



37th ANNUAL CONFERENCE
SANCTUARY



Image: Sonya Weinfeld 'At Dawn' (1975) Melbourne Holocaust Museum collection

MELBOURNE HOLOCAUST MUSEUM



Judy & Leon Goldman Learning Centre

16-17 FEBRUARY 2025

AAJS CONFERENCE 2025 – SANCTUARY - MELBOURNE HOLOCAUST MUSEUM

SUNDAY 16 – MONDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2025

Draft Program – DAY 1

DAY 1	SUNDAY 16 FEBRUARY
8:30am–8.50am	Registration
8.50am–9:00am	Welcome (AAJS Co-presidents & Conference Convenors)
9:00am–10:40am	SESSION 1 – AUSTRALIA AS SANCTUARY
	<p>Dr Myer Samra (University of Sydney) – <i>Jews in Sydney in the 1960s</i> Emerita Professor Suzanne Rutland (University of Sydney) - <i>Sanctuary for whom? Jewish victims and Nazi perpetrators in postwar Australian migrant camps</i> A/Professor Gabrielle Wolf (Deakin University) - <i>A Denial of Professional Sanctuary: Refugee Doctors in Australia, 1937-45</i> Dovi Seldowicz (University of New South Wales) - <i>A Matter of Little Intolerances: Revisiting Australian Media Responses to the 1959-1960 Swastika Epidemic</i></p> <p>Chair: Dr Donna-Lee Frieze</p>
10:40am–11.00am	Morning Break
11am–12:00pm	SESSION 2 – ROUNDTABLE – AUSTRALIA AND THE HOLOCAUST: AN INTIMATE HISTORY
	<p>Professor Avril Alba (University of Sydney) Professor Ruth Balint (University of New South Wales) A/Professor Jan Lanicek (University of New South Wales) A/Professor Jayne Persian (University of Southern Queensland)</p> <p>Chair: Dr Anna Hirsh</p>
12:00pm - 1:00pm	LUNCH BREAK
1.00pm - 2.40 pm	SESSION 3 — HISTORICAL SANCTUARIES
	<p>Professor Anna Michalowska-Mycielska – (University of Warsaw) - <i>Sanctuary of the Community: The Social Function of Synagogues in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth (16-18th c.)</i> Professor Mariusz Kalczewiak (University of Potsdam) - <i>Interwar Poland, Gender Anxiety, and the Search for a Male Sanctuary</i> Ani Avetsian (Woolf Institute) – title TBC – <i>Jewish Cemetery in Yeghegis</i> Emeritus Professor Nachum Dershowitz (Tel Aviv University) <i>Computational Analysis of Medieval Hebrew Manuscripts</i></p> <p>Chair: Dr Lynne Swarts</p>
2:40pm–3.40 pm	SESSION 4 – ROUNDTABLE - Sanctuaries of Learning or Unsettled Sanctuaries? A Roundtable on the Complexities of Holocaust Education in Australian Museums
	<p>Professor Avril Alba (University of Sydney) Dr Donna-Lee Frieze (Deakin University) Dr Helena Robinson (University of Technology Sydney) Professor Andrew Singleton (Deakin University)</p> <p>Chair: A/Prof Jan Lanicek</p>
3.40pm–4:00 pm	Afternoon Break
4:00pm–5.40pm	SESSION 5 - HOLOCAUST SANCTUARIES
	<p>Dr George Weisz (University of NSW) - <i>The Medical Professional Elimination Program and the Ideology and Motivation of Nazi Physicians</i> Lena Christoph (University of Vienna) - <i>From the Philippine Sanctuary to New Homes</i> Rita Nash (Independent Researcher) - <i>A Most Unlikely Sanctuary: The Polish Jews in Stalin’s Soviet Union</i> Lily Wang (University of Macao) - <i>The influence of Japan’s unique anti-Semitism during the World War II</i></p> <p>Chair: Dr Breann Fallon</p>
5:40pm–6:00pm	Short Break
6:00pm–7:00pm	SESSION 6 – KEYNOTE
	<p>PROFESSOR KATHY TEMIN (Monash University)</p> <p>Chair: Dr Anna Hirsh</p>
7:00pm–8:00pm	COCKTAIL EVENING

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SUNDAY 16 – MONDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2025

Draft Program – DAY 2

DAY 2	Monday 17 FEBRUARY
9.00am - 9.30am	Registrations
9.30am - 10.50am	SESSION 7 – BIBLICAL SANCTUARIES
	<p>Dr Raf Dascalu (ACJC Monash University) - <i>Sanctuary and Symbolism: The Mishkan as a Window into Jewish Intellectual History</i></p> <p>Dr Idan Dershowitz (ACJC Monash University) - <i>The Lost Sanctuary of Beer Sheba</i></p> <p>Dr Shani Tsoref (Independent Researcher) - <i>Sanctuary and Covenant: A Fugue of Sacred Time and Space in Leviticus</i></p> <p>Chair: Dr Simon Holloway</p>
10:50am–11.10 am	Morning Tea
11.10am–12.30pm	SESSION 8 – CULTURAL SANCTUARIES
	<p>Professor Rebecca Margolis (ACJC, Monash University) – <i>Yiddish Sanctuary in Melbourne</i></p> <p>Dr Anne Sarzin (University of Technology Sydney) - <i>Athol Fugard’s Exposition of Jew-hatred Corrupting the ‘Sanctuary’</i></p> <p>Dr Jonathan Kaplan (Sydney Jewish Museum) - <i>A Fashionable Body? Clothing and the Grotesque in Oskar Panizza’s Der operierte Jud’ [The Operated Jew]</i></p> <p>Chair: Dr Lynne Swarts</p>
12.30 pm–1.10 pm	LUNCH
1.10pm – 2.30pm	SESSION 8 – RELIGIOUS SANCTUARIES
	<p>Marcia Pinski (PhD Candidate, Monash University) - <i>Institutional Child Sexual Abuse: Abuse of Sanctuary</i></p> <p>Dr Simon Holloway (Melbourne Holocaust Museum) - <i>“I Will Be for Them a Small Sanctuary”</i>: <i>The Place of Torah Study During the Holocaust</i></p> <p>Dr Jason Schulman (Jewish Theological Seminary, New York) – <i>Schism in the Sanctuary</i></p> <p>Chair: Dr Breann Fallon</p>
2.30pm–3.50pm	SESSION 9 – LITERARY SANCTUARIES
	<p>Janine Schloss (PhD Candidate, ACJC Monash University) - <i>Sanctuary in the Margins: Third-generation Marginal Holocaust Narratives</i></p> <p>A/Professor David Slucki (ACJC Monash University) – <i>Third Generation Writing in Australia</i></p> <p>Kim Swivel (PhD Candidate, Macquarie University) - <i>A Sanctuary from Stereotypes: New Third-generation Australian Holocaust Fiction That Challenges Dehumanizing Representations of Jews</i></p> <p>Chair: Dr Jonathan Kaplan</p>
4.00pm – 5.00 pm	TOUR OF UNDERGROUND EXHIBITION Hosted by Dr Simon Holloway
5.00pm	CLOSING REMARKS

AAJS Conference 2025 committee:

Dr Anna Hirsh - AAJS co-President & MHM

Dr Simon Holloway - AAJS Vice President (Victoria) & MHM

Dr Breann Fallon - MHM

Dr Donna-Lee Frieze – Deakin University

WITH THANKS TO:



Judy & Leon Goldman Learning Centre