Constructions of the Self in Ancient Mediterranean Cultures

**Sunday May 27:**

16:00: Registration and reception

17:00: Greetings

Prof. Michal Linial, Director of the IIAS

Prof. Maren R. Niehoff (Hebrew University), Head of the IIAS Research Group

**17:15: Keynote Lecture**

Chair: Benjamin Isaac (Tel Aviv University)

Clifford Ando (University of Chicago): Self, Society, Individual and Person in Roman Law

**Monday May 28:**

9:00-11:15: Between Center and Periphery: Constructing the Self in the Roman Empire (Part I)

Chair: Avner Ecker (Bar Ilan University)

Jörg Rüpke (University of Erfurt): Urban Selves: Before and Beyond

Carlos Lévy (l'Université de Paris-Sorbonne): An Original Roman Contribution? Ovid and the Fluidity of the Self

Matthew Roller (Johns Hopkins University), Selfhood and Exemplarity: Fashioning yourself after your model, and your model after yourself

**11:15- 11:45: Coffee Break**

11:45-13:15: Between Center and Periphery: Constructing the Self in the Roman Empire (Part II)

Chair: Menachem Hirshman (Hebrew University)

Maren R. Niehoff (Hebrew University): A Liminal Self: Rabbi Abbahu “of the House of Caesar”

Reuven Kiperwasser (Hebrew University): ‘What have the Romans ever done for us?’ Creating Identity in Rabbinic Literature
13:15- 15:00: Lunch Break

15:00 –16:30: Contours of Interiority (Part I)
Chair: Guy Stroumsa (Hebrew University)
Charles Stang (Harvard University): Doubled Selfhood in Late Platonism
Karen King (Harvard University): Practicing the Immortal Self according to The Gospel of Mary
16:30-17:00: Coffee break

17:00 –18:30: Contours of Interiority (Part II)
Chair: Guy Stroumsa (Hebrew University)
Ishay Rosen Zvi (Tel Aviv University): Midrashic Selves
Paula Fredriksen (Hebrew University): Augustine and the Introspective Conscience of the West

Tuesday, May 29

8:30-10:00 Trajectories of Interiority (Part I)
Chair: James Kugel (Bar Ilan University)
Ilaria Ramelli (Angelicum; Erfurt; Oxford): Origen’s Strategies of Self-Fashioning and Their Competing Receptions
Sarit Kattan Gribetz (Fordham University): Constructions of the Self through Time
10:00-10:30: Coffee Break

10:30-12:00: Trajectories of Interiority (Part II)
Chair: James Kugel (Bar Ilan University)
David Lambert (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill): Emerging Contours of the Self in Ancient Bible Translation
Francoise Mirguet (Arizona State University), Dis-Embedding the Inner Self: The Emergence of Interiority in Hellenistic Judaism
**Wednesday May 30**

**9:00-11:15 The Self in Action and Society (Part I)**
Chair: **Haim Weiss** (Ben-Gurion University)

**Laura Nasrallah** (Harvard University): The worshipping Self: Christians and Jews and the liturgical spaces of late antiquity

**Yonatan Moss** (Hebrew University): The Ancient Christian Literary Self: Between Individual and Collective Models

**Youval Rotman** (Tel Aviv University): The Relational Self in Late Antiquity

**11:15- 11:45: Coffee Break**

Chair: **Haim Weiss** (Ben-Gurion University)

**Joshua Levinson** (Hebrew University): Getting Away with Murder: The Lethal Subject in Rabbinic Law and Literature

**Albert Baumgarten** (Bar Ilan University): Choosing One’s Social Identity – Choosing One’s Self?

**17:00-17:30: Reception at the IIAS with greetings by Prof. Yitzhak Hen, Incoming Director of IIAS**

**17:30 Keynote Lecture:**
Chair: **Maren Niehoff** (Hebrew University)

**Catharine Edwards** (University of London): The Epistolographic Self: Letter-Writing, Empire and Identity

**Thursday May 31**

**8.30- 10:45: Philosophical Reflections on the Self (I)**
Chair: **Hillel Newman** ((University of Haifa)

**Sharon Weisser** (Tel Aviv University): The Personal Identity of the Stoic Wise Man

**Yair Furstenberg** (Hebrew University): The Rabbis Against Ethics of Self-Perfection in Tractate *Avot*
Alfons Fürst (Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster): Origen on Individuality and Self-Agency

10:45-11:15: Coffee Break

11:15-12:45: Philosophical Reflections on the Self (Part II)

Chair: Hillel Newman (Haifa University)

George Boys Stones (Durham University), The Self and the Soul in Middle Platonism

Gretchen Reydams Schils (University of Notre Dame): How to 'Become Like God' and Remain Oneself

Concluding Remarks