

Dr. Jan Schwarz - Curriculum Vitae

Senior Lecturer, Department of Germanic Studies and Committee on Jewish Studies, University of Chicago

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Place of Birth: Copenhagen, Denmark
Citizenship: Danish

Education:

1997: Columbia University, Ph.D., Yiddish Literature, Department of German

1983: University of Copenhagen, M.A. Scandinavian Philology
B.A. Comparative Literature

Academic Positions:

- 2008 Indiana University and the Holocaust Museum. Reading Yiddish For Holocaust Research. Summer Workshop in Slavic, East European and Central Asian Languages. June 16-July 25, 2008.
- 2006-2009 University of Chicago, Department of Germanic Studies and Committee on Jewish Studies. Senior Lecturer. Renewable
- 2006 University of Vilnius. Vilnius Yiddish Institute Summer Program, 4 weeks.
- 2005-2006 University of Chicago, Committee on Jewish Studies, Lecturer
- 2005-2006 Research Fellow of the Sue and Leonard Miller Center for Contemporary Judaic Studies, University of Miami.
- 2004-2005 University of Chicago, Committee on Jewish Studies, Lecturer
Northwestern University, Jewish Studies and German, Lecturer
- 2003-2004 University of Chicago, Committee on Jewish Studies and German, Visiting Lecturer
Northwestern University, Jewish Studies and German, Adjunct Lecturer

- Spring 2003 University of Chicago, Committee on Jewish Studies. Visiting Assistant Professor
- Fall 2002 University of Illinois at Chicago, Department of Germanic Studies. Visiting Assistant Professor
- 1998-2002 Sheldon Drobny Assistant Professor of Yiddish and Hebrew Languages and Literatures, Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- 1997-1998 Golda Meir Postdoctoral Fellowship, Hebrew University,
- 1994-1995 Lecturer, German Department, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia
- 1993-1994 Visiting Graduate Scholar, Hebrew University, Jerusalem
- 1990-1991 Research Librarian, Department of Oriental and Judaic Studies, Royal Library, Copenhagen

Academic Grants and Awards:

- 2003: Vivian Lefsky Hort Memorial Fellow. \$2,000 grant from the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research
- 2003: YIVO Society in Chicago. \$2,000 grant for the publication of Imagining Lives: Autobiographical Fiction of Yiddish Writers.
- 1998: Koret Jewish Studies Publication Subsidy, San Francisco. \$3,000 grant for the publication of Imagining Lives: Autobiographical Fiction of Yiddish Writers.
- 1995-1996: Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture.
- 1994-1995: Atran Fellowship, Columbia University
- 1993-1994: Danish-Israeli International Exchange Program.
- 1993-1994: President's Fellow, Columbia University
- 1992-1993: Thanks to Scandinavia Foundation.
- 1989-1993: YIVO Institute for Jewish Research.
- 1988-1992: The Danish Research Academy, University of Aarhus, Denmark. Scholarship to pursue doctoral studies in Yiddish literature.

Scholarship:**Books:**

Imagining Lives: Autobiographical Fiction of Yiddish Writers
Wisconsin UP 2005.

Edited volumes:

Den gyldne kæde: En antologi af jiddisch litteratur [The Golden Chain: An Anthology of Modern Yiddish Literature]. Copenhagen: Rhodos 1993,
208 p. Editor, translator and introduction about modern Yiddish literature, “*Efterskrift*”
(Afterword), pp.175-194. (Danish)

Editorships of Journals:

Editor. “Multilingual Jewish Literature in America,” Special Issue of Prooftexts: A Journal of Jewish Literary History (forthcoming 2010).

Coeditor with Gaby Finder, University of Virginia, Antony Polonsky, Brandeis and Natalia Aleksium, Touro College POLIN 20: Studies in Polish Jewry: “Memorializing the Holocaust”. 2007

Editor, “New Trends in Yiddish Literary Studies.” Shofar: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Jewish Studies 20.3, Spring 2002.

Editor, Tidsskrift for Dansk Jødisk Historie 30 (Journal for Danish Jewish History 30) (1990), Copenhagen.

Articles (refereed articles identified with *):

1. Encyclopedia article: “Autobiography, Yiddish” in The Cambridge Dictionary of Jewish History, Religion, and Culture, ed. Judith R. Baskin (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming 2009)

*2. “Yiddish Poetry Readings at the 92 Street Y, 1963-1969,” in Prooftexts: A Journal of Jewish Literary History (forthcoming 2010)

*3. ”Blood Ties: War Diary as *Yizker* Book” in The Memorial Books of Eastern European Jewry, ed. Rosemary Horowitz (forthcoming, McFarland Press 2009)

*4. “In the Footsteps of I.B.Singer” (under consideration by Shofar: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Jewish Studies, Perdue University)

- *5. “Three Obstacles to a Critical Biography of Sholem Rabinovitsh” *Zutot* (Amsterdam 2008):
- *6. “1953/1954 – A Year in Yiddish Literature.” Studies in Contemporary Jewry, Vol.23, (2008), ed. Ezra Mendelsohn, pp.
7. “*Yidische dikhtung in “vay”, 1963-1969*”. *Dos pintelev yid. Forverts.* (Dec. 28, 2007):12-13.
- *8.”Confrontation and Elegy in the Novels of Chaim Grade.” The Multiple Voices of Modern Yiddish Culture, edited by Shlomo Berger, Studia Rosenthaliana (Amsterdam 2007):30-55.
- *9. “The Original Yiddish Text and Context of Night,” MLA Teaching Approaches to Elie Wiesel's Night, ed. Alan Rosen (2007):52-58.
10. Coeditor with Gaby Finder, University of Virginia, Antony Polonsky, Brandeis and Natalia Aleksium, Touro College POLIN 20: Studies in Polish Jewry: “Memorializing the Holocaust”. 2007
11. “A Library of Hope and Destruction: The Yiddish Book Series *Dos Poylishe Yidntum*, 1946-1966,” and “Appendix: List of 175 Volumes of *Dos poylishe yidntum*.” POLIN 20: Studies in Polish Jewry. 2007:173-196
- *12. “Encounters with German Language and Literature in Yankev Glatshiteyn’s Work”, Between Two Worlds: Yiddish-German Encounters, eds. Jeremy Dauber and Jerold Frakes. Studia Rosenthaliana, Amsterdam. (University of Amsterdam 2009):
- *13. “Yankev Glatshiteyn,” Dictionary of Literary Biography: Yiddish Literature, vol.333. Ed. Joseph Sherman (Brucoli Clark Layman, New York 2007):45-55.
14. Encyclopedia article: “Jonah Rosenfeld” and “Y.Y.Trunk”, The YIVO Encyclopaedia of Jews in Eastern Europe, ed. Gershon Hundert. (2008 Yale University Press)
15. Encyclopaedia article: “Yiddish Life-Writing,” “Yankev Glatshiteyn,” and “Jonah Rosenfeld.” ed. Jerold Frakes. Encyclopaedia Judaica
- *15. “After the Destruction of Jewish Vilna: Abraham Sutzkever’s Poetry, Testimony and Cultural Rescue Work, 1944-1946,” East European Jewish Affairs, ed. John Klier, Vol.35, No.2, December 2005:209-225
- *16. “The Voice of the Yiddish Poet: Avrom Ber Tabatshnik’s Interview With Yankev Glatshiteyn in New York, 1955,” Yiddish After the Holocaust (Oxford Centre for Hebrew and

Jewish Studies, 2004):74-91

*17. "Second City: Jewish Culture in Chicago," ed. Shlomo Berger, *Zutot* (Amsterdam 2003):142-149.

*18. "'Serving Up His Grandmother With Spicy Sauce': Conflicting Views on Jewish Literature in Nineteenth Century Denmark," in Speaking Jewish, Jewish Speak: Multilingualism in the Western Ashkenazic Diaspora, ed. Shlomo Berger, Studia Rosenthaliana 36 (2002-2003): 197-210.

*19. "Death Is the Only Messiah": A Comparison of Three Supernatural Stories by Yitskhok Bashevis," in The Real Bashevis and his Creation: I.B. Singer, edited by Seth Wolitz (University of Texas Press 2001):107-116.

*20. "Yiddish Literature in English Translation," The Oxford Guide to Literature in English Translation (Oxford University Press, 2000):697-701.

21. "*Jiddisch - mer an ett språk*" (Yiddish - More Than A Language), Indvandrare & Minoriteter [Immigrants and Minorities] Nr. 1 (1999):25-27. (Swedish)

*22. "Central Questions in Studying Autobiographies of Yiddish Writers," Jewish Studies in a New Europe (C.A. Reitzel: Copenhagen 1998):770-777.

23. "*Språk utan grænser*" (Language Without Limits), in Indvandrare & Minoriteter [Immigrants and Minorities] Nr.4, (September 1998): 36-38. (Swedish)

24. "*Abraham Sutzkever. To tekster af en af vor tids store jiddische forfattere*" (Abraham Sutzkever: Two Texts by One of Our Time's Greatest Yiddish Writers), Udsyn: Tidsskrift om jødisk liv, Israel og Mellemøsten nr.2 (June 1998):9-13. (Danish)

*25. "The Trials of a Yiddish Writer in America: Jonah Rosenfeld's Autobiographical Novel," Prooftexts 18 (2) (May,1998):187-206. Jewish-American Autobiography. Eds. Hana Wirth-Nesher and Janet Hadda.

*26. "*A Bintl Brief* to The Editor of the Greatest Yiddish Newspaper in the World": Jonah Rosenfeld's Literary Conflict with Abraham Cahan 1934-1944." YIDDISH 11.1-11.2 (1998): 152-161

*27. "Yankev Glatshteyn's *Ven Yash iz geforn* as a Continuation and a Redefinition of the American Yiddish Novel," YIDDISH, Vol 10 (1) (1995):62-73

28. "*Anna Margolin. Tre digte*" (Anna Margolin: Three Poems) Alef: Tidsskrift for Jødisk Kultur (Alef: Journal of Jewish Culture) 12&13 (1994/95):27-34. (Danish)

29. "Isaac B. Singer 1904-1991: En Nekrolog," (I.B. Singer 1904-1991: A Eulogy), Alef: Tidsskrift for Jødisk Kultur (Alef: Journal of Jewish Culture) 7 (1991):15-20. (Danish)

*30. "Glikl Hamils Memoirer" [Glikl Hamil's Memoirs], in Tidsskrift for Dansk Jødisk Historie [Journal for Danish Jewish History] 30 (1990): 21-41 (Danish)

*31. "Familien Moskat i en kulturhistorisk sammenhæng: En introduktion til I.B. Singer's forfatterskab" [The Family Moskat in a Cultural Historical Context: An Introduction to I.B. Singer's Work], in Literatur & Samfund 38 (1984): 77-98 (Danish)

Book Reviews:

1. Thomas Seiler, "Im Leben verschollen": Zur Rekontextualisierung skandinavischer Gefangnis-und Holocaustliteratur. Universitätsverlag Heidelberg 2006. Scandinavian Studies (forthcoming 2009). Brigham Young University.

2. Samuel Kassow, Who Will Write Our History? Emanuel Ringelblum, the Warsaw Ghetto, and the Oyneg Shabes Archive (Indiana UP 2007) Rambam 2008 (18). (Danish)

3. "Amos Oz, En fortælling om kærlighed og mørke", Naqd. University of Copenhagen (2008) (Danish)

4. Marcus Moseley, Being For Myself Alone: Origins of Jewish Autobiography (Stanford UP 2006) AJS Review April 2008, vol.32 (1):206-209.

5. Kathryn Hellerstein, trans. and ed. Paper Bridges: Selected Poems of Kadya Molodowsky, (Wayne State University Press 1999), POLIN: Studies in Polish Jewry vol.16 (Fall 2003).

6. Mikhail Krutikov, Yiddish Fiction and the Crisis of Modernity, 1905-1914 (Stanford UP 2001), Canadian Review of Comparative Literature / Revue Canadienne de Littérature Comparée.(2002)

7. Lars Kruse-Blinkenberg, Jøden Simon Levi i M.Goldschmidts roman - en religionshistorisk studie, Rambam (Copenhagen) 7/1998, p.96 (Danish)

8. "Who will remain? What will remain?" Yiddish Literary Criticism in America: A Review Essay." Religious Studies Review, October 1997, Vol.23 (4):362-364

9. "Un mir hobn gezungen". Two bilingual Yiddish poetry anthologies," ALEF: Journal for Jewish Culture 4 (1989):35-38 (Danish)

Other:

1. Teaching Material: "The Yiddish Teacher." CD-ROM and booklet. 10 dialogues and word

lists. 60 p. Yiddish for elementary and intermediate students. 2005. The Chicago YIVO Society.

2. Abraham Sutzkever, Grønt akvarium. (Green Aquarium). 60 p. [Danish translation and introduction] (forthcoming 2009), 60 p.

Work-in-Progress:

1. Book: Dream Among Skyscrapers: Jewish Writers in New York, 1945-1971 (under consideration for publication by Indiana University Press)

Lectures and Conference Presentations:

“The Sound of the Yiddish Poem: Yiddish Poets Perform at the 92 Street Y, 1963-1969”
Lecture. The Chicago YIVO Society. April 26, 2009.

“Yiddish in Contemporary Jewish Life”. Presentation in the Professional Staff Development Program. The Jewish Federation of Chicago. November 20, 2008.

“The Language of the Jews: Meir Goldschmidt’s *A Jew Reconsidered*”. Paper at the conference “Scandinavian Literature and the Other”. University of Chicago, May 9-10, 2008.

“Multilingual Jewish Literature in America.” Lecture. Carsten Niebuhr Institute, University of Copenhagen, March 14, 2008.

Organizer of the panel, “Shaping Public Memory of the Holocaust in Poland, Lithuania and “Yiddishland.” The 39th Annual AJS Conference, Toronto, Dec.16-18, 2007. Paper: “Yiddish Literary Testimony of the Holocaust.”

Organizer with Professor Eric Selinger (DePaul University) of the International Conference “Multilingual Jewish Literature in Multicultural America,” November 8-9, 2007, University of Chicago. Paper: “Yiddish Poetry Readings at the 92 Street Y, 1963-1969.”

“The Yiddish World Map in *Di goldene keyt*, 1949-1959.” The Place and Displacement of Yiddish. The Frankel Institute for Advanced Judaic Studies at the University of Michigan, April 22-24, 2007.

“Jewish Vilna – Then and Now”. Chicago YIVO Winter 2007 Lecture, February 11, 2007.

“Warsaw, 1912”. An Analysis of a Holocaust Poem by Aaron Zeitlin.” Association of Jewish Studies, Dec.17-19, 2006, San Diego.

“Confrontation and Elegy in the Novels of Chaim Crade.” Colloquium on Modern Yiddish Literature, December 7, 2006. University of Amsterdam, Menasseh ben Israel Institute.

“The Yiddish Teacher”: Cultural Transmission and Narrative Structure.” Language Symposium 2006. University of Chicago and Northwestern University, April 29, 2006.

“Main Obstacles to a Critical Biography of Sholem Rabinovitch,” Looking Backward – Looking Forward: A Conference Commemorating the Centenary of the Birth of Dr. Shlomo Noble.” November 6-7, 2005. Ohio State University.

“A Library of Hope and Destruction: The Book Series *Dos Poylishe Yidntum*, 1946-1966,” Florida Atlantic University, Jewish Studies, March 23, 2005.

“I.B.Singer and the New York Jewish Writers, 1945-1991,” University of Miami, Jewish Studies. December 2, 2004.

“I.B.Singer and Modern Jewish Literature,” University of Minnesota, Jewish Studies, October 24, 2004.

“The Jewish Autobiographical Imagination,” The Crown Jewish Studies Program. Northwestern University, May 20, 2004.

“German and German Culture in the Work of Yankev Glatshteyn,” The German-Yiddish Encounter. Conference Presentation. Columbia University, May 10, 2004.

“Isaac Bashevis Singer Centennial,” Scholar-in-residence. Three lectures at the Wilmette Public Library, Illinois, February 7, 14 & 28, 2004.

“Avrom Tabatshnik’s Recorded Anthology: The Voice of the Yiddish Poet,” YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, New York, December 18, 2003.

”Avrom Ber Tabatshnik’s Interview With Yankev Glatshteyn in New York, 1955.” Yiddish After the Holocaust, Oxford Center for Hebrew and Jewish Studies, Yarnton Manor, Oxford, England. August 26-29, 2003.

“Goldschmidt and Wergeland: The Jewish Question in Denmark and Norway, 1842-1849.” Department of Scandinavian Studies and Comparative Literature, University of Oslo, September 9, 2003.

”The Politics of Yiddish in America,” The Chicago YIVO Society, Evanston Public Library,

August 7, 2003.

"Yiddish Writers in New York after the Holocaust". University of Minnesota, Jewish Studies and American Studies, April 10-11, 2003.

"A Library of Destruction and Hope: The First 100 Volumes of *Dos poylishe yidntum*, 1946-1954." Association for Jewish Studies, Los Angeles, December 15-17, 2002.

"Commemoration and Renewal: Yiddish Writing in New York, 1945-1971" University of Virginia, Jewish Studies Program and Department of Germanic Languages, Nov.18, 2002.

"Kristallnacht and the German-Jewish Symbiosis", Congregation Ezra-Habonim, West Rogers Park, Chicago, Nov.9, 2002.

"Jewish Literary Chicago." Flashbacks: Two Cities in Dialogue - The Vienna Leopoldstadt and Chicago's Maxwell Street Neighborhood. University of Illinois at Chicago, October 10-11, 2002.

Yiddish Seminar, Stockholm, August 9-11, 2002. The Yiddish Cultural Society in Sweden.

"Jewish Cultural Resistance in the Vilna Ghetto, 1941-1943," Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies, Chicago, June 30, 2002.

"Yiddish Poetry and Songs of the Vilna Ghetto," Department of Minority Studies, University of Copenhagen, Maj 3, 2002.

"After the Destruction of Jewish Vilna: Abraham Sutzkever's Holocaust Memoirs and Poetry, 1944-1946." Jewish Studies Program at Arizona State University, AFTERMATH: An International Conference on European Jewry Immediately After the Shoah, February 10-11, 2002.

"Closing the Canon in America: Yiddish Literature in the Original and in Translation, 1953-1954." 33rd Annual Conference of the Association of Jewish Studies, Washington DC, December 16-18, 2001

"Poetics of Resistance: Abraham Sutzkever's Ghetto-Poems, 1941-1944." Yiddish Language and Culture in Twentieth-Century Eastern Europe. Indiana University, October 28-29, 2001.

"Performing Yiddish Autobiography: Joseph Buloff's *From the Old Marketplace* (1991)." Thirteenth World Congress of Jewish Studies, Jerusalem, Hebrew University, August 12-17, 2001.

"Creating an Imaginary Homeland: Y.Y. Trunk's Poland: Memoirs and Pictures (1944-1953)."

Fourth Mendel Friedman Conference on Yiddish Studies, European Humanities Research Centre of Oxford University, July 4-7, 2001.

"Two Jewish Writers in Nineteenth Century Denmark." SASS (Scandinavian Studies) conference, Chicago, April 25-28, 2001.

"A Jewish Poet's Response to the Holocaust: Abraham Sutzkever's Life and Work." Center for Genocide and Holocaust Studies, Copenhagen, April 19, 2001.

"His Grandmother In Spicy Sauce": Meir A. Goldschmidt and Georg Brandes," Danish Jewish Historical Society, Copenhagen, Denmark. January 9, 2001.

"Sholem-Aleichem's Song of Songs: *From the Fair*." Lund University, Sweden. Departments of Jewish Studies, Germanic Studies and Literature Studies', January 11, 2001.

"Yiddish Storytelling: From the *Shtetl* to New York." Dawn Schuman Institute 2000 Young Scholar Lecture Series, May 22, 2000, Chicago.

"*In tokh genumen*: Yankev Glatshetyn as Literary Critic" at the panel of the Yiddish Discussion Group, The Modern Language Association, December 28, 1999 Chicago.

"A Comparison of the Supernatural in Two Yitskhok Bashevis Stories" at the international conference 'The Real Bashevis and His Creation: I.B. Singer'. University of Texas, Austin, February 28, 1999.

"The Transformation of the Mother Figure in Khayim Grade's My Mother's Sabbath Days." 30th Annual Association of Jewish Studies in America, Boston, December 20-22, 1998.

"The Yiddish Writers' Club in Warsaw." Midwest Jewish Studies Association, Spertus Institute for Jewish Studies, Chicago, October 18-19, 1998.

"The Yiddish Autobiography From Mendele Moykher Sforim to Isaac Bashevis Singer." Ashkenaz: Theory and Nation, in Krakow, Poland, May 26-29, 1998.

"Jonah Rosenfeld's Literary Conflict with Abraham Cahan." 12th World Congress of Jewish Studies, Jerusalem, July 29-August 5, 1997.

"Autobiographical Discourse in Sholem Y. Abramovitsh's *Shloyme reb khayims*." Yiddish and Ashkenazic Studies: The Next Wave, Ohio State University, April 1995.

"Autobiographies of Yiddish Writers." 5th conference of the European Association for Jewish Studies in Copenhagen, August 1994.

"Isaac Bashevis Singer's *Neshome-Ekspeditsyes* (Soul Expeditions)." Modern Language Association Regional Conference, Cortland, New York, October 1992.

