

# The Jews, the Arts, and the Mediterranean (1450-1750)

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

PALAZZO ALBERTI, VIA DE' BENCI 10, FLORENCE

FRIDAY, 12 JUNE 2026

### OPENING REMARKS 9:00-10:00

**Alessio Assonitis** (The Medici Archive Project)

**Roberto Calabretto** (Fondazione Ugo e Olga Levi - Università di Udine)

**Jorge Morales** (Université de Versailles-Saint-Quentin)

**Piergabriele Mancuso** (The Medici Archive Project - Fondazione Ugo e Olga Levi)

### SESSION ONE 10:00-11:15

#### Material Culture, Mercantile Activity, and Cultural Brokerage

**Chair: Piergabriele Mancuso** (The Medici Archive Project)

**Sara Ballester** (Universidad Complutense de Madrid)

*I Fonseca e i Cortizos de Villasante a Venezia nel Seicento:  
mercanti, agenti e committenti al servizio della Corona di Spagna*

**Silvia Papini** (Università di Pisa)

*Isaque Coronel and Jewish Artistic Agency  
in Early Modern Livorno*

**Elizabeth Weinfield** (The Juilliard School, New York)

*'Extraordinary Subtill Queanes': Musical Diplomacy  
and Jewish Women in the Early Modern Constantinople Harem*

DISCUSSION

### COFFEE BREAK 11:15-11:30

### SESSION TWO 11:30-12:45

#### Jewish Books and Hebrew Literature

**Chair: Assunta Vitale** (The Medici Archive Project)

**Federico Dal Bo** (Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia)

*Italian Beauty: Bianchi Girari Ornaments  
in Early Hebrew Prints*

**Anna Smoliarova** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

*Recovering Judaism in Exile: The Ferrara Bible (1553)  
and the Patronage of Doña Gracia Nasi*

**Rebecca Cypess** (Yeshiva University, New York)

*Devorà Ascarelli: Translation, Transformation,  
and the Artistic Creativity of an Italian Jewish Writer*

DISCUSSION

### LUNCH BREAK 12:45-14:15

### SESSION THREE 14:15-15:00

#### Visual Arts and Theater

**Chair: Jorge Morales** (Université de Versailles-Saint-Quentin)

**Riva Arnold** (The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York)

*An Enigmatic Portrait:*

*Antonio Campi's Portrait of a Man with a Hebrew Tablet*

**Asher Salah** (Bezalel Academy of Arts, Jerusalem)

*Theatre in the Ghetto of Florence: Staging and Spectatorship*

DISCUSSION

### COFFEE BREAK 15:00-15:15

### SESSION FOUR 15:15-16:30

#### Music

**Chair: Vanessa Paloma Elbaz** (University of Cambridge)

**Eliana Miraglia** (Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance)

*In and Beyond the Ghetto:*

*Jewish Music Experience and Repertoire in Medici Tuscany*

**Galliano Ciliberti** (Conservatorio "Nino Rota" di Monopoli)

*Ascoltare il ghetto. Viaggiatori francesi e inglesi  
e le pratiche sonore ebraiche nella Roma tra XVI e XVII secolo*

**Nathanaël Eskenazy** (Université Paul-Valéry de Montpellier)

*«Émanciper» le chant de David ?*

*Pour une relecture des psaumes de Marcello et Giustiniani*

### FINAL DISCUSSION 16:30-17:00

RSVP TO [EDUCATION@MEDICI.ORG](mailto:EDUCATION@MEDICI.ORG)