

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 IAS

Prof. Maren R. Niehoff (Hebrew University), Head of the IAS 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

11:45 – 13:15: The Self in Action and Society (Part II)

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