

Reading: Performance and Materiality in Hebrew and Aramaic Traditions

University of Oxford, Oriël College

Harris Lecture Theatre

October 30–November 1, 2023

Registered participants should consult at the **porter's lodge** for the **4-digit code** to access the theatre and seminar room. All presentations will be in the Harris Lecture Theatre unless stated otherwise.

Monday, October 30

10:30–10:50 — Reception (Harris Seminar Room)

10:50–11:00 — Welcome (Harris Lecture Theatre)

Lord Neil Mendoza, Provost of Oriël College

Professor Hindy Najman, Oriël College, Oriël and Laing Professor of the Interpretation of Holy Scripture, and Director of the Oriël Centre for the Study of the Bible

Professor Hector Patmore, KU Leuven

Professor Dr. Stefan Schorch, Martin-Luther-Universität Halle–Wittenberg / The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

11:00–12:30

Remarks on Reading: Performance and Materiality in Hebrew and Aramaic Traditions

Chair: Rebekah Van Sant, Oriël College

Hindy Najman, Oriël College

Reading and Articulation in Ancient Jewish Texts

Hector Patmore, KU Leuven

Reading Practices and the Text of the Palestinian Targum

Stefan Schorch, Martin-Luther-Universität Halle–Wittenberg / The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Modes of Reading in the Transmission of Samaritan Hebrew Texts

12:30–14:00 – Lunch (Harris Seminar Room)

14:45–15:45 (Weston Library)

Bodleian Manuscript viewings

Judith Olszowy-Schlanger, Corpus Christi College

Geoffrey Khan, University of Cambridge

15:45–17:00 (Weston Lecture Theatre)

Reading Traditions

Chair: Kirsten McFarlane, Keble College

Geoffrey Khan, University of Cambridge

Adaptation and Creativity in the Tiberian Reading Tradition of the Hebrew Bible

To attend the manuscript viewing either meet at the **Oriël College Lodge** at **14:15**, or the **side entrance to the Weston Library** on **Parks Road** at **14:35**.

Further details about the manuscript viewings will be disseminated via email.

Tuesday, October 31

09:30–10:30

Reading Matters: Qumran and Beyond

Chair: Hindy Najman, Oriel College

Noam Mizrahi, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

A Verbal Icon: Reading the Songs of the Sabbath Sacrifice Against the Loss of its Performative Tradition

Arjen Bakker, University of Groningen

Law Engraved on My Tongue: Practices of Reading and Prayer in the Second Temple Period

10:30–11:30 — Coffee Break in Harris Seminar Room

11:30–12:30

Cultic Readings: Transcending the Human

Chair: Phillip Lasater, Worcester College

Judith H. Newman, Emmanuel College, University of Toronto

Reading and Rupture

Dorota Molin, Oriel / Wadham College

Who is Reading Anyway? Quotation and Literacy Beyond the Human in Apotropaic Text-Objects

12:30–14:00 — Lunch in Harris Seminar Room

14:00–15:30

Transformative Readings

Chair: Estara Arrant, Trinity Hall

Martin Tscheu, Martin-Luther-Universität Halle–Wittenberg

The Vorlage of LXX Ez 40–48: Its Orthographic Features and Realisation as a Hebrew Text in the Greek Translation

Elizabeth Stell, Oriel College

Reading and Writing in Dream Dialect: Making New Meaning in Early Jewish Literature

Jeroen Verrijssen, KU Leuven

On the Shores of the Red Sea: A Medieval Reconstruction of Palestinian Targum?

15:30–16:00 — Coffee Break in Harris Seminar Room

16:00–17:00

Creative Readings: Interpreting the Hebrew Bible

Chair: Cian Power, Oriel College

Harald Samuel, Mansfield College

“Inconfusedly, Unchangeably, Indivisibly, Inseparably?” The Two Natures of the Text of the Hebrew Bible

Robert Harris, Jewish Theological Seminary

From פשטיה דקרא to פשוטו של מקרא: The Origins of Peshat Commentary

Wednesday, November 1

10:30–11:30

Concepts and Practices across Times

Chair: Geoffrey Khan, University of Cambridge

Frédérique Michèle Rey, Université de Lorraine

Reading Ben Sira from Antiquity to Medieval Period

David G. K. Taylor, Wolfson College

*The Impact of Orality and Piety on the Text of Ezel Moshe (Fragment Targum at Exodus 14.29)
From the 4th to the 15th Centuries CE*

11:30–13:30 — Lunch in Harris Seminar Room

13:30–15:00

Transformative Readings: Speaking Sins, Reading Holiness

Chair: Hector Patmore, KU Leuven

Rebekah Van Sant, Oriel College

“We Have Transgressed and Rebelled. You Have Not Forgiven” : The Dialogic Poetics of the Book of Lamentations

Amrei Koch, Martin-Luther-Universität Halle–Wittenberg

“Teaching the Sinners” : A “Biblical” Motif and its Application in 4Q372 1

Annie Calderbank, Oriel College

Holiness as Hermeneutic: Reading between Texts and Concepts

15:00–15:45 — Coffee Break in Harris Seminar Room

15:45–16:45

Reading Targum: Performance and Audience

Chair: Alison Salvesen, Mansfield College

Willem Smelik, University College London

Text Extracted: The Function of Targum

Shlomi Efrati, KU Leuven

To Read or Not to Read: Practicing (Non)Reading Targum in Medieval Europe

16:45–17:15

Closing Remarks

Chair: Shlomi Efrati, KU Leuven

Hindy Najman, Oriel College

Stefan Schorch, Martin-Luther-Universität Halle–Wittenberg / The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Hector Patmore, KU Leuven