



Miscellanea 2017

edited by *Quest Editorial Staff*

Issue n. 12, December 2017

Editors

Guri Schwarz (Università degli Studi di Genova, Editor in chief), **Elissa Bemporad** (Queens College of the City University of New York), **Tullia Catalan** (Università degli Studi di Trieste), **Cristiana Facchini** (Alma Mater Studiorum, Università di Bologna), **Gadi Luzzatto Voghera** (Fondazione CDEC), **Michele Sarfatti** (Fondazione CDEC), **Marcella Simoni** (Università Ca' Foscari, Venezia), **Ulrich Wyrwa** (Zentrum für Antisemitismusforschung, Berlin).

Editorial Assistants

Laura Brazzo – Managing Editor (Fondazione CDEC)
Sara Airoidi – Editorial Assistant (Vidal Sassoon International Center for the Study of Antisemitism)
Matteo Perissinotto - Editorial Assistant (Università degli Studi di Trieste)

Book Review Editors

Dario Miccoli (Università Ca' Foscari, Venezia)
Martina Ravagnan (Wiener Library, London)

Editorial Advisory Board

Ruth Ben Ghiat (New York University), **Paolo Luca Bernardini** (Università dell'Insubria), **Dominique Bourel** (Université de la Sorbonne, Paris), **Michael Brenner** (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München), **Enzo Campelli** (Università La Sapienza di Roma), **Francesco Cassata** (Università degli Studi di Genova), **Marco Cuzzi** (Università degli Studi di Milano), **Roberto Della Rocca** (Dipartimento Educazione Cultura e Cultura- Unione delle Comunità Ebraiche Italiane), **Lois Dubin** (Smith College, Northampton), **Jacques Ehrenfreund** (Université de Lausanne), **Katherine E. Fleming** (New York University), **Anna Foa** (Università La Sapienza, Roma), **Ada Gigli Marchetti** (Università degli Studi di Milano), **François Guesnet** (University College, London), **Alessandro Guetta** (INALCO, Paris), **Stefano Jesurum** (Corriere della Sera, Milano), **András Kovács** (Central European University, Budapest), **Fabio Levi** (Università degli Studi di Torino), **Simon Levis Sullam** (Università Ca' Foscari, Venezia), **Germano Maifreda** (Università degli studi di Milano), **Renato Mannheimer** (ISPO, Milano), **Giovanni Miccoli**† (Università degli Studi di Trieste), **Dan Michman** (Yad Vashem, Jerusalem), **Michael Miller** (Central European University, Budapest), **Alessandra Minerbi** (Fondazione CDEC, Milano), **Liliana Picciotto** (Fondazione CDEC, Milano), **Marcella Ravenna** (Università di Ferrara), **Milena Santerini** (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milano), **Perrine Simon-Nahum** (EHESS, Paris), **Francesca Sofia** (Università Alma Mater Studiorum di Bologna), **David Sorkin** (Yale University), **Emanuela Trevisan Semi** (Università Ca' Foscari, Venezia), **Christian Wiese** (Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main)

QUEST. Issues in Contemporary Jewish History

Journal of Fondazione CDEC

ISSN: 2037-741X

via Eupili 8, 20145 Milano Italy

Reg. Trib. Milano n. 403 del 18/09/2009

P. IVA: 12559570150

tel. 003902316338

fax 00390233602728

www.quest-cdecjournal.it

mail@quest-cdecjournal.it

Cover image credit: Sigmund Freud. Photo by Max Halberstadt, 1921 ca.

Contents

FOCUS

Quest Editorial Staff

Introduction p. V

Gabriel Abensour

God's Plurality within Unity: Spinoza's Influence on Benamozegh's Thought p. 1

Nethanel Treves

'Moses and Monotheism' as History. Reading Freud through de Certeau, Barthes and the Annales School p.20

Bieke Van Camp

"They called us Maccaroni, pasta eaters"
The Integration of Italian Jews in the Nazi Camps p. 59

Chiara Renzo

"Our Hopes Are Not Lost Yet": The Jewish Displaced Persons in Italy. Relief, Rehabilitation and Self-understanding (1943-1948) p. 89

Michele Sarfatti

Notes and Reflections on the Italian Law Instituting the Holocaust Remembrance Day. History, Memory and the Present p. 112

Devorah Giladi, Yossi Goldstein

The Attitude toward Bereavement in Everyday Life in the Jewish Agricultural Settlements of Eretz Israel, from the First Aliyah to the 1920s p. 135

DISCUSSION

- David I. Kertzer, *The Pope and Mussolini. The Secret History of Pius XI and the Rise of Fascism in Europe*
by **Raffaella Perin** p. 163
by **Paolo Zanini** p. 172

REVIEWS

- Stefan Vogt, *Subalterne Positionierungen. Der deutsche Zionismus im Feld des Nationalismus in Deutschland 1890-1933*
by **Laura Almagor** p. 179
- Ewa Tartakowski, *Les Juifs et le Maghreb: Fonctions sociales d'une littérature d'exile*
by **Giorgia Foscarini** p. 183
- Michał Szulc, *Emanzipation in Stadt und Staat: Die Judenpolitik in Danzig 1807-1847*
by **Manfred Jehle** p. 186
- Ethan B. Katz, Lisa Moses Leff and Maud S. Mandel (edited by),
Colonialism and the Jews
by **Nadia Malinovich** p. 188
- Hannan Hever, *Suddenly, the Sight of War: Violence and Nationalism in Hebrew Poetry in the 1940s*
by **Dario Miccoli** p. 192

Introduction

With this twelfth installment *Quest* offers its readers a miscellaneous issue. It is the second time we choose to publish in the *Focus* section a series of articles not tied together by a unifying theme, the first time was with [issue n. 7 in July 2014](#). While we will return to publishing mostly monographic volumes in the near future, from time to time this journal will be open to the publication of single articles in miscellaneous issues.

The *Focus* section hosts six research articles, covering diverse topics and time periods, with contributions both from experienced scholars and from a younger generation of researchers. We open the issue with two different contributions in the field of intellectual history: Abensour offers a critical reflection on the influence of Spinoza on Elijah Benamozegh's peculiar philosophical and theological arguments, shedding light on his notion of tolerance; Treves proposes a critical reappraisal of Freud's *Moses and Monotheism*, considering - through de Certau and Barthes - the rhetorical construction of his historical discourse, and pondering on the affinities between aspects of Freud's approach and the contemporary innovations of the *Annales* school. We then move on to contributions dedicated to the field of Holocaust studies: Van Camp considers, with lexicometric and qualitative analysis, the social dynamics within Nazi camps and the development of stereotypical representations of the small and peculiar group of Italian Jews who suffered deportation; Renzo instead reconstructs, through a rich archival investigation, the life of Jewish Displaced Persons present in various camps in Italy (1943-1948) and the intricate network of agencies and organizations active in offering relief and support to those survivors of the Holocaust. We close the issue with two articles by more seasoned scholars. Sarfatti analyzes Italian memory policies and in particular the genesis of the law promoting 'Holocaust Remembrance Day,' its implementation and its effects on Italian society and culture. Giladi and Goldstein study, mainly through the use of the periodical press of the time, the attitudes towards death and the sacrificial cultures of Zionist settlers under Ottoman and later British rule.

As usual, the issue also contains the discussion of a major book – in this instance Raffaella Perin and Paolo Zanini offer their insight on David Kertzer's *The Pope and Mussolini: The Secret History of Pius XI and the Rise of Fascism in Europe*

– and several book reviews covering various areas of research and debate in the field of Jewish history.

The Editors of *Quest*