Principle of Sufficient Reason”; “Fundamental Principles of Metaphysical Rationalism” (co-taught with Justin Bledin); “Hegel’s *Logic* & Spinoza’s *Ethics*” (co-taught with Eckart Förster); Maimonides’ *Guide of the Perplexed* (co-taught with David Katz).
- 2010-2013 **Johns Hopkins University**. Associate Professor (tenured). Department of Philosophy.
- 2008-2010 **Johns Hopkins University**. Assistant Professor (tenure-track). Department of Philosophy.
- February 2008 Competing tenure-track job offers: **University of Pittsburgh** (Philosophy); **Ohio State University** (Philosophy); **University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill** (Philosophy).
- 2005-2008 **University of Chicago**. Assistant Professor (tenure-track). Department of Philosophy
- Courses taught: “Spinoza’s Metaphysics” (co-taught with Jean-Luc Marion); “Spinoza’s *Theological-Political Treatise*”; “The Principle of Sufficient Reason in Early Modern and Contemporary Metaphysics”;

“Spinoza’s Ethics – Part II”; “Individuation and the Identity of Indiscernibles”; “History of Modern Philosophy”; “Spinoza’s Metaphysics: *Ethics* – Part I”; “Philosophical Perspectives on the Humanities – Part 1 (Ancient Philosophy)” (core curriculum course); “Philosophical Perspectives on the Humanities – Part 2 (Early Modern Philosophy)”; “Philosophical Perspectives on the Humanities – Part 3 (19th and 20th Century Philosophy)”; “Workshop: Early Modern Philosophy (advanced graduate studies).”

- 2004-2005 **New York University.** Instructor. Departments of Jewish Studies/Philosophy
Course designed and taught: *Spinoza and Medieval Philosophy*, *Spinoza’s Theological Political Treatise and Its Aftermath*
- Spring 2002 **Wesleyan University.** Visiting Instructor. Department of Philosophy.
Designed and taught a mid-level course: *Philosophy of Religion*.

INTENSIVE SEMINARS AND MASTERCALASSES

- Masterclass on Spinoza’s *Ethics*. Peking University, Beijing. June 13th-26th, 2017.
- Masterclass on Spinoza’s *Cogitata Metaphysica*. ENS de Lyon. June 6th-9th, 2016.
- International Summer School on *Spinoza & German Idealism*. May 2016. University of Toronto. Co-taught with Eckart Förster.

GRANTS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

- Johns Hopkins University.** Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award Finalist (2017).
- Templeton Foundation/Immortality Project.** 2014-2015. Project: “The Imaginary Nature of Death: A Spinozist View.” \$99,013 [sole PI].
- ACLS Burkhardt Fellowship for Recently Tenured Scholars.** 2011-12. Project: “Spinoza and German Idealism: A Metaphysical Dialogue.” Declined.
- National Endowment for the Humanities - NEH Fellowship** 2011-12. Project: “Spinoza and German Idealism: A Metaphysical Dialogue”
- Humboldt Fellowship for Experience Researchers** (2011). Project: “Spinoza and German Idealism: A Metaphysical Dialogue.” Declined.
- Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship - Johns Hopkins University** (2005-7). Research project: “Spinoza’s Critique of Humanism: Untaming the Shrew”. Declined.
- American Academy for Jewish Research.** Post-Doctoral Fellowship to NYU. 2003-2005. Research Project: “The Medieval Background of Spinoza’s Metaphysics”.
- The Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library - Yale University.** Summer Research Fellowship. 2002. Research Project: “Eighteenth Century Anti-Spinozism”.
- The Hebrew University of Jerusalem - The Franz Rosenzweig Research Center.** Summer Research Fellowship. 1999.
- Fulbright Fellowship** (to Yale University). 1996-1998.

LANGUAGES

Good proficiency in German, French, and Latin. Italian and Dutch (reading). Spoken Russian. Native Hebrew.

PUBLICATIONS

(Note: Items marked as *'forthcoming'* are accepted and submitted in final version to the press/journal and available upon request, while those marked as *'in preparation'* are either just commissioned, or still in draft form).

Books:

Spinoza's Metaphysics: Substance and Thought (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013). xxii+232 pp. Paperback: 2014.

(Reviewed in *Journal of Philosophy*, *Philosophical Review*, *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*, *Journal of the History of Philosophy*, *European Journal of Philosophy*, *Archive de Philosophie*, *Jewish Quarterly Review*, and *the Jewish Review of Books*).

Spinoza Dictionary (Oxford: Blackwell, in preparation and under contract).

Edited Volumes:

The Oxford Handbook of Jewish Philosophy, eds. Yitzhak Y. Melamed and Paul W. Franks (Oxford: Oxford University Press, in preparation and under contract).

Spinoza's Political Treatise: A Critical Guide, eds. Yitzhak Y. Melamed and Hasana Sharp (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, in press).

Salomon Maimon's Autobiography, translated by Paul Reitter. Edited and introduced by Yitzhak Y. Melamed and Abraham P. Socher (Princeton: Princeton University Press, in press).

Spinoza's Ethics: A Critical Guide, ed. Yitzhak Y. Melamed (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2017).

Eternity: A History, ed. Yitzhak Y. Melamed (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016).

The Young Spinoza: A Metaphysician in the Making, ed. Yitzhak Y. Melamed (Oxford: Oxford University, 2015).

Spinoza and German Idealism, eds. Eckart Förster and Yitzhak Y. Melamed (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012).

Spinoza's Theological-Political Treatise: A Critical Guide, eds. Yitzhak Y. Melamed and Michael Rosenthal (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010).

Article under review:

- "Spinoza on Death, Temporality & the Imagination" (co-author: Oded Schechter)

Articles:

"The First Draft of Spinoza's *Ethics*?" in Charles Ramond and Jack Stetter (eds.), *Spinoza in 21st-Century French and American Philosophy. Metaphysics, Philosophy of Mind, Moral and Political Philosophy*. Bloomsbury, in preparation.

"Novalis and Spinoza" in Michael N. Foster & Lina Steiner (eds.) *Romanticism: Philosophy and Literature* (Palgrave: London, in preparation).

"Teleology in Medieval Jewish Philosophy" in Jeffrey K. McDonough (ed.), *Teleology: A History* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, in preparation).

"Hegel, Spinoza, and McTaggart on the Reality of Time" *International Yearbook of German Idealism*, forthcoming.

"On the Fish's Knowledge of God's Essence, or Why Spinoza Was Not a Skeptic" in G. Vetri, E. Spinelli, R. Haliva, & S. Schmid (eds.), *Studies in Skepticism* (Berlin: DeGruyter, forthcoming).

- “A Future for Eternity?” *The Philosophers’ Magazine*, Fall 2017, forthcoming.
- “When having *too much* Power is Harmful? - Spinoza on Political Luck” in *Spinoza’s Political Treatise: A Critical Guide*, eds. Yitzhak Y. Melamed and Hasana Sharp (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, forthcoming).
- “A Guide to Reading Salomon Maimon’s *Autobiography*” in *Salomon Maimon’s Autobiography*, translated by Paul Reitter, edited and introduced by Yitzhak Y. Melamed and Abraham P. Socher (Princeton: Princeton University Press, in press). Co-author: Abraham P. Socher
- “Spinoza’s Metaphysics of Substance” in Don Garrett (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to Spinoza*. 2nd edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, forthcoming.
- “ ‘A Substance Consisting of an Infinity of Attributes’: Spinoza on the Infinity of Attributes” in Ohad Nachtomy and Reed Wieneger (eds.), *Infinity in Early Modern Philosophy* (Springer, forthcoming).
- “*Deus sive Vernunft*: Schelling’s Transformation of Spinoza’s God” in G. Anthony Bruno (ed.), *Freedom, Nature and Systematicity: Essays on F.W.J. Schelling* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, forthcoming).
- “Spinoza and Some of His Medieval Predecessors on the *summum bonum*” in Nadja German and Yehuda Halper (eds.), *The Pursuit of Happiness in Medieval Jewish and Islamic Thought*. Forthcoming.
- “Hermann Cohen, Spinoza, and the Nature of Pantheism” *Jewish Studies Quarterly*. Forthcoming.
- “The Enigma of Spinoza’s *Amor Dei Intellectualis*” in Noa Naaman and Tom Vinci (eds.), *Freedom and the Passions in Spinoza*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, forthcoming.
- “Spinozism, Acosmism, and Hassidism: A Closed Circle” in Amit Kravitz and Jörg Noller (eds.), *Der Begriff des Judentums in der klassischen deutschen Philosophie [The Concept of Judaism in Classical German Philosophy]*. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2017.
- “The Building Blocks of Spinoza’s Metaphysics: Substance, Attributes, and Modes” in Michael Della Rocca (ed.), *The Oxford Handbook of Spinoza* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017).
- “The Causes of Our Belief in Free Will: Spinoza on Necessary, Innate, yet False Cognitions” in Yitzhak Y. Melamed (ed.), *Spinoza’s Ethics: A Critical Guide* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2017), 121-141.
- “The Principle of Sufficient Reason,” *The Stanford Online Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL=<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/sufficient-reason/>.(Co-author: Martin Lin). First published: Sept. 2010. Substantial Revision: Sept. 2016.
- “Idolatry and its Premature Rabbinic Obituary” in Aaron Segal and Daniel Frank (eds.), *Debates in Jewish Philosophy - Past and Present* (Routledge, 2016), 126-136.
- “Eternity in Early Modern Philosophy” in Yitzhak Y. Melamed (ed.) *Eternity: A History* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016), 129-167.
- “Mendelssohn, Maimon, and Spinoza on Ex-Communication and Toleration: Dispelling Three Enlightenment Fairytales” in *Moses Mendelssohn: Enlightenment, Religion, Politics, Nationalism*, eds. Michah Gottlieb and Charles Manekin (College Park: University of Maryland Press, 2016), 49-60.
- “Method,” in the *Cambridge Descartes Lexicon*, ed. Larry Nolan (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2016), 508-513.
- “Spinoza, Benedict,” in the *Cambridge Descartes Lexicon*, ed. Larry Nolan (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2016), 692-695. Co-author: John Brandau.
- “A Glimpse into Spinoza’s Metaphysical Laboratory: The Development of Spinoza’s Concepts of Substance and Attribute” in Yitzhak Y. Melamed (ed.), *The Young Spinoza* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015), 272-286.
- “Hasdai Crescas and Spinoza on Actual Infinity and the Infinity of God’s Attributes” in Steven Nadler, *Spinoza and Jewish Philosophy* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2014), 204-215.
- “ ‘Let the Law Cut through the Mountain’: Salomon Maimon, Moses Mendelssohn, and Mme. Truth” in Lukas Muehlethaler (ed.), *Höre die Wahrheit, wer sie auch spricht* (Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2014), 70-76.

- “Spinoza, Tschirnhaus et Leibniz: Qu’est un monde?” in Pierre-François Moreau, Raphaële Andrault, and Mogens Laerke (eds.), *Spinoza/Leibniz. Rencontres, controverses, réceptions*, (Paris, Presses universitaires de Paris, 2014), 85-95.
- “What is Time?” in Aaron Garrett (ed.), *The Routledge Handbook of Eighteenth Century Philosophy* (London: Routledge, 2014), 232-244.
- “Baruch Spinoza.” In *Oxford Bibliographies in Philosophy*. Ed. Duncan Pritchard. New York: Oxford University Press, 2014.
- Response to Colin Marshall and Martin Lin in a Symposium on Yitzhak Y. Melamed, *Spinoza’s Metaphysics*, *Leibniz Review* 23 (2013), 207-222.
- “Spinoza’s *Respublica divina*” in Otfried Höffe (ed.), *Baruch de Spinozas Tractatus theologico-politicus* (Berlin: Akademie Verlag, 2013), 177-192.
- “*Scientia Intuitiva*: Spinoza’s Third Kind of Cognition” in Johannes Haag & Markus Wild (eds.) *Übergänge - diskursiv oder intuitiv? Essays zu Eckart Försters “Die 25 Jahre der Philosophie”* (Klostermann: Frankfurt a.M. 2013), 99-116.
- “Spinoza’s Metaphysics of Thought: Parallelisms and the Multifaceted Structure of Ideas,” *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* 86 (2013), 636-683.
- “Charitable Interpretations and the Political Domestication of Spinoza, or, Benedict in the Land of the Secular Imagination” in Eric Schliesser, Mogens Laerke and Justin Smith (eds.), *The Methodology of the History of Philosophy* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013), 258-279.
- “Spinoza’s Deification of Existence”, *Oxford Studies in Early Modern Philosophy* 6 (2012), 75-104.
- “*‘Omnis determinatio est negatio’* – Determination, Negation and Self-Negation in Spinoza, Kant, and Hegel” in Eckart Förster and Yitzhak Melamed (eds.), *Spinoza and German Idealism* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012), 175-96.
- “The Sirens of Elea: Rationalism, Idealism and Monism in Spinoza” in Antonia LoLordo and Stewart Duncan (eds.), *The Key Debates of Modern Philosophy* (New York and London: Routledge. 2012), 78-90.
- “Inherence, Causation, and Conception in Spinoza” *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 50 (2012), 365-86.
- “Why Spinoza is Not an Eleatic Monist (Or Why Diversity Exists)” in Philip Goff (ed.), *Spinoza on Monism* (London: Palgrave, 2012), 206-22.
- “*Christus secundum spiritum*: Spinoza, Jesus, and the Infinite Intellect” Neta Stahl (ed.), *The Jewish Jesus* (New York: Routledge, 2012), 140-151.
- “Two Letters by Salomon Maimon on Fichte’s Philosophy, Kant’s Anthropology and Mathematics,” *International Yearbook of German Idealism* 9 (2011), 379-87.
- “« Et revera »: Spinoza, Maïmonide et la signification du Tétragramme» in Frédéric Manzini (ed.) *Spinoza et les scolastiques* (Paris: PUPS 2011), 133-47.
- “Crescas, Hasdai” in Judith Baskin (ed.), *The Cambridge Dictionary of Jewish History, Religion, and Culture* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2011), 120-121.
- “The Metaphysics of Spinoza’s *Theological Political Treatise*”, in Melamed and Rosenthal (eds.), *Spinoza’s Theological-Political Treatise: A Critical Guide* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010), 128-42.
- “Acosmism or Weak Individuals? Hegel, Spinoza, and the Reality of the Finite”, *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 48 (2010), 77-92.
- “Spinoza’s Anti-Humanism: An Outline” in Carlos Fraenkel, Dario Perinetti, and Justin Smith (eds.) *The Rationalists* (Kluwer – New Synthese Historical Library: 2010), 147-66.
- “Spinoza’s Metaphysics of Substance: The Substance-Mode Relation as a Relation of Inherence and Predication”, *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* (78:1) January 2009, 17-82.
- “Salomon Maimon et l’échec de la philosophie juive moderne,” *Revue germanique internationale* 9 (2009) (*Haskala et Aufklärung – Philosophes juifs des Lumières allemandes*), 175-87.

"Inherence and the Immanent Cause in Spinoza", *The Leibniz Review* 16 (2006), 43-52.

"Hegelianism", *The New Dictionary of the History of Ideas*, Maryanne Cline Horowitz (ed.) (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 2004). (Co-author: Peter Thielke).

"Salomon Maimon and the Rise of Spinozism in German Idealism," *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 42 (January 2004), 67-96.

"Salomon Maimon", *The Stanford Online Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, Edward N. Zalta (ed.), URL=<http://plato.stanford.edu/archives/maimon/> (co-author: Peter Thielke). January 2002. Substantial Revisions: July 2007, July 2015.

"Leaving the Wound Visible: Hegel and Marx on the Rabble and the Problem of Poverty in Modern Society", *Iyyun - The Jerusalem Philosophical Quarterly*, January 2001, 23-39.

"The Exact Science of Non-Beings: Spinoza's View of Mathematics", *Iyyun - The Jerusalem Philosophical Quarterly* 49, January 2000, 3-22

Reviews:

Review essay of Alexander X. Douglas, *Spinoza and Dutch Cartesianism* (Oxford University Press, 2015), *Mind* (2017).

Review of Miquel Beltràn's *The Influence of Abraham Cohen de Herrera's Kabbalah on Spinoza's Metaphysics* (Brill, 2016), *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 55 (2017), 544-545.

Review of David B. Ruderman, *The Book of the Covenant of Pinhas Hurwitz and Its Remarkable Legacy* (University of Washington Press, 2014), *The Jewish Review of Books*, Fall 2016, 21-22.

Review of Samuel Fleischacker, *Divine Teaching and the Way of the World* (Oxford University Press, 2011), *Philosophical Review* 125 (2016): 151-154.

Review of Joseph Almog, *Everything in Its Right Place: Spinoza and Life by the Light of Nature* (Oxford, 2014), in *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*. September 12th, 2014.

Review of Ezequiel L Posesorski, *Between Reinhold and Fichte: August Ludwig Hülsen's Contribution to the Emergence of German Idealism* (Karlsruhe: KIT, 2012). *Journal of the History of Philosophy* 52 (2014), 382-383.

Review of David J. Wertheim, *Salvation through Spinoza: A Study in Jewish Culture in Weimar Germany* (Leiden: Brill, 2011). *Journal of Modern Jewish Studies* (2013).

Review of Michael Mack, *Spinoza and the Specters of Modernity* (Continuum: 2010), *European Journal of Philosophy* 20 (2013).

Review of Susan James, *Spinoza on Philosophy, Religion, and Politics* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012), in *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*. Nov. 25th, 2012.

Review of Michah Gottlieb, *Faith and Freedom: Moses Mendelssohn's Theological-Political Thought* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011). *Journal of Religion* 92 (2012). 449-51.

Review of Wiep van Bunge, Henri Krop, Jeroen M.M. van de Ven, and Piet Steenbakkens (eds.), *Continuum Companion to Spinoza* (London: Continuum, 2011) in *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*. November 18th 2011.

Review of Michael LeBuffe, *From Bondage to Freedom: Spinoza on Human Excellence* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010). *Leibniz Review* 2011, 39-45.

Review of Yirmiyahu Yovel, *The Other Within: The Marranos: Split Identity and Emerging Modernity* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2009). *Journal of Modern History* 83 (2011), 198-200.

Review of Walter Ott, *Causation & Laws of Nature in Early Modern Philosophy* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009). *Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie* (2011), 246-8.

Review of Frédéric Manzini. *Spinoza: Une Lecture d'Aristote* (Paris: Presses Universitaires de France, 2009). *Journal of the History of Philosophy*. January 2011.

Review of Eric Nelson, *The Hebrew Republic: Jewish Sources and the Transformation of European Political Thought*, (Harvard UP, 2010) in *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*. Sept. 16th, 2010.

Review of Salomon Maimon, *Essay on Transcendental Philosophy*, translated by Nick Midgley, Henry Somers-Hall, Alistair Welchman and Merten Reglitz (London: Continuum, 2010). Times Literary Supplement. Sept. 17th, 2010.

Review of Michael Quante, *Hegel's Concept of Action* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004). The Philosophical Review. October 2010. Co-Author: Oded Schechter.

Review of Michael Ayers (ed.), *Rationalism, Platonism, and God* (Oxford University Press/British Academy, 2007) in Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews. February, 24th, 2009.

Review of Abraham P. Socher, *The Radical Enlightenment of Solomon Maimon: Judaism, Heresy, and Philosophy* (Stanford University Press 2006). Journal of Religion. January 2008.

Review of Graeme Hunter, *Radical Protestantism in Spinoza's Thought* (Burlington: Ashgate, 2005). Journal of the History of Philosophy 45. April 2007. 333-4.

Review of Steven Nadler, *Spinoza's Ethics – An Introduction* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006). Ethics. April 2007.

Review of H. B. Nisbet (ed.), *Lessing: Philosophical and Theological Essays* (Cambridge University Press, 2005) in Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews. February 10th, 2006.

Review of Carraud, Vincent, *Causa sive ratio: La Raison de la cause de Suarez à Leibniz* (Paris: Presses universitaires de France, 2002) in The Leibniz Review 15 (December 2005), 163-8.

Review of Salomon Maimon, *Versuch über die Transzendentalphilosophie*, ed. Florian Ehrensperger (Hamburg: Felix Meiner Verlag, 2004). Journal of the History of Philosophy 43. July 2005.

Review of Buzaglo, Meir, "Solomon Maimon: Monism, Skepticism and Mathematics" (Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2002). Iyyun - The Jerusalem Philosophical Quarterly, July 2003, 344-48.

Review of Ravven, Heidi M. and Lenn E. Goodman (eds.), "Jewish Themes in Spinoza's Philosophy" (Albany: SUNY Press, 2002). Journal of the History of Philosophy vol. 41 (July 2003), 417-18.

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

"A Concise Grammar of Pantheism." A paper to be presented at a Workshop on Philosophy of Religion and Pantheism. Rutgers University. June 2018.

"TBA." A paper to be presented at the London Spinoza Circle, London. February 2018.

"TBA." A paper to be presented at the Colloquium of the Institute of Jewish Studies, University College, London. February 2018.

"Spinoza's Transcendent God." A paper to be presented at the History of Philosophy Seminar, King's College, London. February 2018.

"Spinoza's '*Girsa de-Yankuta*' or Spinoza, the Pharisee." A paper to be presented at the Colloquium of the Department of Jewish Thought, Hebrew University of Jerusalem. December 2017.

"Spinoza and the Will to Power." A paper to be presented at the Colloquium of the School of Philosophy, Catholic University of American, November 2017.

"'God is Nature': Rabbinic Pantheism and Its (very few) Critics, 1200-1970." A paper presented at the Colloquium of the Center for Advanced Jewish Studies, University of Pennsylvania. November, 2017. Co-author: Jonathan Garb.

"Spinoza's Transcendent God." A paper presented at a Colloquium of the Philosophy Department, Marist College. November 2017.

"On the Fish's Knowledge of God's Essence, or Why Spinoza Was Not a Skeptic." A paper presented at a Colloquium of the Philosophy Department, Loyola University of Baltimore. November 2017.

“Teleology in Medieval Jewish Philosophy and Spinoza.” A paper presented at a Workshop on Teleology. Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Studies. Harvard University, September 2017.

“Hegel, Spinoza, and McTaggart on the Reality of Time.” A paper presented at a Conference on Hegel and Metaphysics. Oxford University, September 2017.

“When having *too much* Power is Harmful? - Spinoza on Political Luck.” A Keynote talk at the Chinese National Conference in Early Modern Philosophy, Renmin University, Beijing, June 2017.

“Spinoza’s ‘Atheism’ .” Inaugural Lecture in the Philosophy of New Generation Lecture Series. Philosophy Department at Peking University. Beijing, June 2017.

“Spinoza’s Mereology.” A paper presented at the Colloquium of the Philosophy Department, University of Washington, Seattle. May 2017.

“Spinoza and the Election of the Hebrews.” A paper presented at a conference on Spinoza and Modern Jewish Philosophy. University of Washington, Seattle. May 2017.

“A Road not Taken: Why was Spinoza not a Skeptic?” A paper to be presented at a conference on Modern Skepticism. University of Hamburg, May 2017.

“Spinoza’s ‘Atheism’ ”. A paper presented at a conference on Spinoza’s *TTP* and *Ethics*. Princeton University, May 2017.

“The Indivisibility of Extension in Spinoza.” A paper presented at a conference on Late Scholastic and Early Modern Theories of Material Substance. Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris. March 2017.

“Spinoza and Abraham Cohen Herrera on the Infinite.” A paper presented in a symposium on Early Modern Platonism and the Kabbalah. American Philosophical Association, Central Division Meeting. March 2017.

“Spinoza’s ‘Atheism’ ” The Jacob Perlow Lecture at Skidmore College. February 2017.

“Spinoza’s ‘Atheism’ .” A keynote paper presented at conference on *Pantheists, Spinozists, Jews, and the Formation of German Idealism*. Hebrew University of Jerusalem. November 2016.

“Spinoza’s ‘*Girsa de-Yankuta*’ or Spinoza, the Pharisee.” A paper presented at the Colloquium of the Jewish Studies Program, Brandeis University.

“Spinoza’s ‘Atheism’ and the Ideology of Secularism.” Keynote Talk presented at the Workshop: *Historiographie de la philosophie: Histoire, Méthodes, Pratiques*. ENS de Lyon, June 2016.

“The First Draft of Spinoza’s *Ethics*?” A paper presented at conference on Spinoza’s Philosophy. Paris 1-Sorbonne. June 2016.

“Spinoza’s Paul.” A paper presented at a conference on Spinoza’s *Theological Political Treatise*. Princeton University. May 2016.

“Spinoza Against the Law (or Spinoza on Laws of Nature as Brute Necessities).” A paper presented as the Annual Hans Larsson Lecture at the School of Law, Lund University, Sweden. April 2016.

“Spinoza on the Value of Humanity.” A paper presented at a Workshop on the Value of Humanity. Johns Hopkins University. April 2016.

“Hermann Cohen, Spinoza, and the Nature of Pantheism.” A presented at a conference on Spinoza and Hermann Cohen. Princeton University. April 2016.

“Spinoza’s Mereology.” A paper presented at the Colloquium of the Philosophy Department, University of Notre Dame. February 2016.

“Spinozism, Acosmism and Hasidism: A Closed Circle.” A paper presented at the Buber Society of Fellows – Hebrew University of Jerusalem. January 2016.

“The Causes of our Belief in Free Will: Spinoza on Necessary, ‘Innate,’ yet False Cognition.” A paper presented at the Colloquium of the Philosophy Department, Hebrew University of Jerusalem. December 2015.

“Salomon Maimon on the Acosmism of the Hasidism (and Why They Were not Entitled to Such a Lofty View).” A paper presented at a conference on the Concept of Judaism in Classical German Philosophy. Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München. December 2015.

“Spinoza’s Mereology.” A paper presented at the Colloquium of the Philosophy Department, Washington University in St. Louis. November 2015.

“Spinoza and the Kabbalah.” A paper presented at a conference on Jewish Mysticism’s Role in Early Modern Philosophy and Science: Kabbalah, “Atheism” and Non-Mechanical Philosophies of Nature in the 17th-18th Centuries. École des hautes études en sciences sociales, Paris. October 2015.

“Spinoza’s Encyclopedia.” A paper presented at the conference “Die Bestimmung der Philosophie — Zur Theorie und Praxis philosophischen Erkennens.” Bochum University (Germany), June 2015.

“Spinoza on Death and the Imagination.” A paper presented at the Immortality Conference. University of California, Riverside. May 2015. Co-author: Oded Schechter.

“When having too much Power is Harmful: Spinoza on Political Luck.” A paper presented at a Conference on Spinoza’s *Political Treatise*. McGill University. April 2015.

“German Romanticism and Spinoza.” A paper presented at a conference on “Romanticism: Philosophy and Literature.” Bonn University. March 2015.

“*Deus sive Veruft*: Schelling’s Transformation of Spinoza’s God.” A paper presented at the Townsend Humanities Center, UC Berkeley. March 2015.

“Spinoza’s *Aeternitas* as a Modal Concept.” A paper presented at a workshop on eternity. Princeton University. February 2012.

“Spinoza Against the Law (or Spinoza on Laws of Nature as Accidental Necessities).” A paper presented at the Institute for Advanced Studies. Hebrew University of Jerusalem. January 2015.

“Spinoza’s Mereology.” A paper presented at the Philosophy Department, Ohio State University. October 2014.

“Spinoza Against the Law (or Spinoza on Laws of Nature as Accidental Necessities).” A paper presented at a conference on Early Modern Philosophy and Science in Honor of Dan Garber. Princeton University. September 2014.

“Being, Existence, and Reality in Spinoza and His Medieval Predecessors.” A paper presented at a conference on the Origin and Nature of Logic and Language in Medieval Philosophy. Freiburg University. August 2014.

“Spinoza’s Anti-Cartesianism.” A paper presented at the New England Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy. Brown University. May 2014. Co-author: Oded Schechter.

“Spinoza’s Metaphysics: Substance and Thought.” Response to critics at a symposium on my 2013 book. American Philosophical Association: Pacific Division. April 2014.

“*Causa efficiens*: Spinoza’s Monster Cause.” A paper presented at the New York City Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, Fordham University. March 2014.

“Gersonides and Spinoza on God’s Knowledge of Universals and Individuals.” A paper presented at a conference on Gersonides’ Philosophy. University of Geneva. February 2014.

“Spinoza’s Paul: Paulus sive Benedictus.” A paper presented at a conference on the Judeo-Christian Tradition. University of Antwerp. February 2014.

“Spinoza’s Mereology.” A talk given at the Modern Philosophy Workshop, University of Pennsylvania. October 2013.

“*Deus sive Veruft*; Schelling’s Transformation of Spinoza’s God.” A paper presented at a conference on Schelling’s Philosophy. Temple University, Philadelphia. October 2013.

“Spinoza’s Mereology.” A paper presented at the departmental colloquium of the Department of Philosophy, Freiburg University. June 2013.

- “Spinoza’s *amor Dei intellectuals*.” A paper presented at the Israeli-Atlantic Canada Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy. Tel Aviv and Jerusalem Universities. May 2013.
- “Spinoza’s *Respublica divina*.” A paper presented at a conference on Spinoza’s *Theological Political Treatise*. February 2013. Tübingen University
- “Spinoza’s Mereology.” A talk given at the departmental colloquium of the Department of Philosophy, Hebrew University, Jerusalem. December 2012.
- “Spinoza’s Mereology.” A talk given at the departmental colloquium of the Department of Philosophy, Bar Ilan University, Israel. December 2012.
- “Spinoza’s Mereology.” A talk given at the departmental colloquium of the Department of Philosophy, Central European University, Budapest. November 2012.
- “Hear the Truth from whoever Speaks It.” A talk given at the opening ceremony of the Academy of the Jewish Museum of Berlin. November 2012.
- “Spinoza’s Mereology.” A paper presented at the departmental colloquium of the Department of Philosophy, Ben Gurion University, Beer Sheva. October 2012.
- “How to Become a Spinozist?” A paper presented at a Conference on Eckart Förster’s *Twenty-Five Years of Philosophy*. Humboldt-University, Berlin. July 2012.
- “Spinoza’s Metaphysics of Thought.” A paper presented at a Spinoza Workshop. Humboldt-University, Berlin. June 2012.
- “Spinoza’s Mereology.” A keynote talk at the Scottish Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy. University of Aberdeen. May 2012.
- “Maimon’s Law of Determinability and the Derivation of the Categories of Thought.” A paper presented at a Conference on *Pure Forms of Thought: Categories in Kant and German Idealism*. University of Pennsylvania, April 2012.
- “Eternity in Early Modern Metaphysics.” A paper presented at a conference on Eternity. Bochum University. December 2011.
- “The Myth of Spinoza’s Secularism.” A paper presented at a Spinoza Workshop. Princeton University. December 2011.
- “Spinoza’s Mereology.” A paper presented at the History of Philosophy Workshop. Harvard University. Nov. 2011.
- “Mendelssohn, Maimon, and Spinoza on Ex-Communication and Toleration: Dispelling Three Convenient Myths.” A paper presented at a conference on Moses Mendelssohn. University of Maryland College Park. Nov. 2011.
- “Why could the Cause-of-Itself not possibly have limited itself? – On the First Appendix to Spinoza’s *Korte Verhandlung*,” A paper presented at a conference on the Young Spinoza, ENS-Lyon, Nov. 2011.
- “Be Aware of the Charitable Interpreter: Charitable Interpretations, the History of Philosophy, and Gettier’s Problem” A paper presented in a conference on the Methodology of the History of Philosophy, Concordia University. Montreal, Oct. 2011.
- “The Development of Spinoza’s Concepts of Substance and Attribute.” A paper presented at a Conference on the Young Spinoza. Johns Hopkins University. Sept. 2011.
- “Mendelssohn and the Kabbalah.” A paper presented at a conference on the Jewish Enlightenment. Goethe Universität, Frankfurt a.M., July 2011.
- “Spinoza’s Mereology.” A paper presented at an Invited Session. American Philosophical Association, Central Division Meeting. April 2011, Minneapolis.
- “Spinoza’s Metaphysics of Thought.” A paper presented at a Colloquium of the Philosophy Department, New York University. February 2011.
- Comments - in an Author meets Critics session - on Michael Della Rocca’s, *Spinoza* (Routledge, 2008). *American Philosophical Association*, Eastern Division Meeting. December 2010.

“Spinoza’s Deification of Existence.” A paper presented at the Early Modern Philosophy Workshop, UNC-Chapel Hill, December, 2010.

“*Causa efficiens*: Spinoza’s Monster Cause.” Featured talk at the South-Central Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, Texas A&M University, Nov. 12, 2010.

“Spinoza’s Deification of Existence.” A paper presented at the meeting of Washington D.C. Spinoza Society - Goethe Institute. Fall, 2010.

“Determination, Negation, and Self-Negation from Spinoza to Hegel.” A paper presented at an International Conference on *Spinoza and German Idealism*. May 2010. John Hopkins University.

“Spinoza’s Deification of Existence.” A paper presented at the Colloquium of the Jewish Studies Department at New York University. April, 2010.

“Inherence-Causation-Conceivability in Spinoza or On Spinoza's Well-Grounded Bifurcations.” A paper that was the subject of a symposium session at the *American Philosophical Association*, Pacific Division Meeting. March-April 2010.

“*Christus secundum spiritum*: Spinoza, Jesus, and the Infinite Intellect.” A paper presented at the International Conference: “The Jewish Jesus”. Johns Hopkins University. November 2009.

“Acosmism or Weak Individuals? Hegel, Spinoza, and the Reality of the Finite.” A paper presented at the Colloquium of the Philosophy Department at Temple University. November 12th, 2009.

“Spinoza’s Metaphysics of Thought”. A paper presented at the Oxford Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, Oxford, October 2009.

“Spinoza on Inherence-Causation-Conceivability.” A paper presented at the Southwest Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy, February-March 2009, Caltech, Pasadena.

“Secular Mythologies: Spinoza and the Secular Imagination.” A paper presented in a presidential panel on “Political Theologies” at the American Historical Association convention. January 2009, New York.

“Spinoza on Inherence-Causation-Conceivability.” A paper presented at the Leiden-Duke workshop on Early Modern Philosophy, September 2008, Leiden.

“Salomon Maimon, and the Failure of Modern Jewish Philosophy.” A paper presented at the International Conference “Haskalah et Aufklärung: philosophes juifs des Lumières allemandes”. Ecole normale supérieure, Paris. May 2008.

“Spinoza and Crescas on the Infinite”. A paper presented at the International Conference “Spinoza et les scolastiques” – Paris IV-Sorbonne. March 2008. Organized by the *Centre d’Etudes Cartésiennes* and *le Groupe de Recherches Spinozistes*

“From the Gates of Heaven to the Field of Holy Apples: Spinoza and the *Kabbalah*” A paper presented at an Invited Symposium (Main Program) on Kabbalism in Early Modern Philosophy. American Philosophical Association, Eastern Division Meeting. December 2007.

“Spinoza and the Deification of Existence.” A paper presented at the Atlantic Canada Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy. Halifax, Nova Scotia. July 2007.

“Spinoza, Negative Theology, and the Fish's Knowledge of God’s Essence.” A paper presented at the Philosophy of Religion Workshop. University of Chicago. Spring 2007.

“Spinoza, Tschirnhaus and Leibniz on ‘What is a World?’ ” – A paper presented at the International Conference “Leibniz and Spinoza” – Lyon, France. March 2007. Organized by the *Ecole Normale Supérieure* (Lyon) and *CNRS*.

Commentator in an Author Meets Critics Sessions on Steven Nadler, Spinoza’s Ethics – An Introduction (Cambridge UP, 2006). University of Chicago, March 2007.

“Spinoza’s Metaphysics of Thought”. An invited paper presented at a Colloquium of the Philosophy Department, Tel Aviv University. December 2006.

“On Existence (or Eternity) as the Essence of Spinoza’s God.” A paper presented at the Early Modern Philosophy Workshop. University Chicago. October 2006.

“The Metaphysics of Spinoza’s *Theological-Political Treatise*”. A paper presented at an Invited Symposium (Main Program). American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division Meeting. March 2006.

“Spinoza’s Anti-Humanism”. A paper presented at the Franke Institute for the Humanities – The University of Chicago. January 2006.

“Spinoza’s Metaphysics of Thought”. An invited paper presented at a Colloquium of the Philosophy Department, Columbia University. April 2005.

“Spinoza’s Metaphysics of Thought”. An invited paper presented at the History of Philosophy Workshop, Rice University. April 2005.

“Spinoza on God’s Intellectual Love”. An invited paper presented at a conference on "Seventeenth-Century Passions". Washington University, St. Louis, April 2005.

“Rationalism in German Idealism”. Commentator on a paper by Paul Franks in an invited session of the American Philosophical Association (Pacific Division meeting). March 2005.

“Spinoza’s Metaphysics of Thought.” An invited paper presented at a Colloquium of the Philosophy Department, University of Chicago. February 2005.

“Spinoza’s Metaphysics of Thought.” An invited paper presented at a Colloquium of the Philosophy Department. Syracuse February 2005.

“Spinoza’s Metaphysics of Thought”. An invited paper presented at a Colloquium of the Philosophy Department, Washington University, St. Louis. January 2005.

“Spinoza on Substance and Mode: A Critique of Curley”. A paper presented at the meeting of the American Philosophical Association (Eastern Division. North America Spinoza Society Session). December 2004.

“The Substance-Mode Relation in Spinoza as a Relation of Inherence and Predication”. A paper presented at the Montreal Inter-University Workshop in the History of Philosophy. November 2004.

“Spinoza’s *Two* Doctrines of Parallelism”. A paper presented at the joint meeting of the Midwest Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy and the Central Canada Seminar for the Study of Early Modern Philosophy. University of Western Ontario. September 2004.

“Spinoza’s Anti-Humanism”. A paper delivered at the meeting of the American Philosophical Association (Eastern Division. North America Spinoza Society Session). December 2003.

"The Principle of Determinability (*Satz der Bestimmbarkeit*)". A paper presented at the meeting of the North America Kant Society (Pacific Study Group). November 2003 (UC Berkeley) (*Winner of the Graduate Student Travel Stipend*).

“Parallelism and Idealism in Spinoza”. A paper delivered at the meeting of the American Philosophical Association (Eastern Division). December 2002, Philadelphia.

“Hegel’s Critique of Spinoza’s Anti-Humanism”. A paper delivered at the 8th Conference of the International Society for the Study of European Ideas. University of Wales, July 2002.

“The Substance-Mode Relation in Spinoza, and Material Causation”. A paper presented at the New England Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy. Dartmouth College. June 2002.

“Kinds of Infinities: Attributes and Infinite Modes in Spinoza”. A paper presented at the Southeastern Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy. Wake Forest University. November 2001.

“Parallelism and Idealism in Spinoza”. A paper presented at the Midwest Seminar in the History of Early Modern Philosophy. University of Chicago. April 2001.

“The Metaphysical Grounds of Kant’s Defense of Capital Punishment”. A paper delivered at the Isaiah Berlin International Conference: “Enlightenment and Counter-Enlightenment”. Tel-Aviv University, May 2000.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND MEMBERSHIP

Referee for Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, Routledge, Brill, Mossad Bialik Press; *Philosophers' Imprint*, *Philosophical Review*, *Mind*, *Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie*, *Journal of the History of Philosophy*, *Journal of the American Philosophical Association*, *British Journal of the History of Philosophy*, *European Journal of Philosophy*, *Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, *Journal of the American Philosophical Association*; *History of Philosophy Quarterly*; *Philosophy Compass*, *Philosophical Quarterly*, *Journal of Philosophical Research*, *Oxford Studies in Early Modern Philosophy*, *Hegel Bulletin*, *Journal of the History of Ideas*; *History of Political Thought*; FWO: Research Foundation Flanders; Israeli Science Foundation; National Endowment for the Humanities; ANR: The French National Research Agency.

Oxford New Histories of Philosophy Book Series (Oxford University Press) – Associate Editor. 2015 - .

Oxford Philosophical Concepts Book Series (OUP) – Member of the Editorial Board. 2009 - .

American Philosophical Association - Eastern Division, Advisory Program Committee (Field: Modern Philosophy), 2007-2010.

Mid-Atlantic Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy - Conference organizer. February 2009, April 2010.

Spinoza and German Idealism – Conference organizer. Johns Hopkins University. May 2010.

Co-Director of the *Midwest Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy*. 2005-2008. (See <http://cas.uchicago.edu/workshops/emodphil/empw-events.html>)

Director and founder of the *Early Modern Philosophy Workshop*. The University of Chicago. 2006-8.

Johns Hopkins University, Alexander Grass Humanities Institute. Board Member 2016- .

Johns Hopkins University, Singleton Center for Pre-Modern Studies. Board Member 2009- .

Johns Hopkins University, Arts and Humanities Campaign planning committee (2010-).

Johns Hopkins University, Department of Philosophy. Graduate admissions committee (2009, 2012).

Undergraduate Program Committee. Department of Philosophy - University of Chicago (2006-8).

Harper Schmidt Society of Fellows – Selection Committee. Division of the Humanities - University of Chicago (2006-7).

Director of the Common-Core sequence: “Philosophical Perspectives on the Humanities”. The University of Chicago (2007-8).

Tenure/promotion evaluation: NYU; U. of Washington, Seattle; Hebrew University of Jerusalem; Drew University; CUNY; U. of South Carolina.

Conferences organized:

Midwest Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy (University of Chicago, 2006); Midwest Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy (University of Chicago, 2007); Mid-Atlantic Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy (Johns Hopkins University, 2009); Mid-Atlantic Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy (Johns Hopkins University, 2010); Spinoza and German Idealism (Johns Hopkins University, 2010); The Young Spinoza (Johns Hopkins University, 2011).

Dissertations Advised:

Primary Advisor:

Karolina Hübner (The University of Chicago, Philosophy, 2010): “Spinoza’s Spiritual Automata”. (Currently, Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of Toronto)

John Brandau (Johns Hopkins University, Philosophy, 2016): “Spinoza on Essence.”

James Schelberg (Johns Hopkins University, expected 2018): “Spinoza’s Epistemology.”

Committee Member:

Arash Abazari (Johns Hopkins University, Philosophy, 2017): “Hegel’s Logic of Essence and the Ontology of Power in Capitalism.”

Alex Silverman (Yale University, Philosophy, 2014): “The Union of Thought and Being in Spinoza.” (Currently at the Society of Fellows, University of Chicago).

Alison Peterman (Northwestern University, 2012): “Spinoza’s Physics.” (Currently, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of Rochester).

David Wollenberg (The University of Chicago, Committee on Social Thought, 2012): “Desire and Democracy: Spinoza and the Politics of Affect.”

Meng Li (The University of Chicago, Committee on Social Thought, 2008): “Leibniz and Locke on Natural Law” Currently, Professor, Department of Philosophy, Peking University.

Marius Stan (Johns Hopkins University, 2009): “Kant’s Theory of Motion: Metaphysical Foundations of Leibnizian Science.” Currently, Assistant Professor (tenure-track), Boston College.

Matthew Holtzman (Johns Hopkins University, Philosophy, 2012): “Berkeley on Religion, Common Sense, and the Nature of the Mind.” Currently, Assistant Professor, (tenure-track). Department of Philosophy. St. John’s College.

Patrick R. Leland (Johns Hopkins University, Philosophy, 2012): “Kant and the Origins of Semantic Pragmatism.” Currently, Assistant Professor (tenure-track), Loyola University, New Orleans.

Master’s Theses Advised:

Kamram Swanson “External and Internal Causation in Spinoza” (The University of Chicago, 2006); Lilian Buergler “Spinoza on Universals” (The University of Chicago, 2007); Alex Andreson, “Spinoza’s Principle of Corporeal Individuation” (The University of Chicago, 2007); Erik Youngs “The Role of Essence in Spinoza’s Doctrine of Mind Eternity” (The University of Chicago, 2007); Sarah Johnson “The Concept of ‘Expression’ in the Metaphysics and Politics of Spinoza” (The University of Chicago, 2008).

Member of the *American Philosophical Association*, the *North American Leibniz Society*, the *North American Kant Society*, and the *North American Hegel Society*.