

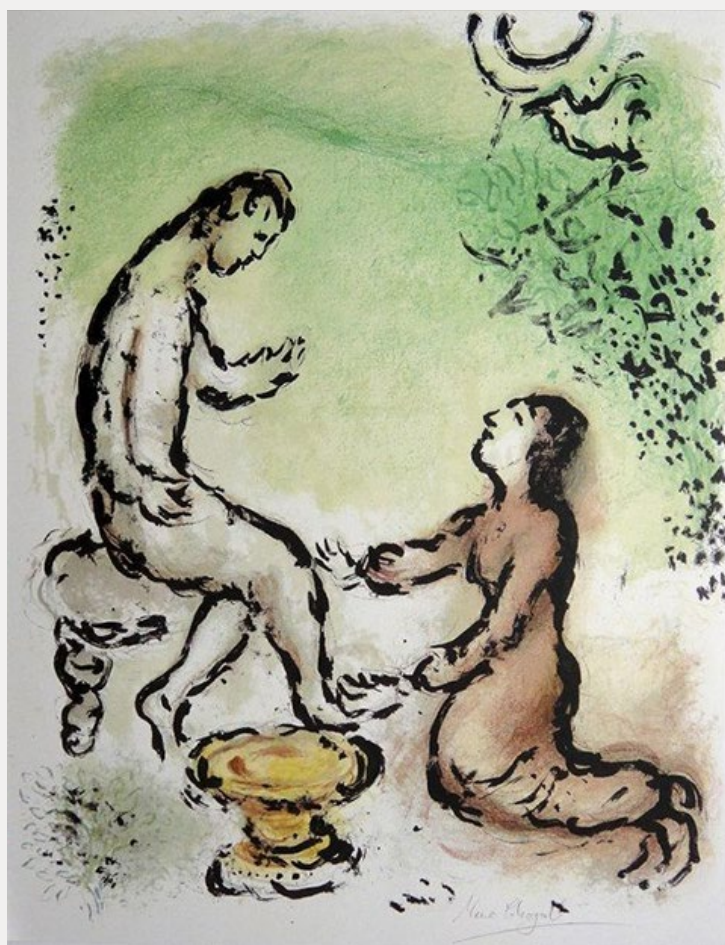
# MODERN JEWISH RECEPTIONS OF CLASSICAL ANTIQUITY

May 18 – 20, 2021 at the University of Haifa

Online Workshop - Tuesday 18 May 2021

(17:30 Israel; 15:30 GMT; 09:30 Wisconsin; 07:30 San Francisco; 16:30 Sardinia)

Organizers: Vered Lev Kenaan and Patricia Rosenmeyer



Marc Chagall illustrates the Odyssey

τῷ σε πόδας νίψω ἄμα τ' αὐτῆς Πηνελοπίης  
καὶ σέθεν εἶνεκ', ἐπεὶ μοι ὀρώρεται ἔνδοθι θυμὸς  
κῆδεσιν. ἄλλ' ἄγε νῦν ξυνίει ἔπος, ὅττι κεν εἶπω:  
πολλοὶ δὴ ξεῖνοι ταλαπείριοι ἐνθάδ' ἴκοντο,  
ἀλλ' οὐ πῶ τινά φημι ἔοικότα ὧδε ἰδέσθαι  
ὡς σὺ δέμας φωνήν τε πόδας τ' Ὀδυσῆϊ ἔοικας.

וקח את רגליך ארחץ, גם עבור פנלופה,  
אבל גם למענך, משום שנפשי מרחמת  
על גורלך. אז הקשב, ואגיד לך דבר-מה.  
הרבה נקרים עמוסי תלאות באו אלינו,  
אבל אודה שאיש לא דמה כך לאודיסאוס  
קפי שאמה, בכמותך, בקולך, וברגליך."

لا أحب إليّ من ان اغسل قدميك كما أمرت  
مولاتي... أوه! يا للعجب! لماذا ينجب إليك قلبي هكذا! يا لآلهة! أبداً  
ما رأيت من أضياف هذا البيت العتيق أشبه بأوديسيوس منك صورة وصوتاً  
وخطرأناً<sup>(1)</sup>...

the daughter of Icarus, wise Penelope, bidden to wash thee. Therefore will I wash thy feet, both for Penelope's own sake and for thine, for the heart within me is stirred with sorrow. But come now, hearken to the word that I shall speak. Many sore-tried strangers have come hither, but I declare that never yet have I seen any man so like another as thou in form, and in voice, and in feet art like Odysseus.

17:30 – 18:00 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

18:00 – 19:30 SESSION I

Chair: Patricia Rosenmeyer

Simon Goldhill, Cambridge University

What is a Jewish Classicist?

Margalit Finkelberg, Tel Aviv University

Classical Studies in Israel: A Mirror of Changing Identity

Break

19:45 – 21:15 SESSION II

Chair: Simon Goldhill

Patricia Rosenmeyer, The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

After Lights Out: Studying the Classics in a WWII Internment Camp

Yotam Cohen, Ben-Gurion University

"Now I can Buy The Myths of Greece and Rome.

Splendid!": The Classical World and the Europeanization of Jews in the Modern World

## Wednesday 19 May 2021

### 16:45 – 17:00 GATHERING

Israel Time

### 17:00 – 18:30 SESSION III

Chair: **Margalit Finkelberg**

**Dennis Sobolev**, University of Haifa

Osip Mandelstam's "Longing for World Culture":  
Between Jewish Identity and Russian Ancient Greece

**Aminadav Dykman**, Hebrew University

Translating the Classics and the Question of  
Jewish Identity

Break

### 18:45 – 20:15 SESSION IV

Chair: **Dennis Sobolev**

**Tsafi Sebba-Elran**, University of Haifa

The Rise (and Fall) of Alexander the Great in the Modern  
Hebrew Folktale

**Donna Shalev**, Hebrew University

Plato in the Mamalushn and the Metropolis: Yiddish  
Translation of Classical Text in the Modernist Context

Break

### 20:30 – 22:00 SESSION V

Chair: **Vered Lev Kenaan**

**Giacomo Loi**, Johns Hopkins University

From Enemy to Ruins: Roman Ruins and Decadence in  
the Poetry of Dan Pagis and Haim Gouri

**Kawthar Aslah and Haim Dorchin**, University of Haifa

Homeric Memory in Israeli and Palestinian Poetry:  
Meir Wieseltier and Mahmoud Darwish

## Thursday 20 May 2021

### 17:45 – 18:00 GATHERING

Israel Time

### 18:00 – 19:30 SESSION VI

Chair: **Lilach Lachman**

**Vered Lev Kenaan and Ahlam Nubani**

Translation in Exile, Exile in Translation: Virgil's Aeneid in  
Arabic and Hebrew

**Galili Shachar**, Tel Aviv University

The Odyssey, Otherwise

Break

### 19:45 – 21:15 SESSION VII

Chair: **Leora Bilsky**

**Miriam Leonard**, University College London

Cholent and the 'False Divinity' of Greece: Hannah  
Arendt's Hellenism

**James Porter**, University of California, Berkeley

Daniel Halévy and the Genesis of Rachel Besspaloff's  
De l'Iliade

Break

### 21:15 – 22:45 CONCLUSION



Department of Hebrew and  
Comparative Literature



# Notes

- Please sign in early so we can begin session 1 on time.
- During presentations, please mute your microphone when not speaking to avoid accidental interruptions (e.g., ringing telephones, etc.).
- If you must attend to some task, you may mute your camera, but keep in mind that it is desirable to have a certain number of participants visually present at all times to create an audience. Listening is also a kind of performance.
- Questions can be sent privately to the moderator or publicly to the whole group via the chat function. This helps to put some order in our collective response. However, we will try to then call on you to ask your question to keep this a group discussion.
- Please note that we expect the authors of each paper to present a 10-15 synopsis of the paper, leaving the bulk of each session for 30 minutes of discussion. We expect that all participants will have read the full papers in advance.
- For access to Dropbox link for papers, and for information on the Zoom link, please contact Vered Lev Kenaan at [vered.lev.Kenaan@gmail.com](mailto:vered.lev.Kenaan@gmail.com) or Patricia Rosenmeyer at [patanne@email.unc.edu](mailto:patanne@email.unc.edu)



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