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Fields of expertise: YIDDISH LITERATURE AND CULTURE,
JEWS IN EASTERN AND CENTRAL EUROPE
CONTEMPORARY JEWISH LITERATURE

Current position: LECTURER IN YIDDISH LITERATURE
School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London

Non-stipendiary affiliation:
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE
Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies

EDUCATION:

Diploma (Mathematics): **Moscow State University**, 1979.

Certificate (M.A. equivalent) in Yiddish language and literature: **Higher Literary Courses, A.M.Gorky Institute of Literature**, Moscow, 1991.

Ph.D (Jewish Literature): **Jewish Theological Seminary of America**, New York, 1998

DISSERTATION TOPIC:

"Representations of Crisis in the Yiddish Novel, 1905-1914." (Defended with distinction, 1998)
Advisor: David Roskies, JTSA.

TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE:

2000-2002 Convenor, Undergraduate Programme in Israeli and Hebrew Studies **SOAS**
2001-2002 Chair of the Board of Examiners, M.A. in Israeli and the Jewish Diaspora Studies,
SOAS
1999-2002 Deputy Chair of the Board of Examiners, M.A. in Yiddish Studies, **SOAS**
1995-1995 Academic Curator, Project Judaica, Joint academic program between the Jewish
Theological Seminary of America and Russian State University for Humanities,

RSUH, Moscow

COURSES TAUGHT

Postgraduate:

Classical Yiddish Literature (in Yiddish) **SOAS**
Jewish Social Identity through the Prism of Yiddish Literature (in Yiddish) **SOAS**
Modern Yiddish Literature in Translation: Themes and Genres **SOAS**

Undergraduate:

Introduction to Judaism **SOAS**
Zionism and Communism: A Competition for Jewish Loyalty **SOAS**
Yiddish Literature in Translation **SOAS**
Cultural History of Jews in Europe, 1750-1881 (in Russian). **Russian State University of Humanities (RSUH), Moscow**
History of Yiddish Studies (in Russian). **RSUH**
Readings in Medieval Hebrew Poetry (in Hebrew/Russian). **RSUH**

RELATED EXPERIENCE:

- 2002- Editor, YIVO Encyclopedia *Jews in Eastern Europe* (section Yiddish Literature)
- Member of the Editorial Board, *The Modern Yiddish Library*, Yale University Press and National Yiddish Book Center
- 2000- Editorial Advisor, *Slavic Almanach: The South African Year Book for Slavic, Central and East European Studies*
- Co-editor, *East European Jewish Affairs*
- European correspondent of the Yiddish weekly *Forverts* (New York)
- Assistant Librarian, YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, New York
- 1992-1996 Member of the Executive Committee of Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture
- 1989-1991 Editorial Assistant, Yiddish literary magazine *Sovetish Heymland*, Moscow.
- 1989-1991 Poetry Editor, *VEK* (Messenger of Jewish Culture) magazine, Riga.
- 1983-1986 Private Hebrew teacher, Moscow

PUBLICATIONS

Forthcoming in 2002

"Constructing Jewish Identity in Contemporary Russian Prose," in Zvi Gitelman, Marshall Goldman (eds.) *Jewish Life After the USSR*, Indiana University Press

"Reading Yiddish in a Post-Modern Age: Some Trends in Literary Scholarship of the 1990s," *Shofar*

Jewish Future in Russia: Trends and Prospects," *East European Jewish Affairs*

"Jewish Literature between Future and Past," review of Ruth Wisse, *The Modern Jewish Canon, Prooftexts*, 3 (21), 2001

Books

Yiddish Fiction and the Crisis of Modernity, 1905-1914, Stanford University Press, October 2001.

Yiddish and the Left. Papers of the Third Mendel Friedman International Conference on Yiddish. Co-edited with Gennady Estraiikh, Oxford: Legenda, 2001

The Shtetl: Image and Reality. Papers of the Second Mendel Friedman International Conference on Yiddish. Co-edited with Gennady Estraiikh, Oxford, Legenda, 2000

Yiddish in the Contemporary World. Papers of the First Mendel Friedman Conference on Yiddish. Co-edited with Gennady Estraiikh, Oxford: Legenda, 1999

Refereed Articles and Book Chapters

"Soviet Literary Theory in the Search of a Yiddish Canon: The Case of Moshe Litvakov." In *Yiddish and the Left*, ed. Gennady Estraiikh and Mikhail Krutikov, Oxford.

"What Is Yiddish Literary Tradition? The Soviet Marxist Moshe Litvakov versus the American Modernist Mikhl Likht." *Prooftexts*, 2 (21).

"Soviet Yiddish Scholarship in the 1930s: From Class to *Folk*." *Slavic Almanach*, 7/10

2000 "Jewish Immigrant Experience and Its Reflection in the Russian Fiction of the 1990s." (Russian), *Diasporas*, 3

"Uses of Imagination: The Russian Jewish Past and Its Afterlives in the New and Old World." Review article, *East European Jewish Affairs*, 1

"Berdichev in Russian Jewish Literary Imagination for Israel Aksenfeld to Friedrich Gorenshtein." In Estraiikh, Krutikov (eds.) *The Shtetl: Image and Reality*. Oxford:

Legenda, 2000.

"Isaac Nahman Steinberg: From Anti-Communist Revolutionary to Anti-Zionist Territorialist." *Jews in Eastern Europe*, 1-2 (38)

"Soviet Yiddish Literature of the 1960s-80s and its Russian Translations." In *Yiddish in the Contemporary World*, Estraikh, Krutikov (eds), Oxford.

"Jewish Intellectuals and the Problem of Reconstruction of the Jewish Community in Russia." In: S. Ilan Troen (ed.) *Jewish Centers and Peripheries: Europe Between America and Israel Fifty Years After World War II*. Transaction Press.

"Russian Revolution and Jewish National Revival: Representations of 1905 in Contemporaneous Yiddish Fiction." *La Rassegna Mensile di Israel*, vol. 62, no. 1-2.

"Narrative Voices in Mendele's *Dos kleyne mentshele*." (Yiddish). *Oxford Yiddish*, 3.

"Between Mysticism and Marxism: Meir Wiener as Writer, Critic and Literary Historian." *Jews and Jewish Topics in Eastern Europe*, 3 (25)

"Letters of Sh. An-sky to Ch. Zhitlovsky." (Edited and translated from the Russian into Yiddish). *YIVO-Bleter*, Vol. 2

"Unravelling Eternity through the Soul: On the Religious Poetry of Solomon Ibn-Gabirol." (Russian). *Vestnik Evreiskogo Universiteta v Moskve*, no. 2(6).

1992 "Chaim Lensky and Russian Poetry: Some Observations" (Russian). In: *Historical Fates of Jews in Russia*, Moscow, 1992.

Reviews and Miscellaneous Articles

"Tales of an Apostate Apparatchik" (Alexander Bovin, *Notes of a Fake Ambassador*), Forward, 15 March 2002

"A Complex History Seen Through the Eyes of a Nationalism." (Alexander Solzhenitsyn. *Two Hundred Years Together*, vol. 1), Forward, 10 Aug. 2001

"Retrievers of the Relics of the Ukrainian Shtetl", *Jews in Eastern Europe*, 3, 2000;

"Documents of Anti-Jewish Trials in Ukraine in 1948-1952." Book review, *Jews in Eastern Europe* 1, 2000;

"The New Edition of Sholem Aleichem's *Motl Peyse dem khazns*." (Yiddish). *Di Pen*, no. 33, 1997.

"Yiddish Scholarship in the Soviet Union." (Yiddish). *Di Pen*, no. 14, 1995.

"The World of Tsene-rene" (Yiddish). *Sovetish Heymland*, no. 7, 1989.

"Tradition and Modernity: Poetry of Shmuel Halkin" (Yiddish), *Sovetish Heymland*, no. 7, 1987.

Over 200 essays, interviews, reports, and book reviews are published in the *Yiddish Forverts*, New York from 1998 to the present.

Editing and translating from Yiddish and Hebrew for an Anthology of Jewish Poetry, published in installments in *Vestnik evreiskoi kultury* (Riga), 1989-1991