

## THE BIBLE AND THE HUMANITIES

### Launch Conference of the Centre for the Study of the Bible in the Humanities

October 17–18, 2018

Oriel College, Oxford

#### Wednesday, Oct 17<sup>th</sup>

##### **8:45 Morning Coffee**

**9:00 Welcome and Introduction:** Graham Ward (Christ Church, Oxford)

##### **9:10–10:30 Session 1**

**Chair:** Martin Goodman (Wolfson, Oxford)

9:10 James Kugel (Harvard University), 'Reading Scripture, Reading Literature'

9:50 John Barton (Oriel, Oxford), 'Literary Criticism and the Bible'

##### **10:30 Coffee Break**

##### **10:45–12:45 Session 2**

**Chair:** Mark Edwards (Christ Church, Oxford)

10:45 Annette Yoshiko Reed (New York University), 'The Biblical Past between Memory and Forgetting'

11:25 Christoph Marksches (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin), 'The Revolution of "New Philology" and Digital Editions: Which Bibles Should Be Edited?'

12:05 Holger Zeltin (University of Cambridge), 'The Qur'anization of Late Antiquity: Methodological Reflections on the Arabic Recasting of the Hebrew Bible'

##### **12:45–1:45 Lunch**

##### **1:45–3:15 Session 3**

**Chair:** Paul Joyce (King's College London)

1:45 Josh Billings (Princeton University) and Laura Quick (Princeton University), 'Staging the Exodus'

2:35 Olivia Stewart Lester (Loyola University Chicago), 'The Bible, the Humanities, and the History of the Sibylline Oracles'

##### **3:15 Coffee Break**

##### **3:30–5:30 Session 4**

**Chair:** Geoffrey Khan (University of Cambridge)

3:30 Dagmar Schäfer (Max Planck Institute for the History of Science), 'Un-authorized Knowledge and Objectified Texts: Ming-Chinese Approaches to the Subject'

4:10 Simon Goldhill (University of Cambridge), 'Strange Dogs: Greek Novellas as Readings of the Bible and Modern Scholarship's Reading of Greek Novellas'

4:50 Hindy Najman (Oriel, Oxford), 'Philology, Philosophy and Poetry: Rethinking Biblical Studies in the Academy'

##### **6:00 Launch Ceremony in the Senior Library**

**Chair:** Wilf Stephenson (Treasurer of Oriel College)

**Remarks:** Neil Mendoza (Provost of Oriel College); Karen O'Brien (Head of the Humanities Division); Hindy Najman (Director of the Centre for the Study of the Bible in the Humanities, Oriel and Laing Professor of the Interpretation of Holy Scripture)

## **6.30 Reception in the Senior Common Room**

**Thursday, Oct 18<sup>th</sup>**

### **8:45 Morning Coffee**

**9:00 Opening Remarks:** Jaś Elsner (Corpus Christi, Oxford)

### **9:05–11:05 Session 5**

**Chair:** Jaś Elsner (Corpus Christi, Oxford)

9:05 Judith Schlanger (President, Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies; Corpus Christi, Oxford), ‘Scholarship in the Margins: Some Remarks on the Materiality of Bible Commentaries in the Middle Ages’

9:45 Constanze Güthenke (Corpus Christi, Oxford), ‘Philology and Community’

10:25 Konrad Schmid (University of Zürich), ‘Orientalism and the Bible: How the History of Science Dealt with the Historical Origins of the Idea of the Laws of Nature’

### **11:05 Coffee Break**

### **11:20–12:40 Session 6**

**Chair:** Adriana Jacobs (St Cross, Oxford)

11:20 Elizabeth Solopova (New College, Oxford), ‘Towards a New Edition of the Wycliffite Bible’

12:00 Steven Fraade (Yale University), ‘The Bible, Translation, and the Humanities: The View from Early Rabbinic Texts (and Beyond)’

### **12:40–2:00 Lunch**

### **2:00–3:20 Session 7**

**Chair:** Yaacov Yadgar (St Anne’s, Oxford)

2:00 Kirk Wetters (Yale University), ‘Exiting the Chamber of the Past: Model Precursors in Goethe’s Wilhelm Meister Novels’

2:40 Benjamin Pollock (Hebrew University), ‘Franz Rosenzweig on the Bible and the Language of Humanity’

### **3:20 Coffee Break**

### **3:40–5:40 Session 8**

**Chair:** Scott Scullion (Worcester, Oxford)

3:40 Jan Joosten (Christ Church, Oxford), ‘Biblical Rhetoric and the Western Tradition’

4:20 Markus Bockmuehl (Keble College, Oxford), ‘The New Testament in the Context of Conflicting Criminal Jurisdictions’

5:00 George Brooke (University of Manchester), ‘The Dead Sea Scrolls, the Humanities, and the Study of the Bible’

### **5:40 Closing Remarks**

### **6.00 Reception**