

Current position(s)

- 10/2020-03/2021 Ignaz-Bubis-Chair for History, Religion and Culture of European Judaism
University College for Jewish Studies, University Heidelberg
- Since 2010 Lecturer in Jewish Studies,
Department for Jewish Studies, University Halle-Wittenberg
<https://www.judaistik.uni-halle.de/mitarbeiter/matut/>

Previous academic appointments

- 04/2018-03/2019 First Lily- and Michael Sommerfreund Guest Professor in Jewish Cultures;
University College for Jewish Studies, University Heidelberg
- 2003-2010 Research Fellow Jewish Studies; University Halle-Wittenberg
- 2003-2004 Teaching Assignment, Jewish Studies; Otto-von-Guericke University Magdeburg
- 2001-2003 Teaching Assignment, Jewish Studies; Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg

Education

PhD Jewish Studies, University Halle-Wittenberg

MA Yiddish Studies, Jewish Music, School for Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), London (UK)

MA in Jewish Studies, Semitic Languages and Oriens Christianus (Languages and Cultures of the Christian Orient), University Halle-Wittenberg (DE)

Diploma in Hebrew and Jewish Studies

Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies, Oxford (UK)

RESEARCH

Fellowships

09/2021 **Mare Balticum Fellowship for Interdisciplinary Research and Teaching**, University of Rostock

Convenor of the Rostock Old Yiddish Summer School (ROYSS), 5-12 September 2021

Convenor of the Lecture Series *Europe in Jewish Garb. The Yiddish Collection of Oluf Tychsen Contextualized*, 6-10 September 2021

10/2019-03/2020

Polonsky Visiting Fellow & Convenor of the OSAJS

“Between Sacred and Profane. Jewish Musical Cultures in Europe, 1500-1750”;

Research project: “The Yiddish Art of Lamentation: *kaine un kloglid*”

Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies; Oxford University (UK)

<https://www.ochjs.ac.uk/academic-activities/oxford-seminar-in-advanced-jewish-studies-current/>

09/2017-08/2018

Joseph Kremen Memorial Fellow in East European Jewish Arts, Music, and Theatre;

YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, New York (USA)

10/2011-03/2012

Polonsky Visiting Fellow, Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies (Oxford, UK)

Program: Old Yiddish Language and Literature

Research Project: “Singing for a Groom and Bride in Early Modern Ashkenaz”

Short-term docentships

2017 University of Toronto [Yiddish Studies]; chair Prof. Anna Shternshis

2017 Erasmus Visiting Scholar, Università degli Studi di Genova (Genoa, Italy) [Filosofia e storia della filosofia]

2016 Visiting Scholar, Hebrew University (Jerusalem) [Musicology and History Department]

2015 Erasmus Visiting Scholar, Università degli Studi di Genova (Genoa, Italy) [Lingue et culture moderne]

2014 Erasmus Visiting Scholar, Università La Sapienza (Rome, Italy) [Filosofia e storia della filosofia]

- 2012 Erasmus Visiting Scholar, Palacký University (Olomouc, Czech Republic) [Katedra germanistiky]
- 2011 Erasmus Visiting Scholar, Palacký University (Olomouc, Czech Republic) [Katedra germanistiky]
- 2010 Erasmus Visiting Scholar, Università La Sapienza (Rome, Italy) [Filosofia e storia della filosofia]
- 2010 Erasmus Visiting Scholar, Palacký University (Olomouc, Czech Republic) [Katedra germanistiky]
- 2009 Erasmus Visiting Scholar, Università La Sapienza (Rome, Italy) [Filosofia e storia della filosofia]

Scholarships

- 2002-2003 University Halle-Wittenberg's 500th anniversary Ph.D. Scholarship
- 2001 Scholarship Jewish Theological Seminary New York for the Advanced Yiddish Seminar
- 2001 Gildin Yiddish Book Scholarship of the Amherst National Yiddish Book Centre
- 2000-2001 Scholarship of the German Academic Exchange Service for the MA in Yiddish Studies at SOAS, London
- 1998-1999 Scholarship of the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies for the Diploma in Hebrew and Jewish Studies
- 1998 Scholarship of the University Halle-Wittenberg for the Old Syriac Intensive at the St Ephrem Ecumenical Research Institute, Kottayam (Kerala) India

Conference Organization and Chairperson

- 2020 *Between Sacred and Profane. Jewish Musical Cultures in Europe, 1500-1750*; March 15-18, 2020
Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies
[sponsored by the Polonsky-Foundation]
- 2020 *The Marvelous Art of In Between. Music in Jewish, Christian and Muslim Encounters*, 12 February 2020,
Woolf Institute Cambridge [sponsored by the Polonsky Foundation and the Woolf Institute];
Together with Dr Esther-Miriam Wagner

- 2019 *Musica Judaica. Jewish Music Between Oral and Written Traditions: The 19th Century in Context*, July 14-15, 2019
Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies
[sponsored by the European Association for Jewish Studies; EAJS]
- 2017 *Finden und Erfinden. Die Romantik und ihre Religionen* [To Find and to Invent. The Romantic Period and her Religions] May 17-20, 2017 Halle
[sponsored by the Foundation for the Study of Romanticism]
Together with Prof. Daniel Cyranka and Dr. Christian Soboth
- 2016 *Yiddish Historically Informed Performance Practice (YHIP)*, Yiddish Summer Weimar, July 19-22, 2016
[sponsored by the German Federal Cultural Foundation und Yiddish Summer Weimar]
Together with Dr. Alan Bern and Andreas Schmitges
- 2016 *Samuel Moses - Adolf Bernhard Marx, seine Musik, seine Schriften und seine Zeit* [His Music, His Writings and his Time], Halle, May 13-15, 2016
[sponsored by the Fritz-Thyssen-Foundation, and the Institute for Musicology and Music Pedagogics, Halle]
Together with Prof. Jens Marggraf and Prof. Tomi Mäkelä
- 2013 3rd Conference for Young Scholars of Jewish Studies;
Association for Jewish Studies Germany
Hannover, Castle Herrenhausen, September 10-12, 2013
[Sponsored by Volkswagen Foundation]
- 2011 1st Conference for Young Scholars of Jewish Studies
Association for Jewish Studies Germany
Wittenberg, February 6-8, 2011
[Sponsored by the Fritz-Thyssen Foundation]
- 2010 Symposium *Christian Hebraism and Yiddishism until 1900*, Februar 9, 2010,
Francke Foundation, Halle
[Sponsored by the Centre for Interdisciplinary Regional Studies, Halle]

PUBLICATIONS

Monographs

Purifying the Soul... The Medieval Mikveh in Erfurt (Erfurt: Sutton, 2015) [English version]

Von der Reinheit der Seele... Die mittelalterliche Mikwe in Erfurt (Erfurt: Bussert & Stadelers, 2015) [German version]

Dichtung und Musik im frühneuzeitlichen Aschkenas [Poetry and Music in Early Modern Ashkenaz], 2 vols.: *Edition and Commentary* (Leiden/Boston: Brill, 2011), vol. 1, i-xvii, 529pp and vol. 2, 461pp

<http://www.brill.com/dichtung-und-musik-im-fruehneuzeitlichen-aschkenas-2-vols>

Reviews:

AJS [Association for Jewish Studies] Review 36(1) (2012): 168-70 (Don Harrán)

JJS [Journal of Jewish Studies] LXV (1) (2014): 209-12 (Claudia Rosenzweig)

JFR [Journal of Folklore Research. An International Journal of Folklore and Ethnomusicology] (2012) (David Elton Gay)

Pardes. Zeitschrift der Vereinigung für Jüdische Studien 18 (2012): 207-12 (Janina Wurbs)

AJL [Association of Jewish Libraries] Review 2(4) (Nov/Dez 2012): 29-30 (David B. Levy)

Editorial Positions

2018- Editor of the Series *Jews, Judaism and the Arts* (Leiden, Boston: Brill),
together with Nathan Abrams, Steven Fine, Edna Nashon and Ilia Rodov
<https://brill.com/view/serial/JJA>

2006-2018 2006-2011 Managing Editor;
2011-2018 Editor in Chief (together with Giuseppe Veltri)
European Journal of Jewish Studies. The Journal of the European Association for Jewish Studies (Leiden, Boston: Brill).
2 double-blind peer-reviewed issues per year
<http://www.brill.com/european-journal-jewish-studies>

2008-2014 Editorial Board

Studies in Jewish History and Culture (Boston, Leiden: Brill)

<http://www.brill.com/publications/studies-jewish-history-and-culture>

Edited Volumes

Daniel Cyranka, Diana Matut and Christian Soboth, eds.: *Finden und Erfinden: Die Romantik und ihre Religionen, 1790–1820*. [To Find and to Invent. The Romantic Period and her Religions, 1790-1820] Stiftung für Romantikforschung (Würzburg: Königshausen & Neumann, 2020)

Diana Matut, ed., *Jewish Music - Song Culture and Performance Practice*, Special Issue EJJS 8.1 (Boston, Leiden: Brill, 2014)

Diana Matut, ed., *Christian Hebraism and Yiddishism*, Special Issue EJJS 6.1 (Leiden, Boston: Brill, 2012)

Diana Matut, ed., *Yiddish: Past and Present Perspectives*, Special Issue EJJS 4.1 (Leiden, Boston: Brill, 2010)

Articles (select. 2010)

-“Interferenzen im frühneuzeitlichen Purimlied – Impulse im nachbarschaftlichen Raum der Fastnacht- und Purimkulturen“, in *Purimspiel und Fastnachtspiel. Interdisziplinäre Beiträge zur Gattungsinterferenz*, ed. Klaus Wolf (Berlin/Boston: de Gruyter, 2021), 27-62

- “*With Kind Words Lean Towards Her...* Singing for the Groom and Bride in Early Modern Ashkenaz,” in *Worlds of Old Yiddish Literature*, eds. Simon Neuberg and Diana Matut (Cambridge: Legenda, [in print 2021]).

- “Yidish. Alte geshikhte(n), naye vegn,” in *building connections*, ed. Nina Victoria Naußed (Leipzig: Fritsch, 2018), 46-51

- “On the History of Editing Pre-Modern Yiddish Manuscripts and the *status quaestionis*,” in *Jewish Manuscript Cultures*, ed. Irina Wandrey (Berlin: DeGruyter, 2017); online available at: <https://www.degruyter.com/viewbooktoc/product/489035>

- “Der einstimmige jiddische Gesang im 15. und 16. Jahrhundert,” in *Creatio ex unisono. Einstimmige Musik im 15. und 16. Jahrhundert, troja. Jahrbuch für Renaissancemusik* 13 (2017): 149-174; online available at: <https://miami.uni-muenster.de/Record/95de9cff-2d6a-4f51-a7d9-62ec0f98b164>

- „Frankenstein, Carl“, in *Deutschsprachige Psychologinnen und Psychologen 1933-1945. Ein Personenlexikon* (Wiesbaden: Springer, 2015; 2nd ed. 2017), 121-123.

- “*Was zu Hamburg geschehen ist...* Ein westjiddisches Lied über polnische Juden im Hamburg des 17. Jahrhunderts,” in *Schlüsseldokumente zur deutsch-jüdischen Geschichte*. Online-Quellenedition (2015); <http://www.igdj-hh.de/online-quellenedition.html>
- “Jewish Music—Song Culture and Performance Practice,” in *EJJS* 8.1 (2014): 3-7.
- “*Mir Wermeiser...* Das altjiddische Liedgut und sein Bezug zur Stadt Worms,” in *Jüdische Kultur in den SchUM-Städten. Literatur – Musik – Theater*, ed. Karl E. Grözinger (Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 2014), 275-314.
- “*What Happened in Hamburg...* A Yiddish Document about Polish Jews in Germany during the Early Modern Period,” in *Leket. Yiddish: Editions & Research* 1, eds. Marion Aptroot et al. (Düsseldorf: dup, 2012), 321-56.
- “Yiddish Song in Early Modern Ashkenaz,” in *Report of the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies* (2011-12): 94-104.
- “Steinschneider and Yiddish,” in *Studies on Steinschneider. Moritz Steinschneider and the Emergence the Science of Judaism in Nineteenth-Century Germany*, eds. Reimund Leicht and Gad Freudenthal (with the collaboration of Rachel Heuberger) (Leiden and Boston: Brill, 2011), 383-410.
- “Ghetto im Mittelalter,” in *Handbuch des Antisemitismus. Judenfeindschaft in Geschichte und Gegenwart*, Bd. 4: *Ereignisse, Dekrete, Kontroversen* (Berlin/Boston: de Gruyter, 2011), 147-149.
- “Introduction: Yiddish—Past and Present Perspectives,” in *Yiddish: Past and Present Perspectives* EJJS 4.1 (Leiden, Boston: Brill, 2010): 1-5.

Discography

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|------|---|
| 2021 | Ensemble simkhat hanefesh, <i>A Journey Through Ashkenaz. The Travels of Abraham Levie</i> (ethnomusic records London) |
| 2017 | <i>Simkhat hanefesh. Joy of the Soul. Early Yiddish Music</i> (ethnomusic records London; LC 16159) |
| 2014 | <i>Far dem nayem dor! For the New Generation! Yiddish Children's Songs</i> (Kikion; LC 16159) |
| 2012 | <i>Thomaskantoren vor Bach</i> , Chamber Choir Josquin des Préz (Carus, 83.324) |
| 2010 | <i>Josquin des Préz: Missa pange lingua</i> , Chamber Choir Josquin des Préz (Carus 83.345) |
| 2009 | Shakespeare-Sonnets in Yiddish, in: <i>William Shakespeare's Sonnets Never Before Imprinted – For the First Time Globally Reprinted: A Quatercentenary Anthology 1609-2009</i> , eds. Manfred Pfister and Jürgen Gutsch (Dozwil: Edition Signathur) |
| 1995 | <i>Wiegenlieder</i> (Tokuma) (Radio Youth Choir) |
| 1993 | Ermanno Wolf-Ferrari: <i>La Vita Nuova</i> (op. 9) (mdr 88 033) (Radio Youth Choir) |
| 1993 | <i>Freu dich, Erd und Sternenzelt</i> (Radio Youth Choir) |

JEWISH MUSIC PROJECTS

Since 2012

***simkhat hanefesh* (Joy of the Soul):**

Yiddish Song from Renaissance and Baroque

See: <http://www.simkhat-hanefesh.com/>

Simkhat hanefesh brings Yiddish songs and Jewish music from the Renaissance and Baroque back to life. The ensemble combines the latest research with long-standing experience in the field of Early Music.

Since its foundation, *simkhat hanefesh* has already brought dozens of rediscovered Old Yiddish songs back on stage. It unearths these cultural treasures and creates an awareness for the beauty and the venerable age of Yiddish song culture.

Programs:

2012-2019 *simkhat hanefesh* (Joy of the Soul). Early Yiddish Music

2019- A Journey Through Ashkenaz. The Travels of Abraham Levie

2020

A Celebration of French-Jewish Music

[Together with Alexandre Cerveux]

Choir & Soloists: Matthew Austerklein; Alexandre Cerveux; Matthew Faulk;
Judith King, Diana Matut, Emma Pooley, Deborah Rooke
Instruments: Matthew Faulk (Lute; Theorbo); Alexander Knapp (Piano);
Norman Solomon (Piano)

2019

The Henech Kon Project / The Triangle Orchestra Yiddish Opera! Bas-Sheve

See: The Triangle Orchestra performs Henech Kon's Yiddish opera "Bas Sheve":
<https://yiddishsummer.eu/de/haupt/ueber-den-ysw/film.html>

Bas Sheve is a Yiddish opera written by Henech Kon in 1924 in Warsaw. Based on the story of King David and Batsheva, the opera was premiered there at the Kaminski Theater with vocal soloists and choir and with Kon himself accompanying on piano and singing the bass role.

This remarkable work, which appears to be the only surviving opera in Yiddish from pre-war Eastern Europe, was rediscovered by Dr. Diana Matut in 2017. In 2019, Yiddish Summer Weimar Curator Andreas Schmitges envisioned and mounted a newly commissioned, fully orchestrated version of Kon's opera.

Enlisting contemporary composer Joshua Horowitz to create the orchestration as well as to reconstruct missing sections of the work, the project invited young vocalists, instrumentalists and partner institutions from Germany, France and Poland to form the Triangle Orchestra to realize this daring artistic vision. The world premiere of the newly orchestrated opera took place on Aug 16th, 2019 during Yiddish Summer Weimar 2019, and was performed again in Lodz on Aug 21st, 2019.

For more information about this historic production as well as related projects, please see: triangleorchestra.eu // bas-sheve.com // yiddishsummer.eu

2018

Composition and staging of the children's musical

Alef, beys un giml, oder: Di shtume shprakh

[A, B and G or: The silent language]

Premiere: July 29, 2018 Yiddish Summer Weimar

With children from Israel, France, Spain, Italy, USA and Germany

With Alan Bern (Piano, Accordion) / Aleksei Rozov (Violin) / Mark Kohnatskiy (Violin) / Andreas Schmitges (Guitar) / Yulia Kabakova (Cello)

2015-2018

Conductor KADYA Project

In cooperation with Yiddish Summer Weimar - Alan Bern, Voices of Peace (Tel Aviv/Jaffa) - Yair Dalal and the Arab-Jewish Community Center Jaffa

November 2021: Premiere documentary Movie *Die jungen KADYAS:*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bH1fX3rdVOI>

Since 2017

Ensemble MULTAQA. Triologue of Religions

See: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rndztZXzxY>

“Multaqā” means meeting point. Ney meets Recorder, Djoze meets Viola da Gamba, Oud meets Lute, connected by framedrums and arabic, classical and yiddish singers. This ensemble is focussed in the uniting element of oriental and occidental cultures, music and religions. This programme shows surprising connections of sephardic, yiddish, arabic and early music; bringing together versed and virtuos specialists on stage. Music doesn’t know boundaries – music is the answer.

Ensemble Multaqā: Diana Matut - Yiddish Chant (D) Rita William - Arabic Chant (Iraq/D) Björn Werner - Chant (D) Rageed William - Nay, Duduk (Iraq/D) Annegret Fischer - Recorders (D) Bassem Hawar - Djoze (Iraq/D) Benjamin Dreßler - Viola da Gamba (D) Saif al-Khayyat - Oud (Iraq/D) Erik Warkenthin - Baroque Guitar (D) Nora Thiele - Percussion, Frame Drums, Darbucca, Artistic Director (D)

2012-2014

Far dem nayem dor – For the New Generation. Yiddish Children’s Songs

In cooperation with Yiddish Summer Weimar and Dr. Alan Bern

Rediscovery of Yiddish children’s songs from the *folks shuln*.

CD Production

<http://www.kinderlider.com/righthome.html>