

## **Two workshops and a public lecture at NEC (Strada Plantelor, 21), 3-4 June 2015**

### **Wednesday 3 June**

14.30-1600 Workshop for early career academics by Philip Alexander (Prof. Emeritus, University of Manchester; Fellow of the British Academy)

This workshop would be most relevant to early career academics (those after PhD and before permanent lecturer, thus dependent on winning external grants for survival) and PhD candidates. It can/will (depending on interest from those attending) address issues related to building up your CV, applying for postdoctoral research fellowships, applying for lectureships etc. The workshop will be informal and interactive. If you have ideas on what would be most useful, please let me know and I will pass it on to Prof. Alexander. Alternatively, you can just come prepared with your questions and ideas (e.g. related to your CV or research project, if you would like feedback on something).

Professor Alexander has many years of experience on committees appointing lecturers (at the departments of Middle Eastern Studies and of Religions and Theology at the University of Manchester; he has also been the director of The Oxford Centre of Hebrew and Jewish Studies (Yarnton)), and evaluating postdoctoral research fellowships (at the British Academy, and the Rothschild Foundation). In addition, he has been successful at receiving research funding for different projects (directly for his own projects, and indirectly by improving other people's proposals). His own funded research projects include a 6 year project cataloguing and digitising the Genizah fragments at the Rylands library in Manchester. His research interests are mainly in the areas of philology/history of texts/Jewish Studies.

17.00 Public lecture by Professor Eli Yassif (Professor of Jewish Folklore and Hebrew Literature, The Zvi Berger Chair of Jewish Folk-Culture, The School of Jewish Studies, Tel-Aviv University, Israel), on "Folklore as Interpretation of Culture: Jewish and Israeli Folktales"

All welcome, followed by a wine & covrigi reception

### **Thursday 4 June**

Workshop on *The Significance of Moses Gaster*

Purpose: discussing draft chapters for a volume, edited by Maria Cioatã on *Moses Gaster in Context*

This is the second workshop, after one in Manchester on 26-27 January, where 9 potential draft chapters were discussed (plus presentations on 4 different aspects of the Gaster Collection at the John Rylands Library, Manchester). The workshop at NEC will focus mainly on Gaster's scholarship and collecting activity in the area of Samaritan Studies (with three chapters in this area), plus one chapter on music manuscripts collected by Gaster, and one on his activities in the area of Hebrew and Jewish Folklore.

It is possible for NEC fellows and others to attend and to participate in the discussions. If you are interested, please let me know, so I can add you to the list and you will receive what participants may sent around in advance (maria.haralambakis@manchester.ac.uk).

***preliminary program***

**10.00-10.30 coffee, welcome, introductions**

10.30-11.30 Discussing the chapter of Abraham Tal (Professor emeritus, University of Tel Aviv) on Gaster's contribution to Samaritan Studies.

11.30-12.30 Discussing the chapter of Stefan Schorch (University of Halle, Germany), on Gaster's writings on Samaritan Theology

12.45-13.45 lunch

14.00-15.00 Discussing the chapter of Katharina Keim (Postdoctoral Research Associate, John Rylands Research Institute, Manchester; working on Gaster's correspondence with Samaritan Priests), on the Samaritan Book of Joshua controversy.

15.00-15.30 Discussing the chapter of Costin Moisil (researcher at the National University of Music, Bucharest), on Gaster and Music, focussed particularly on the music manuscripts in the Gaster collections at the Library of the Romanian Academy (Bucharest).

15.30-16.00 break

16.00-17.00 Discussing the chapter of Eli Yassif (Professor of Jewish Folklore and Hebrew Literature, University of Tel Aviv), Gaster's contribution to the study of Jewish folklore

17.00-18.00 Discussing the book proposal (Maria Cioatã, British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Manchester, working on Moses Gaster's Scholarship and Collection)