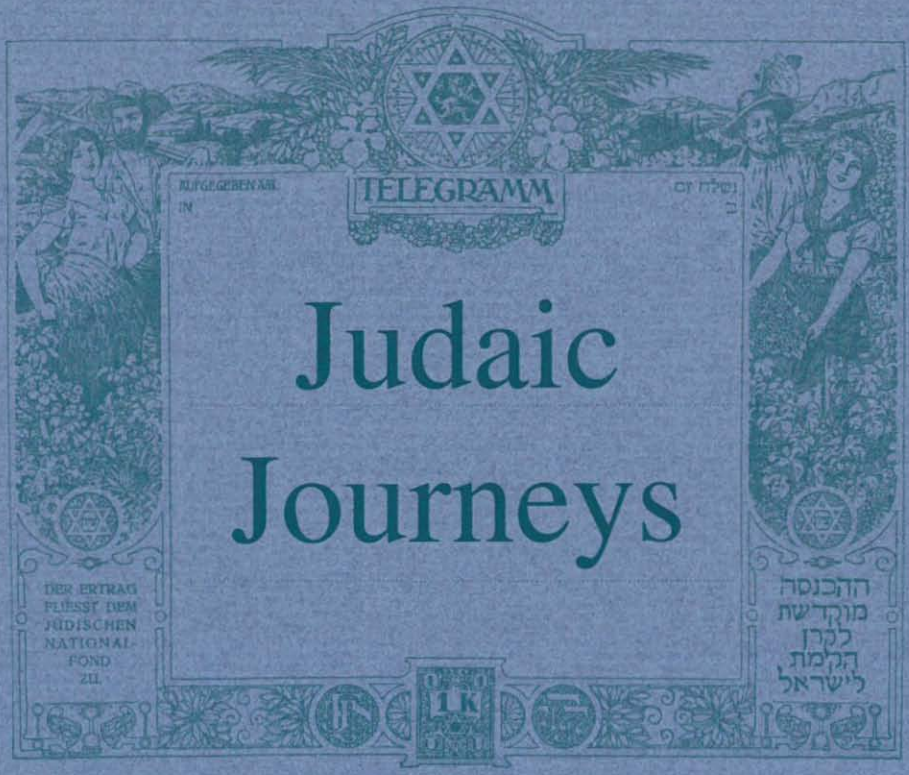
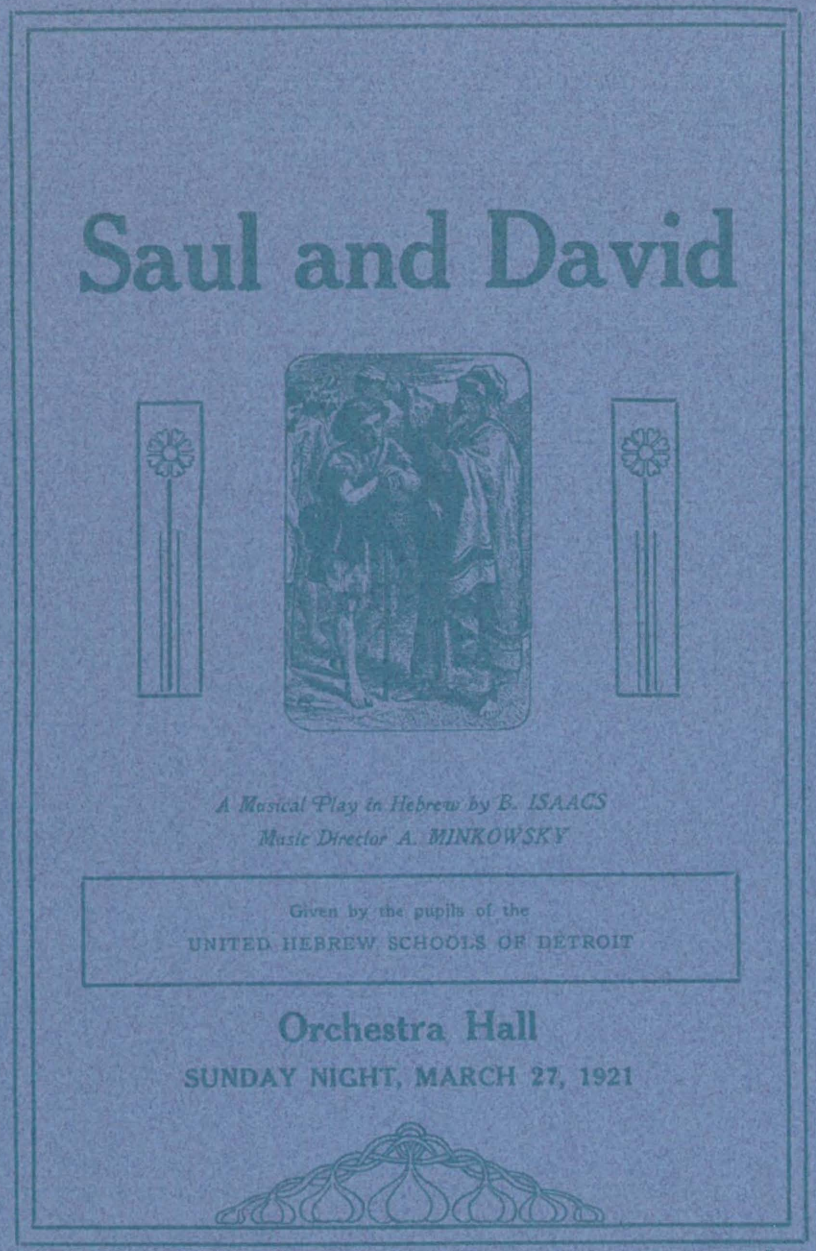


Judaic Journeys



Judaic Journeys

at

The University of Michigan

From Belser to Frankel to Hermelin

Elliot H. Gertel & Kathryn L. Beam, Curators

February 7 - April 29, 2000

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS LIBRARY
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Introduction to the Exhibition: A Judaic Journey in Time at The University of Michigan

Judaic studies represents a very wide range of subject disciplines including philosophy, religion, history, folklore, political science, law, education, music, art and architecture, languages and literature, medicine, and many others. As is true with other subjects offered at the University, research and study in Judaica would not be possible without the collected information resources that support this field. Ever since the University was founded in 1817 in Detroit, books were collected to support the study of the thirteen subjects then offered and the scores that have been added since.

The Reverend John Monteith, who served as the University's first president, provided, among other items, some of the institution's first Hebrew books, which are still a part of the collection now in the Bentley Historical Library. A very small portion of the extensive holdings in Judaic studies are highlighted in this exhibition. Viewers of the exhibition will thus gain some insight into the truly interdisciplinary nature of the field. Items displayed include a rare seventeenth-century Hebrew grammar from the collection of John Monteith; the 1891 doctoral dissertation of Carl William Belser, the first known instructor of Hebrew at the University; a tenth-century Pentateuch; Hebrew scriptures of various provenances and periods of time from the fifteenth to the late twentieth centuries; Passover haggadoth in original and facsimile illuminated versions; art books; photographs; postage stamps; early- to mid- twentieth-century books, periodicals, pamphlets, and programs reflecting Jewish student life, the activities of some of the first Jewish professors on campus, and

Jewish activities in Southeastern Michigan; and recent acquisitions of ephemera including a theater ticket and playbill from a drama staged in Erets-Israel (Palestine), itineraries for tours of Erets-Israel, a Flemish and Yiddish theater program (all from 1924-26), and a New York subway service bulletin in Yiddish from 1999.

Materials for this exhibition have been gleaned from several different libraries throughout the campus, predominantly from the Special Collections Library, the Hatcher Graduate Library, Bentley Historical Library, and the Clements Library, and also include some items from the Shapiro Undergraduate and Taubman Medical libraries. No attempt has been made to showcase the full range of Judaica materials as time and space do not allow, but a good variety of print and non-print resources in all languages, in diverse subjects, and drawn from various periods are on display, presenting viewers with an overview of the depth and size of the collections.

My co-curator, Kathryn Beam, and I wish to extend our gratitude for the fine assistance of staff from the Special Collections Library, Mark Chaffee and Veronica Woolridge. In addition, the concept and design of the brochure is the work of local artist Jean Buescher.

Elliot H. Gertel
Irving M. Hermelin Curator of Judaica

History of the Center for Judaic Studies at the University of Michigan

The Center for Judaic Studies at the University of Michigan offers students an interdisciplinary approach to the study of Jewish civilizations and thought. The program explores the rich culture and historical experience of the Jewish people, their unique traditions, interactions with other cultures, and impact on world civilizations. It draws on the academic excellence and expertise of faculty in many disciplines, including history, political science, Near Eastern studies, languages and comparative literatures, sociology, and religious studies.

Hebrew and biblical studies have been taught at the University of Michigan since the late-nineteenth century. Judaic Studies was established in 1971 and was made an independent program in 1976. In 1988, it was renamed the Jean and Samuel Frankel Center for Judaic Studies in honor of the Frankels whose generous support, along with that of the Jewish Welfare Federation of Detroit, allowed the Center to expand its program and widen its range of activities.

The first person to be appointed to a Judaic Studies position at the University was historian Jehuda Reinharz, now president of Brandeis University. Since then we have steadily added faculty so that there are now sixteen faculty members and several associates affiliated with the Center. Each faculty member has an appointment in a department in addition to his or her affiliation with the Center.

About 700 to 800 students take Judaic courses each year. There are usually about ten Judaic studies concentrators.

In addition, we recently have introduced an academic minor in Judaic studies.

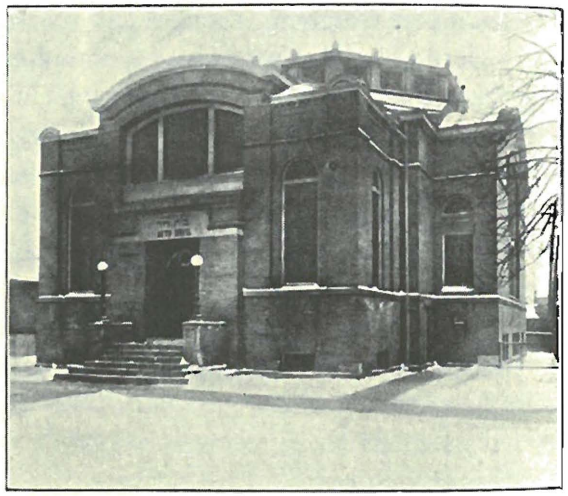
The Center sponsors lectures and symposia on a regular basis throughout the academic year, as well as occasional conferences and colloquia. Generous donors have made it possible for the Frankel Center to support undergraduate and graduate students, and to assist them with their research-related travel and other expenditures.

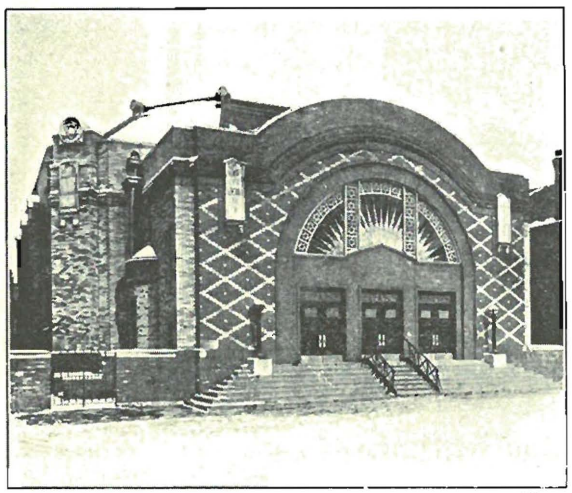
When the Judaic Studies Program was established, it was recognized that the Program needed a research and teaching base within the University library system. Since about 800 students take our courses each semester, there is a heavy demand on library resources for instruction. Our faculty members are active in research and also depend on the Library to support their work. We regularly attract visitors from other universities, the community at large, and institutions abroad to use our Judaica resources. Clearly, without a strong and constantly developing information base, Judaic Studies could not thrive.

Multi-year grants from the Rabbi Morris Adler Fund of Congregation Shaarey Zedek in Southfield, Michigan, and from the Lucius Littauer Foundation in New York have enabled the University's Harlan Hatcher Graduate Library to expand its Judaica collection. Particularly rich in modern Jewish history and Hebrew and Yiddish literatures, the collection has been augmented in recent years by acquisitions in rabbinic literature. For many years, the collection was administered by a one-third-time librarian, who, with the assistance of other part-time employees and students, helped faculty and students with their research needs and acquired and processed new materials. In 1995 Ambassador David Hermelin, his wife Doreen, and sister

Henrietta Hermelin Weinberg, decided to honor their father, Irving Hermelin, 98 years of age at the time, by establishing the first endowed curatorship in the University Library system. With a major gift from the Hermelins, matched by the University Library, Judaic Studies, and a number of alumni and friends of the Hermelins, the curatorship became a reality in 1998. Elliot Gertel was recruited for this position and we expect that under his leadership and guidance the Judaica holdings of Michigan's libraries will soon be recognized as one of the major collections in the country.

Zvi Gitelman, Director
Jean and Samuel Frankel Center for Judaic Studies



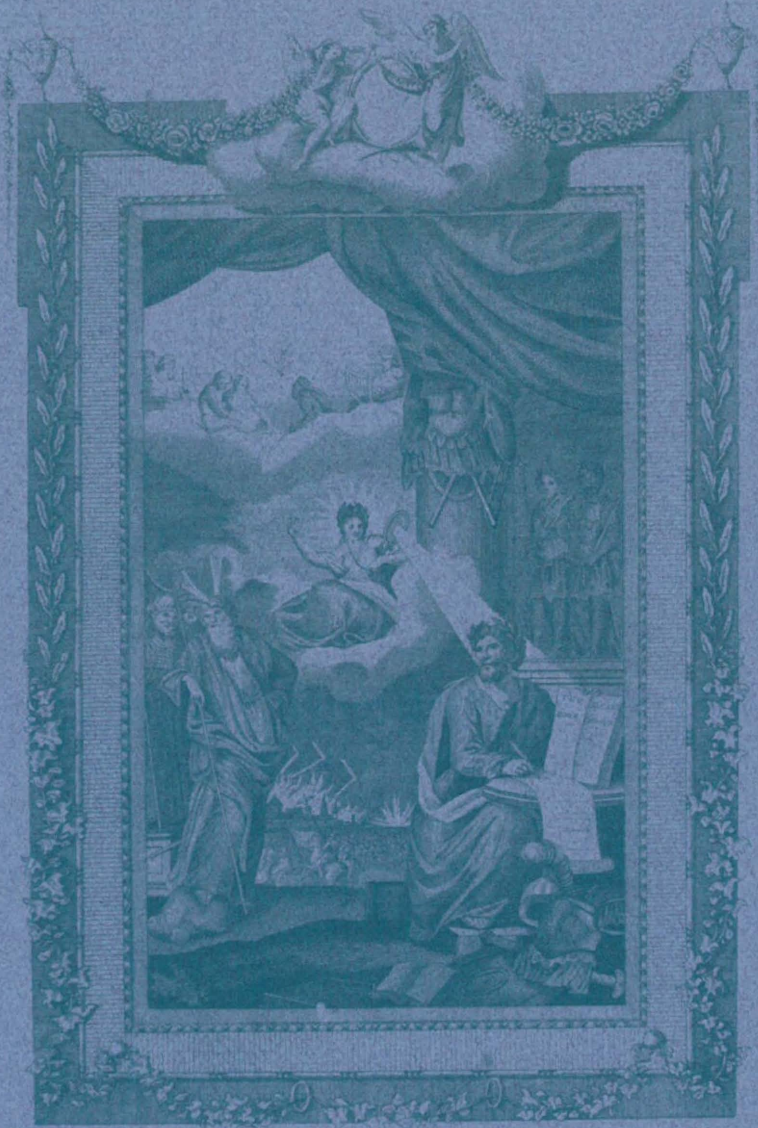


II

This dos-à-dos binding was designed to open from the right on the English cover into the essays and from the left on the Hebrew and Yiddish cover leading into the exhibition checklist. Simply invert the catalog as you proceed from one side to the other.

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dos-à-dos: A specific traditional format of two connected codices which have a back cover in common.



III


TELEGRAMM
AUFGEGEBEN AM
IN
משלח ים
ב
מַסָּעוֹת בָּעוֹלָם הַיְהוּדִי
נסיעות בני ימין
DER ERTRAG FLIESST DEM JÜDISCHEN NATIONAL-FOND ZU.
הכנסת מוקדשת לקרן הקימת לישראל
1 K

מַסָּעוֹת בָּעוֹלָם הַיְּהוּדִי

בְּאוּנִיבֶרְסִיטַת מִישִׁיגֶן
מִבֶּלְסֶר לִפְרַנְקֶל וְעַד לְהֶרְמֶלִין

אֶלְיָהוּ־צְבִי גֶּרְטֶל וְקַתְרִן בִּים, אוֹצְרִים

7 בְּפֶבְּרוּאָר - 29 בְּאַפְּרִיל 2000

נסיעות ביי יִידן

ביים אוניווערסיטעט פֿון מישיגען
פֿון בעלסער צו פֿרענקעל ביז צו הערמעלין

עליע־הערש גערטל און קעטרין בים, קוראַטאָרן

7טן פֿעברואַר - 29סטן אַפּריל 2000

Special Collections Library
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan

סְפְרִיַּת הָאֲסָפִים הַמְּיֻחָדִים
אוּנִיבֶרְסִיטַת מִישִׁיגֶן
אַן אַרבּוֹר, מִישִׁיגֶן

ביבליאָטעק פֿון ספּעציעלע זאַמלונגען
אוניווערסיטעט פֿון מישיגען
אַן אַרבאָר, מישיגען



List of Illustrations

Covers: Telegram message form, ca.1925. From the Sigmund Hirschorn Papers.

I. Program for *Saul and David: A Musical Play in Hebrew* by Bernard Isaacs, 1921. From the Bernard Isaacs Papers, Bentley Historical Library.

II. Photos of Detroit Synagogues, Congregation Beth David and Congregation Beth Jacob, from *The Michigan Jewish Yearbook*, page 9, 1925, Bentley Historical Library.

III. Frontispiece from Flavius Josephus, *The . . . Complete Works.* New York, 1792.

IV. Title page for Caleb Ashworth, *The Hebrew Grammer, with Principal Rules*. London, 1792.

V. "Certificate of Membership" in the Kropotkin Publication Society, 1917-18. From the Judith Goodman Papers, Labadie Collection.

VI. Engraving (opposite page 136), "The Prophet Elias Carried Up to Heaven," from Josephus, *The . . . Complete Works.* New York, 1792.

HIGHLIGHTS of the EXHIBITION

Case 1: Early Jewish Life in Michigan

Congregation B'nai Israel, Detroit. ***Warranty Deed,*** 1891.*
Deed for sale of property and related letter.

Bernard Isaacs. ***Saul and David: A Musical Play in Hebrew.***
Program, 1921. From the Bernard Isaacs Papers.*
In addition to having written musical plays and scores, short stories, and essays, Isaacs was a leading administrator and educator in the United Hebrew Schools of Detroit.

The Advocate, America's Jewish Journal. ***History of the Jews of Michigan ... Showing Religious, Charitable, Social, Educational and Mercantile Progress.*** Chicago: Bloch & Newman, 1912.
Extracted from the *Reform Advocate*, March 2, 1912, Michigan state edition.

Case 2: Early Jewish Life in America

Isaac Leeser. ***The Claims of the Jews to an Equality of Rights: Illustrated in a Series of Letters to the Editor of the Philadelphia Gazette.*** Philadelphia: Printed by C. Sherman & Co., 5601 [i.e., 1841].‡
Leeser was a German-born spiritual and cultural leader who upheld traditional Orthodox Judaism. A longtime spiritual leader of Congregation Mikveh Israel, Philadelphia, he established the first American Jewish newspaper, *The Occident and American Jewish Advocate*, the Jewish Publication Society of America, and the first Jewish college.

The Occident and American Jewish Advocate: A Monthly Periodical Devoted to the Diffusion of Knowledge on Jewish Literature and Religion, volume 3 (1845). Philadelphia, 1843-1869.‡
Founded and edited by Isaac Leeser, this issue includes an article on a proposal for the formation of the Jewish Publication Society which became "the oldest, continuous publisher of Jewish titles in the English language."

David Jennings. ***Jewish Antiquities; or, A Course of Lectures on the Three First Books of Godwin's Moses and Aaron. To which is Annexed, A Dissertation on the Hebrew Language.*** Edinburgh: Printed for J. Morison, 1808.
Primarily discusses ancient culture and history of the Jewish people based on Thomas Godwin's *Moses and Aaron: Civil and Ecclesiastical Rites, Used by the Ancient Hebrews,* published in London in 1685. Features two fine engraved plates of Jewish marriage ceremonies, one of which is the frontispiece.

Esther Levy. ***Jewish Cookery Book: On Principles of Economy, Adapted for Jewish Housekeepers, with the Addition of Many Useful Medicinal Recipes and Other Valuable Information Relative to Housekeeping and Domestic Management.*** Philadelphia: W.S. Turner, 1871.‡
Possibly the first English language Jewish cookbook published in America.

Henry Keller. ***Modern Hebrew Orthopedic Terminology and Jewish Medical Essays.*** Boston: The Stratford Co., 1931.

Case 5: Calligraphy and the Hebrew Alphabet

Caleb Ashworth. ***The Hebrew Grammar, with Principal Rules.*** London: Printed for G. Terry, J. Jordan, and Scatchard and Whitaker, 1792.
Contains "an elegant engraving of the Hebrew alphabet on a scale of equal parts...."

Ecclesiastes; or, the Preacher, copied and illustrated by Ben Shahn. Paris: Trianon Press, 1967. 240 copies published.

Lamentations, designed, lettered, illustrated, and printed by Jonathan Kremer. Elkins Park, Penn.: Kesset Press, 1985. 60 copies published.

M.M. (Mordecai Manuel) Noah. ***Discourse on the Restoration of the Jews: Delivered at the Tabernacle, Oct. 28 and Dec. 2, 1844.*** New York: Harper & Brothers, 1845.‡
The present pamphlet is an appeal to Christians to aid Jews to resettle in Palestine. In 1825, Noah attempted to convince Jews throughout the world to relocate to Grand Island in the Niagara River of New York State to establish an autonomous Jewish state that he dubbed Ararat. Nothing ever came of this scheme.

Case 3: Grammars and Dictionaries

Jean Baptiste Renou. ***Nouvelle methode pour apprendre facilement les langues hebraïque et chaldaïque.*** Paris: J. Collombat, 1708.
A French text for learning Hebrew and Aramaic.

Moses Stuart. ***Hebrew Grammar with a Copious Syntax and a Praxis.*** Andover: Flagg and Gould, 1821.*
This Hebrew grammar bears the signatures "J. Monteith — Elyria [Ohio]" on the flyleaf and "Mr. Monteith" on the title page. It is one of the first Judaic books in the collections of the University, having belonged to John Monteith, the first President and co-founder of the University of Michigan, when the academy was located in Detroit and known as the *Catholepistemiad.*

Judeo Espanyol - Türkçe, Türkçe - Judeo Espanyol: diksyonaryo = sözlük. Istanbul: Gözlem Gazetecilik Basin ve Yayin, 1997.
A Ladino-Turkish/Turkish-Ladino dictionary. Ladino, a Romance language sometimes called Judeo-Spanish, is the language of the Sephardim, Jews who originally resided in the Iberian Peninsula in the Middle Ages.

Case 4: Jewish Life Through the Ages

Flavius Josephus. ***The Whole Genuine and Complete Works of Flavius Josephus, the Learned and Authentic Jewish Historian and Celebrated Warrior*** . New York: Printed and sold by William Durell, 1792.‡
Noteworthy because of the numerous early American engravings it contains.

Szyk Haggadah. United States, 1939. Jerusalem and Tel Aviv: Massadah and Alumoth, 1967.
Written and illustrated by Arthur Szyk (1894-1951), an artist born in Poland, living later in Paris and then in the United States. On loan from a private collector.

Case 8: Religious Texts

Pentateuch. Hebrew manuscript, 10th century. Mich. Ms. 88.
A complete Pentateuch, lacking but a few leaves, and containing the full Masora Magna and Parva, written in an excellent and clear, professional scribal hand.

Book of Esther. Hebrew scroll, date unknown. Mich. Ms. 87.
Intact scroll with ornamented roller, purchased in Jerusalem in 1920.

Rothschild Miscellany. Hebrew manuscript, ca. 1470. Facsimile edition. London: Facsimile Editions and Jerusalem: The Israel Museum, 1989.
Described as the most elaborately illuminated Hebrew manuscript in existence, it contains over seventy religious and secular works including songs, psalms, prayers, scholarly treatises, and much more.

Kennicott Bible. Spain, 1476. Facsimile of MS Kennicott #1, Bodleian Library, Oxford University. London: Facsimile Editions, 1985.
A lavishly illuminated medieval Hebrew Bible containing the twenty-four books of the Jewish scriptures, the complete masorah, and a grammatical treatise by Rabbi David Kimhi (1160-1225).

Biblia Hebraica, secundum ultimam editionem Jos. Athiae.
Amsterdam and Utrecht: Boom, Waesberge [et al], 1705.‡
This particular copy of a popular early edition of the Hebrew Bible belonged at one time to the famous Puritan theologian, Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758).

Prayers for Shabbath, Rosh-Hashanah, and Kippur, translated by Isaac Pinto. New York: John Holt, 5526 [i.e., 1766].‡
The first English translation of a Jewish prayer book printed in the New World.

Case 6: Twentieth-century Artists

Marc Chagall. ***The Biblical Message of Marc Chagall,*** preface by Jean Chatelain. New York: Tudor Publishing. Co., 1973.
An overview of Chagall's remarkable series of fifty-five paintings based on Old Testament themes.

Uriel Birnbaum. ***Moses: Ein biblischer Zyklus in fünfzig Bildern mit einem einleitenden Essay.*** Vienna and Berlin: Thyrsos-Verlag, 1924.
A profoundly moving mixture of art deco and expressionistic styles depicting the life of Moses.

Lynn Avadenka. ***Understanding*** and ***A Meditation.*** Huntington Woods, Mich.: Land Marks Press, 1987-88 and 1986.
A Michigan book artist whose work blends traditional texts with innovative, contemporary art.

Case 7: Haggadoth

Golden Haggadah. Spain, early 14th century. Facsimile of British Library Ms. Add. 27210. London: Eugrammia Press, 1970.
Considered the most splendid of all Sefardi Haggadoth.

Barcelona Haggadah. Spain, between 1360 and 1393. Facsimile of British Library Ms. Add. 14761. London: Facsimile Editions, 1992.
Contains rich decorative and representational illuminations on 128 of its 322 pages.

Darmstadt Haggadah. Middle Rhine, Germany, ca. 1425-1450. Facsimile of Codex Orientalis 8, Hessische Landes- und Hochschulbibliothek. Berlin: Propyläen Verlag, 1971.
An Ashkenazi Haggadah, beautifully illustrated, but lacking biblical illustrations and portrayals of holiday preparations and ritual that usually accompany Haggadah texts.

Genesis, translated from the Hebrew by Robert Alter. San Francisco: The Arion Press, 1996.
A new translation by the scholar Robert Alter, whose goal was to recreate in modern English the literary nuances of ancient Hebrew.

Case 9: A Personal Journey

Ruth Weisberg. ***The Shtetl: a Journey and a Memorial.*** Santa Monica, Calif.: The Kelyn Press, 1971. 40 copies published.
A 1971 production of Chicago artist, Ruth Weisberg, "revisiting" the *shtetls* of her ancestors in eastern Europe, but finding that she could only reach her subjects through a superimposed texture of death.

Wall Case I: Jewish Studies and Programs at the University

Photographs of **Carl Wilhelm Belser** (1860-1898), the first instructor, then professor, of Hebrew at the University of Michigan from 1890 to 1893; **James Alexander Craig** (1855-1932), Professor of Oriental studies who taught Hebrew beginning in 1893-94; **Moses Gomberg** (1866-1947), Professor of chemistry and, as a teaching assistant in organic chemistry from 1888 to 1893, the first known Jew to teach at the University; **Moritz Levi** (1857-?), Instructor in French from 1890 to 1896 who, along with Max Winkler, became the first known Jewish faculty member and, beginning in 1896 as Assistant Professor, one of the first Jewish professors at the University; **Max Winkler** (1866-1930), the first Jew (along with Moritz Levi) to serve on the faculty at the University when he became Instructor in German in 1890.*

Photograph of **Isaiah Leo Sharfman,** Professor of economics at the University of Michigan, referee with the National Railroad Adjustment Board, member and chairman of various emergency and arbitration boards under the Railroad Labor Act.
Program of the Summer Term Graduation Exercises, October 10, 1943 at which Sharfman delivered the commencement address, "The Challenge of the World Crisis."*

Wall Case II: Jewish Student Activities at the University

Intercollegiate Menorah Association. ***The Menorah Movement for the Study and Advancement of Jewish Culture and Ideals: History, Purposes, Activities.*** Ann Arbor, Michigan: Intercollegiate Menorah Association, 1914.
The Menorah Society at Michigan was organized on February 27, 1910, the first of its kind in America.

University of Michigan. Jewish Student Congregation. ***Year Book of the Jewish Student Congregation of the University of Michigan.*** Detroit: Langer Printing Company, 1914/1915 and ***2nd Year Book***, 1915/1916.*
The University's Jewish Student Congregation was called into life on February 26, 1914 by Rabbi Leo M. Franklin. University faculty involved in the Jewish Student Congregation included Moritz Levi, I. Leo Sharfman, and Max Winkler.

Hillel News. Ann Arbor, Michigan: B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation at the University of Michigan. Began publication in 1926/1927.

The Hillel Players Present: The Dybbuk. March 30-31 and April 1 [1933?]. Laboratory Theatre, Ann Arbor.
Program for presentation of English-language version of author and folklorist S. An-Ski's 1911 Yiddish play *Tsvishn tsvey veltn: der dibek: a dramatishe legende in fir aktn* [i.e., *Between Two Worlds: The Dybbuk, a Dramatic Legend in Four Acts*].

Wall Case III: A Traveler's Artwork

George Barrell. ***Journal of a Voyage from Boston to Malaga, Spain, on the Brig Venus and Return in the Schooner Louisiana.*** July 13, 1806-Oct.17, 1806.‡
Manuscript journal including full-color pen and ink illustrations of men in Gibraltar, including a Jewish resident.

Charles Blaskowitz. ***Map of Newport, Rhode Island,*** *1777.*‡
Identifies and locates the (Touro) Synagogue (Congregation Jeshuat Israel) as "K" on the map and legend. The Touro Synagogue is the oldest extant synagogue building in the United States and was dedicated in 1763.

Wall Case VI: Holocaust Art

George Zielezinski. ***24 Drawings from Concentration Camps in Germany.*** Munich: F. Bruckmann, 1946.
Powerful and disturbing black and white images by a Polish artist and Holocaust survivor.

*On loan from the Bentley Historical Library, University of Michigan
‡On loan from the William L. Clements Library, University of Michigan



V

Wall Case IV: Materials from the Archives of Joseph Adler and Dr. Sigmund Hirschhorn with Other Recent Acquisitions

From the Joseph T. and Marie F. Adler Archive.
Israel Postal Authority. Jerusalem, 1992 and 1988. ***500 años de la expulsion de los Judíos de Espana / 500 Years since the Expulsion of the Jews from Spain.***
Set of three postage stamps in series for a first-day cover depicting illuminated medieval maps and images of Erets-Israel (Palestine), the Mediterranean Sea and surrounding lands, and the Iberian Peninsula.
Synagogues of the Diaspora, Kai-Feng Fu, China; Zabludow, Poland; and Newport, Rhode Island.
Set of three postage stamps in series for a first-day cover depicting historic synagogues.

From the Sigmund Hirschhorn Papers.
Theater ticket and program for a play, ***Balshatsar.*** 30 March 1925, ha-Te'atron Erets-ha-Israeli (The Land of Israel Theater), performance at Te'atron Tsion (Zion Theater). Jerusalem. Jüdischen National-Fond (Jewish National Fund).
Telegram message form (blank), ca. 1925, in German and Hebrew. Dr. Sigmund Hirschhorn, physician and social activist, was a leader of the Weltverband der Jüdischen Studentenschaft (International Jewish Students Association) in Vienna in the mid-1920s.

Wall Case V: Manuscripts and A Map

Legal Document of Hayman Levy, Isaac Moses, Benjamin Seixas, and Simon Nathan to Jonas Phillips and Bernard Gratz. New York, March 14, 1788.‡
Regarding the disposition of property for the construction of a synagogue on land in Philadelphia for that city's Congregation Mikveh Israel.

Rebecca Gratz. ***Letters,*** September 18, 1815 from Bloomfield, New Jersey to Eliza Verplanck regarding advice on travel, and August 13, [1857] from Saratoga Springs, New York to Julia Hoffman regarding rest and relaxation at Saratoga.‡



VI

Publication of this catalog was made possible by the generosity of the following donors:

Martha K. Bindeman, B.A., LSA, '69
Jean and Samuel Frankel Center
for Judaic Studies at the University of Michigan
Friends of the University Library
University Library

THANK YOU!
TODAH RABAH! תודה רבה!
A SHEYNEM DANK! אַ שיינעם דאַנק!