

Previous Tenenbaum Lectures

- 1990 Irving Howe, "The Immigrant Jews and American Culture"
- 1991 Michael Lerner, "Judaism as the Metaphysics of Radical Transformation"
- 1992 Martin A. Cohen, "Sephardic Jewry: Leaven of the Modern World--A Commemoration of the Quincentenary of Their Expulsion from Spain"
- 1993 Susannah Heschel, "German Churches in the Third Reich"
- 1994 Laurence Thomas, "Fragility Through Prisms of Evil: Moral Lessons from the Holocaust and American Slavery"
- 1995 Bernard Lewis, "The Judeo-Islamic Tradition"

Previous Solomon-Tenenbaum Lectures

- 1996 Saul Friedlander, "Two Jewish Historians in Extremis: Ernst Kantorowicz and Marc Bloch in the Face of Nazism and Collaboration"
- 1997 Louis H. Feldman, "Admiration and Hate of the Jew in Classical Antiquity"
- 1998 James L. Kugel, "Whose Fault Was the Fall of Man? The Bible's First Interpreters on Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden"
- 1999 Anna E. Rosmus, "My Jewish Mission: A German Woman's Search for the Truth"
- 2000 Deborah E. Lipstadt, "For the Sake of Truth and Memory: *David Irving v. Deborah Lipstadt*--Personal Perspectives from a British Courtroom"
- 2001 Elliot Dorff, *Mary Boys* (2001 Bernardin lecture), and Muzammil Siddiqi, "Neighbors and Strangers: What Does Faith Require of Us?" A Jewish-Christian-Muslim Dialogue
- 2002 Yossi Klein Halevi, "After the Collapse of the Left and the Right: Toward a New Israeli Consensus on Territories and Peace"
- 2003 Thomas Friedman, "The Middle East: An Update on Changing Events"
- 2004 James Carroll, "Anti-Semitism: The Old and the New"
- 2005 Thomas Cahill, "The Gifts of the Jews"
- 2006 Elie Wiesel, "Night"
- 2007 Paula Hyman, "Anti-Semitism, Gender, and Jewish Identity in Modern Europe"
- 2008 Steven Nadler, "The Spinoza Problem: Secular Judaism and the Question of Jewish Identity"
- 2009 Ruth W. Messinger, "Global Vision: Opening Our Eyes to Injustice"
- 2010 Jonathan D. Sarna, "Ulysses S. Grant and the Jews: An Untold Story"
- 2011 Rabbi Burton L. Visotzky, "Sage Tales: The Power of Rabbinic Story and What It Can Teach Us Today"
- 2012 Todd Gitlin, "The Chosen Peoples: American, Israel and the Ordeals of Divine Election"
- 2014 Nancy K. Miller, "My Memoirs Made Me Jewish: Family, Memory, and the Writing Self"
- 2015 David Nirenberg, "Does the History of Anti-Judaism have anything to do with the Present?"

About the College of Arts and Sciences

While the University of South Carolina was chartered in 1801, it officially opened its doors in 1805 and opened a world of possibilities to its students. At the time, it boasted one building, two faculty members, and nine students. The curriculum was based on the study of Latin, ancient Greek, and mathematics. Two hundred years later, this core curriculum is still taught in the USC College of Arts and Sciences.

The college has grown significantly from the University's humble beginnings and now as the oldest, largest, and most diverse college at USC, it comprises 25 buildings, 500 faculty, and more than 9,000 students. The college has changed names several times in the past few decades and came full circle with its reconstitution as the College of Arts and Sciences on January 16, 2005. While the roots of the college are firmly planted in the past, the college is growing into the future. Think of the possibilities.

"Salvador Dali's 'Aliyah: The Rebirth of Israel'"



By David R. Blumenthal, Ph.D.,
Jay and Leslie Cohen Professor of Judaic Studies
at Emory University

Thursday, January 28, 2016
7:30 p.m.

Campus Room at Capstone House
University of South Carolina

2016
SOLOMON
TENENBAUM
Lectureship in Jewish Studies



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
College of Arts and Sciences

Lecture Program:

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7:30 p.m.

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University of South Carolina

Welcome and Remarks

Roger Sawyer

Interim Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

Introduction of Speaker

Stanley Dubinsky

Director, Jewish Studies

Guest Lecturer

David R. Blumenthal, Ph.D.

Jay and Leslie Cohen Professor of Judaic Studies,
Emory University, Atlanta, GA

Refreshments and a book signing following the lecture

Program Description:

In 1968, Salvador Dali, the best-known surrealist painter of the 20th century, painted 25 gouaches to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the State of Israel. From the gouaches, 250 suites of 25 lithographs each were printed and sold as “Aliyah: The Rebirth of Israel.” What scenes did Dali pick to illustrate this theme? How accurate is his depiction? More interesting: What prompted Dali, a Spanish Catholic with right-wing nationalist views, to undertake a “Jewish” work? Were there other “Jewish” works? Equally as interesting: “Aliyah” is not very “dali-esque,” though it certainly bears his stamp. What is the role of this suite in Dali’s oeuvre?

David R. Blumenthal, Ph.D., Jay and Leslie Cohen Professor of Judaic Studies at Emory University, along with his wife, owns one of the suites. He will give a slide lecture that discusses most of the individual lithographs and proposes answers to some of these questions.

David R. Blumenthal

Guest Lecturer

David R. Blumenthal, Ph.D., Jay and Leslie Cohen Professor of Judaic Studies at Emory University in Atlanta, GA is the guest lecturer for the 2016 Solomon-Tenenbaum Lecture. Dr. Blumenthal earned his B.A. at the University of Pennsylvania and his Ph.D. at Columbia University. He teaches and writes on constructive Jewish theology, medieval Judaism, Jewish mysticism, and holocaust studies.

Dr. Blumenthal’s previous published works include numerous scholarly articles, reviews, and eleven books including the two volume *Understanding Jewish Mysticism* (1978, 1982), *God at the Center*, (Harper and Row, 1988; reprinted Jason Aronson, 1994; translated as *Dieu au coeur*, 2002), *Facing the Abusing God: A Theology of Protest* (Westminster / John Knox, 1993), and *The Banality of Good and Evil: Moral Lessons from the Shoah and Jewish Tradition* (Georgetown University Press: 1999). His most recent book is *Philosophic Mysticism: Essays in Rational Religion*, 2007.

Dr. Blumenthal is a member of the European Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Religion.

Solomon-Tenenbaum

Lectureship in Jewish Studies

The Solomon-Tenenbaum Visiting Lectureship in Jewish Studies is presented annually to the University of South Carolina faculty, students, and the larger community. The University proudly acknowledges the benefactors, the late Melvin and Judith Solomon, of Charleston, SC, and Samuel and Inez Tenenbaum, of Columbia, SC, whose generosity has created a Jewish studies endowment that exists to support the lectureship, to enhance the library collection, and eventually, to establish a chair of Jewish studies.

Others are invited to make gifts to enlarge the Jewish studies endowment. These gifts provide academic resources to study the Jewish experience from its beginnings to the present.

The Solomon-Tenenbaum lectureship continues the Tenenbaum Visiting Lectureship in Judaic Studies, which began in 1990. The Tenenbaum Visiting Lectureship was given in memory of Samuel’s father, Meyer Warren Tenenbaum, and his mother, LaBelle Florence Tenenbaum.