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# Contributors

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**JARDENA GERTLER-JAFFE** recently completed her M.A. in Ethnomusicology at the University of Toronto in collaboration with the Centre for Jewish Studies. She studied under the supervision of Professor Jeff Packman Holding. A B.A. in Classical Voice, she works as a professional musician in Toronto and studies how Jewish identities are negotiated and communicated through music. She is especially interested in the secular *Yiddishist* movement and the Klezmer “revival,” ongoing cultural projects that seek to reimagine and redefine conceptions of Jewishness. Gertler-Jaffe enjoys making music as a part of her research—from singing Yiddish songs to attempting to play Klezmer tunes on her saxophone.

**YU WANG** is a Ph.D. student in Comparative Literature and Jewish Studies at University of Toronto. She is interested in German philosophy, literary theory, and the history of the Second World War and its aftermath. Her current research focuses on the global discourse of national rescue of Jews, asking how and why Holocaust rescue narratives became a prevalent myth at the turn of the twenty-first century. Before joining the University of Toronto, Wang studied Chinese Language and Literature in China, and received her M.A. in East Asian and Middle Eastern Studies at Duke University.

**ROBERT YERACHMIEL SNIDERMAN** is a Ph.D. student in English Literature at the University of Arizona and Program Specialist at the Jewish History Museum/Holocaust History Center in Tucson. Sniderman is the author of three handmade chapbooks of poetry, has exhibited installations in Amsterdam and New York City, and directed six of his own plays as well as one adaptation. In 2018, he will be a DAAD Research Fellow at the Institute for Art in Context in Berlin. He has changed the spelling of his last name from “Snyderman” to “Sniderman,” which was the spelling his paternal great-great-grandfather took when he arrived in New York City as a tailor. Harry Sniderman and his wife, Rheba, worked, lived, and raised children in the U.S. as “aliens” for at least 30 years. The spelling change is his way of expressing solidarity with undocumented immigrants in the United States, who are particularly threatened in the country’s slanderous political climate.

**JOSH TAPPER** is a Ph.D. student in Jewish History at Stanford University, where his research focuses on Russian Jewish religious and cultural life in the late- and post-Soviet periods, the American Soviet Jewry Movement, and contemporary Hasidic society. He holds master’s degrees in journalism from Columbia University, and a degree in European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies from the University of Toronto, where he served as Executive Editor of the *Journal of Jewish Thought* from 2015 to 2016. As a journalist, Tapper’s writing has appeared in the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Globe and Mail*, the *Jewish Daily Forward*, and the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, among other publications in the United States and Canada.

**ALEXIS M. LERNER** is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Political Science and at the Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies at the University of Toronto. She is currently both the Director of Research for the Stanford University US-Russia Forum and a Visiting Research Fellow with the Department of International Relations at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Lerner is the founder

and principal researcher of Post-Soviet Graffiti, a research project that focuses on alternative avenues of free expression in the post-Soviet region. Concurrently, she works on an interdisciplinary project that applies empirical methods from the social sciences to archival Holocaust testimonies. Starting in the fall of 2017, Alexis will be a Visiting Scholar at Columbia University's Harriman Institute for Russian, Eurasian, and East European Studies, where she will work toward developing a causal theory of co-optation in authoritarian states.

**PHILIPPE MESLY** is a translator of French philosophy and literature, notably with the *Jean Trouillard Translation Project*. His research interests include religion, semiotics, and the thought of Kierkegaard and Eriugena. He currently works at the Ontario Arts Council.

**MARC HERMAN** graduated from the Department of Religious Studies of the University of Pennsylvania in 2016. He is a Research Fellow in the Department of Religion Studies at Lehigh University. In the academic year 2017–18 he will hold the Shvidler-Rabin joint post-doctoral fellowship at Fordham and Columbia Universities. His dissertation, titled “Systematizing God’s Law: Rabbanite Jurisprudence in the Islamic World from the Tenth to the Thirteenth Centuries,” examines Jewish legal theory in the Islamic world, with particular focus on medieval approaches to the Oral Torah. His dissertation was named as a finalist for the Association for Jewish Studies Dissertation Completion Fellowship, and he has been awarded fellowships from the Knapp Family Foundation, the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture, the Cardozo Center for Jewish Law, and the Wexner Foundation. He has taught at the University of Pennsylvania and Drexel University, and has forthcoming articles in the *Jewish Quarterly Review* and *Jewish History*.

**JON A. LEVISOHN** holds the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Chair in Jewish Educational Thought at Brandeis University, where he directs the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center for Studies in Jewish Education. Studying philosophy of education, he holds degrees from Harvard College and Stanford University, and is an alumnus of the Wexner Graduate Fellowship Program. His recent publications include “What Have We Learned about Learning to Read Talmud,” in *Learning to Read Talmud*, Jane Kanarek and Marjorie Lehman, eds. (2016), “Redeeming Jewish Literacy,” *HaYidion* (Spring 2016), and “Historical Thinking – and Its Alleged Unnaturalness,” *Educational Philosophy and Theory* (2015). He is co-editor of *Advancing the Learning Agenda in Jewish Education* (forthcoming); *Beyond Jewish Identity* (forthcoming), and *Turn It and Turn It Again: Studies in the Teaching and Learning of Jewish Texts* (2013).

**STEVEN JARON** is a clinical psychologist and psychoanalyst at the Centre Hospitalier National d’Ophtalmologie des Quinze-Vingts and in private practice. He lectures on developmental psychology, psychopathology, and neuropsychology at the medical faculty of Pierre and Marie Curie University. He is the editor of *Portrait(s) d’Edmond Jabès* (1999) and the author of *Edmond Jabès: the Hazard of Exile* (2003). His essays on the fate of Jewish children hidden in France during the Second World War have appeared in *French Studies* (2002) and *Libres Cahiers pour la psychanalyse* (2014). He contributed the entry on Saul Bellow to *Makers of Jewish Modernity* (2016). He has written on post-war European artists, including Bram van Velde, Gisèle Celan-Lestrange, and Johnny Friedlaender. His 2006 ADAM lecture, given at King’s College, London, was published in French as *Zoran Music: voir jusqu’au coeur des choses* (2008). He is a contributor to *Francis Bacon and the Mind*, a forthcoming volume edited by Martin Harrison. His essays on the psychology of visual impairment have appeared in *La malvoyance chez l’adulte* (2007), *Les anomalies de la vision chez l’enfant et l’adolescent* (2014), *Ophthalmic Research* (2015), and *Déficiences visuelles* (2017).

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