International Conference

Knowledge, Imagination, Democracy: Honoring Professor Yaron Ezrahi's Work

Wednesday-Thursday, January 5-6, 2011

The Konrad Adenauer Conference Center, at Mishkenot Sha'ananim, Gilbert de Botton Auditorium

Wednesday, January 5

10:00-12:30
The Politics of Imagination

Greetings:
Gabriel Motzkin (Director, The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute)
Mario Sznajder (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Chair: Nicole Hochner (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Sheila Jasanoff (Harvard University): Everyman's Enlightenment: Public Reason in a Time of Distrust
Don Handelman (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem): Holism, Religion, and the Political Imaginary
Shaul Shenhav (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem): Power and Imagination in National Narratives
David Shulman (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem): The Stuff of Kingship in South India

12:30-13:30 Lunch Break

13:30-15:30
Metaphors of Science and the Body Politics

Chair: Sheila Jasanoff (Harvard University)

Yemima Ben-Menahem (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem): Icarus and Faust
Oren Soffer (The Open University of Israel): Liquid Language: On the Personalization of Discourse in the Digital Era
Everett Mendelsohn (Harvard University): What is Science that Thou Art Mindful of It?
Helga Nowotny (European Research Council): The Power of Ideas and Their Limitations

15:30-16:00 Coffee Break

16:00-17:00
Dialogue: Should Liberal Democracy Overcome History?

Chair: Mario Sznajder
Yaron Ezrahi and Gabriel Motzkin

17:15-19:45
Can Art Survive Democracy?

Chair: Galit Hasan-Rokem (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Yehoshua Sobol (Author & playwright): Can Democracy Survive Art?
Dani Karavan (Sculptor): Can Political Art Be Art?
Hillel Schocken (Tel Aviv University): The Politics of Urbanism – The Case of Lod
Ruth HaCohen (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem): Listening in Present Perfect: Musical Utopias and Dystopias


Thursday, January 6

10:00-12:00
The Fate of Liberal Arts Education

Chair: Menahem Yaari (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Itzhak Galnoor (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute): Free Inquiry under Conditions of Duress in Israel
Joachim Nettelbeck (Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin): Institutional Hurdles for Liberal Arts Education in Continental Europe
Yehuda Eldan (Honorary Senior Fellow at the Buber Institute of the HU; Visiting Scholar at the Max-Planck-Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte): Principles for Undergraduate Curricula for the University of the 21st Century

12:00-13:00 Lunch Break

13:00-15:30
Democracy in Israel: Reflections on Power

Chair: Avner De-Shalit (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Adi Ophir (Tel Aviv University): The Function of “Democracy” in the Israeli Political System
Mordechai Kremnitzer (The Israel Democracy Institute and The Hebrew University of Jerusalem): Is the Israeli Democracy in Danger?
Eyal Chowers (Tel Aviv University): Power and the Hebrew Language
Dan Avnon (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem): Demokratya in Israel
Menachem Lorberbaum (Tel Aviv University and Shalom Hartman Institute): Translation as a Mode of Political Discourse

15:30-16:00 Coffee Break

16:00-18:30
Roundtable: Have the Intellectuals Betrayed Israeli Democracy?

Chair: David Shulman (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Yaron Ezrahi (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
Sari Nusseibeh (Al-Quds University)
Moshe Halbertal (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and NYU)
Eva Illouz (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
Zeev Sternhell (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Concluding Remarks: Yaron Ezrahi