

The Alexander Grass Chair in Jewish Studies and the  
Isser and Rae Price Library of Judaica  
at the University of Florida

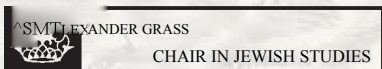
*present*

# Jews in the Americas

**Speaker Series**

**January 9 - August 28, 2018**

**featuring the recipients of the  
“Jews in the Americas” fellowship**



UNIVERSITY of  
**URI FLORIDA**

George A. Smathers Libraries  
Isser and Rae Price Library of Judaica



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE  
**Humanities**

**Sharonah Fredrick**

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## **Jewish piracy and anticolonial rebellion**

**Tuesday, January 9, 2018**

**Judaica Suite, 5:00 p.m.**

Fredrick's research explores different expressions of resistance against early modern colonialism in the Americas. She maps how different ethnic, religious, and social groups, subjugated or marginalized by Spanish, Portuguese, and English expansion in the New World, cooperated, shared experience, and defined their own space within the colonial system. Her graduate studies took her to Mexico and Israel, and she earned her doctoral degree in Stony Brook, New York. Currently she is Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures at University at Buffalo, SUNY. During her tenure as winner of the "Jews in the Americas" fellowship, Fredrick studies Sephardic Jews' participation in piracy in the Caribbean and the Pacific and the broader social history of renegades in early modern Spanish America.

**Diego Gutiérrez, *Americae Sive Quartae Orbis Partis Nova et Exactissima Descriptio*, [Antwerp]: H. Cock, 1562. From the engraved map in the collections of the Geography and Map Division, Library of Congress, Washington.**

Eleanor Stanford

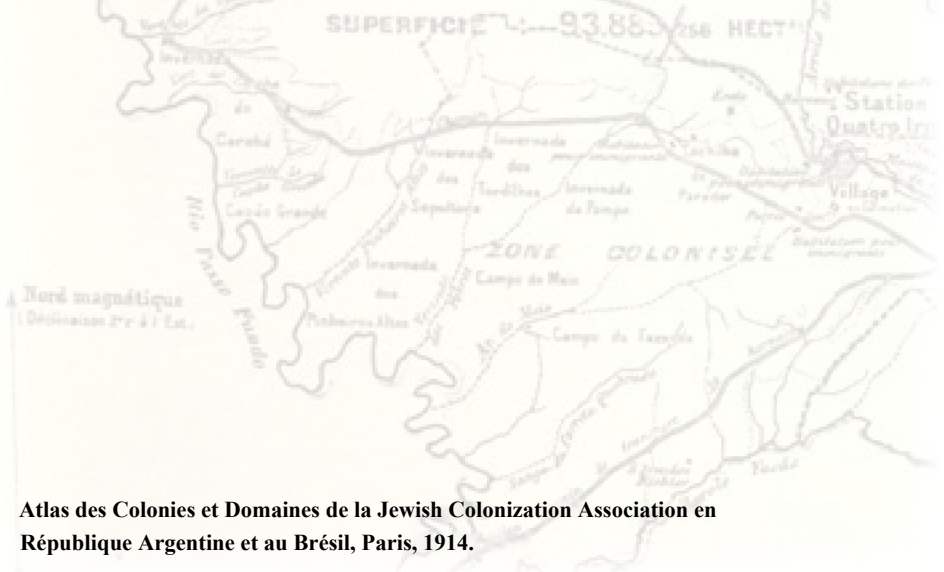


## Jewish experience in post-World War II Brazil

Tuesday, January 16, 2018

Judaica Suite, 5:00 p.m.

A poet and essayist, Stanford earned her MFA in creative writing at the University of Virginia, where she also held a Henry Hoyns fellowship. Her highly praised work scrutinies anthropological, historical, and literary questions with scholarly and literary creativity. She is currently working on a novel on the Jewish experience in post-World War II Brazil and during her tenure at UF, she explores the library holdings, especially newspapers and biographical sources, to gain further inspiration and deeper understanding of what it meant to be raised as a Jew and live a Jewish life in Brazil of the 1950s and 1960s.



Avigail Oren

## **Jewish Community Centet movement in Florida**

**Tuesday, February 13, 2018**

**Judaica Suite, 5:00 p.m.**

The twentieth-century history of the American Jewish community center movement is the focus of Oren's research. She is a graduate of the Carnegie Mellon University where she earned her doctorate in 2017. Her research took her to various community and academic libraries in the United States and during February 2018, as recipient of the "Jews in the Americas" fellowship, she studies the Price Library's archival records and newspapers pertaining to die North-Central Floridian Jewish communal experience. Her research at UF contributes to her current work on her first manuscript, the revision of her dissertation to a book tentatively tided *Centering the Jewish Community: Religious Pluralism and Racial Diversity in the American Jewish Community Center Movement*.

**Aerial photographs of Duval County - Flight 1C (1943), U.S. Department of Agriculture.**

Hilit Surowitz-Israel

## Portuguese Jews in the Atlantic of the early modern period

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

Judaica Suite, 12:00 p.m.

A graduate of the University of Florida and currently professor-at Rutgers University in New Jersey, Surowitz-Israel returns to her alma mater to study records in the holdings of the Latin American and Caribbean, Florida, and Judaica collections. Her research focuses on die early modern Adantic and scrutinizes the institutions and regulatory practices of Portuguese Jewish communities in the Caribbean and beyond. It also examines die formation of diaspora consciousness among Portuguese Jews, and the entanglement of race and religion in colonial America. Her research as a fellow in the program “Jews in the Americas” contributes to her forthcoming monograph

*“May God Enlarge Japheth Pòrtuguese Jews in the Early Modern Atlantic World.*

Curaçao, General atlas containing distinct maps of all the known countries in the world. Lucas, Fielding, 1781-1854, B.T. Welch & Co, 1823.

Mariusz Kakzewiak

## Yiddish travel writing

Tuesday, March 20, 2018

Judaica Suite, 12:00 p.m.

Kaczewiak takes his audience to South America of the early twentieth century. Focusing on the work of the Yiddish author Peretz Hirshbein, Kaczewiak explores how Yiddish literature, especially travel literature, contributed to the construction of cultural ties between Europe and die Americas. A Polish scholar, Kaczewiak earned his doctorate at Tel Aviv University and continues his research as a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Potsdam in Germany. The Price collection's rich offerings in South American Yiddish records, including die writings by Hirschbein, support Kaczewiak's inquiry about modem Yiddish literary tropes bridging continents and probing die modem Jewish immigrant experience in the Americas.

Argentina, (50th years of Jewish life in Argentina, 20th anniversary) Di Presse, 1938.

Stephanie Pridgeon

## **Jewish involvement in revolutionary movements of the 1960s and 1970s in film**

**Tuesday, April 17, 2018**

**Judaica Suite, 5:00 p.m.**

Pridgeon, a graduate of Emory University, currently teaches at Bates College in Maine. Her broader research addresses literary and cinematographic examinations of memory, commemoration, representation, and identity construction in conjunction with the study of Jewish—non-Jewish relations in South America. In Gainesville, during her tenure as a fellow, she expands her dissertation research on cinematographic representations of Jewish engagements with South American revolutionary movements. She examines the dynamics of political participation and cultural belonging as crucial coordinates of the South American Jewish experience in the second half of the twentieth century. Her fellowship supports the completion of her manuscript *Jen>s on Screen and in Skevolt*.

**Atlas des Colonies et Domaines de la Jewish Colonization Association en République Argentine et au Brésil, Paris, 1914.**

**Steven Baumann**

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## **Finca Paso Seco, a Jewish refugee camp in Cuba**

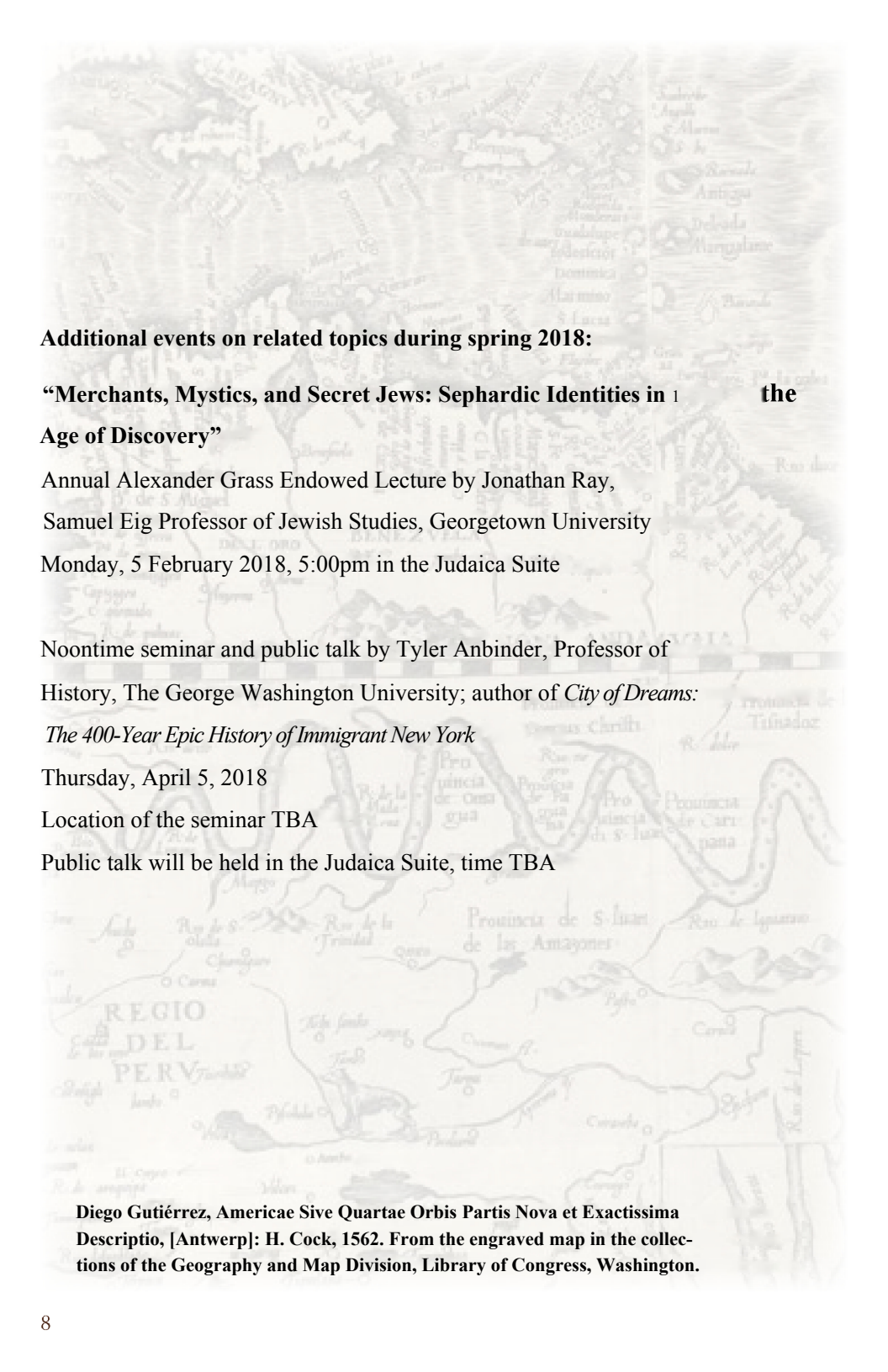
**Tuesday, August 28, 2018**

**Judaica Suite, 5:00 p.m.**

Baumann is a doctoral student at Temple University. His interest in die history of the American Friends Service Committee, originating in die Society of Friends (Quakers) movement, led him to the study of Finca Paso Seco, a refugee camp outside of Havana, Cuba. It was established by the American Friends Service Committee and supported by the Jewish organization JOINT Distribution Committee. Baumann's examination of the local and transnational, political and cultural aspects of the refugee camp's everyday operation highlights the rarely told history of Jewish refugees in Cuba prior to World War II. During his tenure as a fellow, Baumann studies die Price Library's rich offerings on die Jewish experience in Cuba, primarily focusing on newspapers.

**Cuba map, First Edition - Ames 1,1943.**



A faded background map of the Americas, showing the eastern and southern coasts of North and South America. The map is labeled with various geographical names in Latin and Spanish, such as 'Regio del Peruv', 'Provincia de las Amazonas', and 'Rio de la Plata'. The map is oriented with North at the top.

**Additional events on related topics during spring 2018:**

**“Merchants, Mystics, and Secret Jews: Sephardic Identities in the Age of Discovery”**

Annual Alexander Grass Endowed Lecture by Jonathan Ray,  
Samuel Eig Professor of Jewish Studies, Georgetown University  
Monday, 5 February 2018, 5:00pm in the Judaica Suite

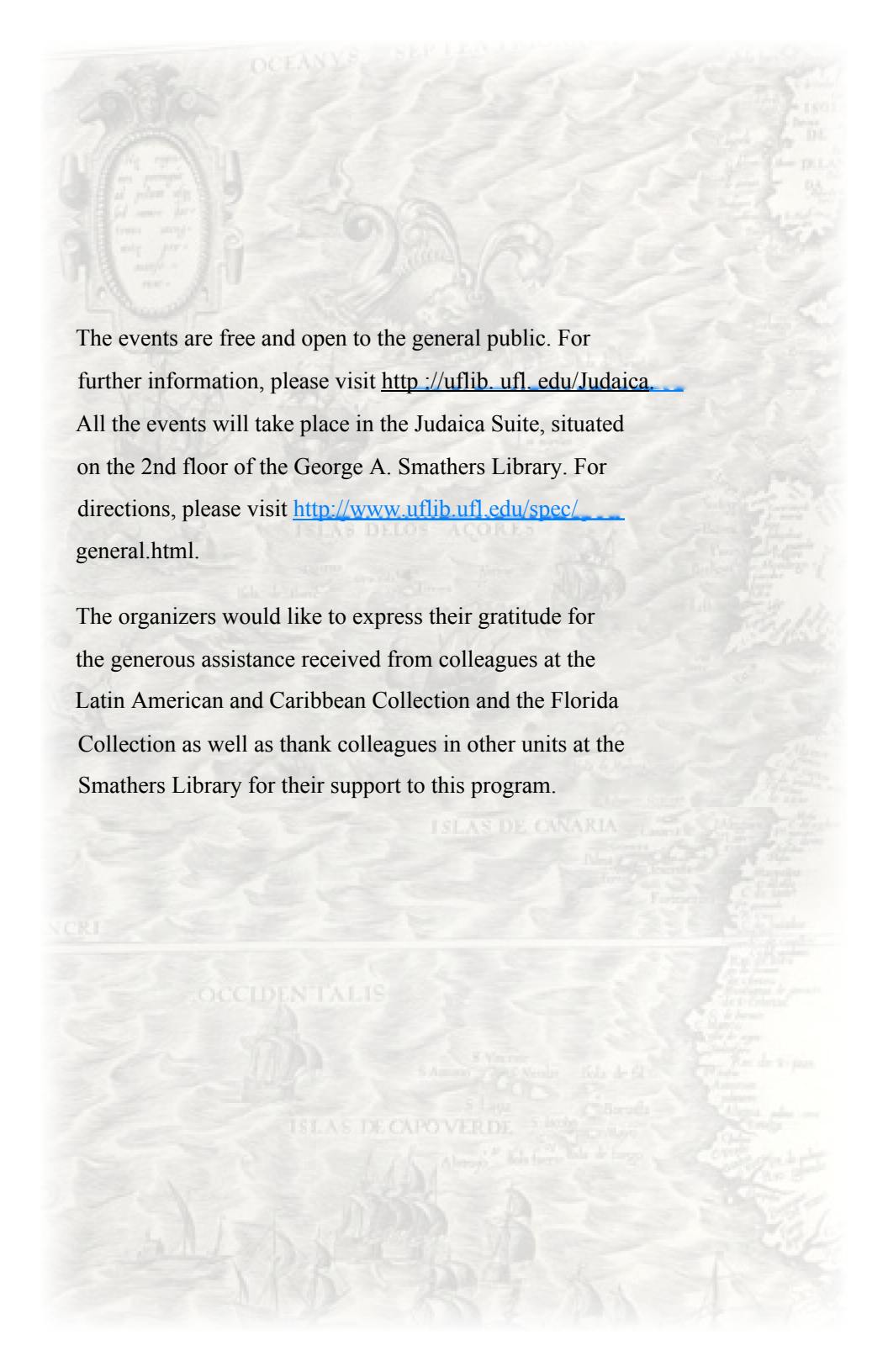
Noontime seminar and public talk by Tyler Anbinder, Professor of  
History, The George Washington University; author of *City of Dreams:  
The 400-Year Epic History of Immigrant New York*

Thursday, April 5, 2018

Location of the seminar TBA

Public talk will be held in the Judaica Suite, time TBA

**Diego Gutiérrez, *Americae Sive Quartae Orbis Partis Nova et Exactissima Descriptio*, [Antwerp]: H. Cock, 1562. From the engraved map in the collections of the Geography and Map Division, Library of Congress, Washington.**

The background features a detailed map of the Atlantic Ocean, showing the Americas, Europe, and Africa. The map is overlaid with decorative elements, including a large, ornate frame on the left side containing a circular emblem with text. The text "OCEANVS" and "SEPTENTRIONALIS" is visible at the top of the map. The map is rendered in a light, faded style, serving as a background for the text.

The events are free and open to the general public. For further information, please visit <http://uflib.ufl.edu/Judaica>.

All the events will take place in the Judaica Suite, situated on the 2nd floor of the George A. Smathers Library. For directions, please visit <http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/spec/general.html>.

The organizers would like to express their gratitude for the generous assistance received from colleagues at the Latin American and Caribbean Collection and the Florida Collection as well as thank colleagues in other units at the Smathers Library for their support to this program.