

## SAUL NOAM ZARITT

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### CURRENT POSITION

**Harvard University**, Cambridge, MA

Assistant Professor of Yiddish Literature in the departments of Comparative Literature and Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, 2016–present

### EDUCATION

**The Jewish Theological Seminary**, New York, NY

PhD Jewish Literature, 2015

Dissertation: “Maybe for Millions, Maybe for Nobody: Jewish American Writing and the Problem of World Literature”

Committee: David Roskies, Alan Mintz, Morris Dickstein, Adam Zachary Newton, Barbara Mann

**Hebrew University**, Jerusalem, Israel

MA Hebrew Literature, with honors, 2009

**University of Chicago**, Chicago, IL

BA Comparative Literature, with honors, 2004

### BOOK MANUSCRIPT

*Maybe to Millions, Maybe to Nobody: Jewish American Writing and World Literature* (forthcoming with Oxford University Press)

### PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

“Yankev Glatshetyn/Jacob Glatstein,” in *Oxford Bibliographies in Jewish Studies*, 27 June 2018, <http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/abstract/document/obo-9780199840731/obo-9780199840731-0172.xml>.

“Maybe for Millions, Maybe for Nobody: Jewish American Writing and the Undecidability of World Literature,” *American Literary History* (2016), doi: 10.1093/alh/ajw039

“The World Awaits Your Yiddish Word: Jacob Glatstein and the Problem of World Literature,” *Studies in American Jewish Literature* 34, no. 2 (2015): 175-203.

“Ruins of the Present: Yaakov Shabtai’s Anti-Nostalgia,” *Prooftexts: A Journal of Jewish Literary History* 33, no. 2 (Spring 2013): 251-274.

### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

“An Invitation to Polemical Enthusiasm and Near-Native Close Reading: In Memory of Alan Mintz,” *Prooftexts*, forthcoming issue honoring Alan Mintz.

“Letters Without Addresses: Abraham Sutzkever’s Late Style,” in *Festschrift in Honor of David G. Roskies*, forthcoming with *In geveb: A Journal of Yiddish Studies*.

“The Latest in Yiddish Studies in English: 2018,” with Joshua Price and Dory Fox, *In geveb: A Journal of Yiddish Studies*, June 2019, <https://ingeveb.org/blog/the-latest-in-yiddish-studies-in-english-2018>.

“A Jewish Studies in Harness,” *AJS Perspectives* (Fall 2018), 25–27.

“Trickster, Chronicler, Traitor: An Impossible Portrait of Isaac Bashevis Singer,” Finding Aid: Isaac Bashevis Singer, Yiddish Book Center, Fall 2018, <https://www.yiddishbookcenter.org/language-literature-culture/yiddish-literature/finding-aid-isaac-bashevis-singer>.

“The Latest in Yiddish Studies in English: 2017,” with Rachelle Grossman, Erin Faigin, and Jessica Kirzane, *In geveb: A Journal of Yiddish Studies*, April 2018, <https://ingeveb.org/blog/the-latest-in-yiddish-studies-in-english-2017>.

“The Latest in Yiddish Studies in English: 2016,” with Rachelle Grossman, *In geveb: A Journal of Yiddish Studies*, February 2017, <https://ingeveb.org/blog/the-latest-in-yiddish-studies-in-english-2016>.

“Irving Howe,” “Moyshe-Leyb Halpern,” “Anna Margolin,” and “Di yunge” in *The Routledge Encyclopedia of Modernism*, edited by Stephen Ross (London: Routledge Press, 2016).

“Precarious Chains: Reflections on Translating Yiddish,” *In geveb: A Journal of Yiddish Studies*, May 2016, <https://ingeveb.org/blog/preacrious-chains-reflections-on-yiddish-translation>.

“The Latest in Yiddish Studies in English: 2014-2015,” *In geveb: A Journal of Yiddish Studies*, February 2016, <https://ingeveb.org/blog/the-latest-in-yiddish-studies-in-english>.

“Yiddish Counterlives, or How to Think Beyond Broadway Yiddish,” with Diana Clarke, *In geveb: A Journal of Yiddish Studies*, December 2015, <https://ingeveb.org/blog/yiddish-counterlives-or-how-to-think-beyond-broadway-yiddish>.

## WORKS IN PROGRESS

“A Taytsh Manifesto: Yiddish, Translation, and Jewish Language Afterlives”

“The Politics of *shund*: Rethinking the Yiddish Pulp Novel”

“Ghostwriters and Ventriloquists: The Impossibility of the Yiddish Monologue”

“Non-Jewish Literature: Impossible Communities of Modern Jewish Writing”

## TRANSLATIONS

“The Motif of the Porch” by Rachel Wischnitzer (Yiddish), with Rachelle Grossman, *In geveb: A Journal of Yiddish Studies*, June 2018, <https://ingeveb.org/texts-and-translations/the-motif-of-the-porch>.

“The March to the Goyim” by Jacob Glatstein (Yiddish), *In geveb: A Journal of Yiddish Studies*, January 2017, <https://ingeveb.org/texts-and-translations/the-march-to-the-goyim>.

“A Jewish Historian from Lublin” by Jacob Glatstein (Yiddish), with Sunny Yudkoff, *In geveb: A Journal of Yiddish Studies*, January 2017, <https://ingeveb.org/texts-and-translations/a-jewish-historian-from-lublin>.

“The Jewish Soldier” by Sholem Asch (Yiddish) in *Have I Got a Story for You: More Than a Century of Fiction from the Forward*, edited by Ezra Glitner (New York: Norton, 2016).

“The Cantors” by S.Y. Agnon (Hebrew) in *A City in its Fullness*, edited by Alan Mintz (New York: Toby Press, 2016).

Selected essays by Hava Shapiro (Hebrew) in *“To Tread on New Ground”*: *Selected Hebrew Writings of Hava Shapiro*, edited by Carole B. Balin and Wendy Zierler (Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 2014).

## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Fall 2019	Fellowship at the Frankel Institute for Judaic Studies, University of Michigan
May 2019	Participant in AAJR Workshop for Early Career Faculty in Jewish Studies
2017-18	Harvard CJS funding for digital project: "Yiddish World Literature"
2015-16	Friedman Postdoctoral Fellow in Jewish Studies, Washington University in St. Louis
2014-16	Naomi Foundation Grantee for the creation of an online journal of Yiddish Studies
2014-15	Fellowship in East European Jewish Literature, YIVO Institute
2013-14	Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture Doctoral Scholarship
June 2013	Robert L. Platzman Memorial Fellowship, University of Chicago
2009-14	Arete Dissertation Fellowship, Jewish Theological Seminary
2010-11	Menachem Ribalow Prize for Hebrew Literature, Jewish Theological Seminary
2007-2009	Lunski and Maasch Scholarships for Study in Yiddish Literature, Hebrew University
2006-2008	Mandel Institute for Jewish Studies Scholarship, Hebrew University
2004-05	The United States Department of State J. William Fulbright Grant, Hebrew University
2002-2003	Rothberg International School Merit Scholarship, Hebrew University

## PRESENTATIONS

- "Tiptoed Waiting: Charney, Glatstein, and Margolin's World Literatures," Aesthetic Theories of Yiddish Conference, Johns Hopkins University, November 2019 (invited lecture)
- "Hebrew and the Politics of Taytsh," MLA Symposium, Lisbon, Portugal, July 2019
- "Translation and Jewish Language Afterlives: A Taytsh Manifesto," ACLA Annual Conference, Washington, DC, March 2019
- "Translation and Jewish Language Afterlives: A Taytsh Manifesto," MLA Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, January 2019
- "Taytsh, Translation, and Cultural Intimacy," Linguistic Homelands Conference, University of Chicago, November 2018 (invited lecture)
- "Yiddish, Translation, and a World Literature To-Come," New Faculty Series, Mahindra Humanities Center, Harvard University, April 2018
- "Translation in a Volcano: Yiddish and a World Literature To-Come," Poggioli Faculty/Student Colloquium, Harvard University, March 2018
- "Isaac Bashevis Singer, Translation, and Ghost World Literature," works in progress panel, Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Washington, DC, December 2017
- "Ventriloquist and Ghostwriter: Sholem Aleichem's Monologue," The Highs and Lows of Sholem Aleichem Conference, Mosse/Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI, November 2017 (invited lecture)
- "Ventriloquists and Ghostwriters: The Yiddish Monologue," Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA, January 2017
- "Yiddish Afterlives and Critical Jewish Studies," Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, San Diego, CA, December 2016
- "Yiddish, Translation, and a World Literature To-Come," Jacob Pat Memorial Lecture, Judaica Division of the Harvard College Library, Harvard University, November 2016
- "A World Literature To-come: Modern Jewish Writing and Untranslatability," Jewish Studies Workshop at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, April 2016 (invited lecture)

“Yiddish, Translation, and a World Literature To-Come,” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, March 2016

“Yiddish, Translation, and a World Literature To-Come,” Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, MO, February 2016 (invited lecture)

“The Worldly Zaddik: Sholem Asch Between Yiddish, German, and English,” Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Austin, TX, January 2016

“Fartaytsht un farbesert? Translating Yiddish in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century,” roundtable organizer and participant, Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Boston, MA, December 2015

“Toward the Undecidability of Jewish American Writing,” Jewish American and Holocaust Literature Symposium, South Beach, FL, November 2015

“*Mimeyle a velt-shrayber*: Jacob Glatstein, Translation, and World Literature,” YIVO Institute, New York, February 2015 (invited lecture; in Yiddish)

“Maybe for Millions, Maybe for Nobody: Saul Bellow, Isaac Bashevis Singer, and the Problem of World Literature,” Department of Comparative Literature, Harvard University, February 2015 (invited lecture)

“The Future of Yiddish Studies,” roundtable organizer and participant, Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Baltimore, MD, December 2014

“Sholem Asch’s Universal Tzaddik: Jewish Writing, World Literature, and World Redemption,” European Association for Jewish Studies Congress, Paris, France, July 2014

“Immigrant Capital: Jewish American Writing in the Global Literary Marketplace,” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting, New York, NY, March 2014

“Between Heaven and Earth: Saul Bellow and the Dialectics of World Literature,” Harvard University American Literature Colloquium, Cambridge, MA, February 2014 (invited lecture)

“The Master from Krochmalna Street: Isaac Bashevis Singer and World Literature,” Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Boston, MA, January 2013

“The World Awaits Your Yiddish Word: Jacob Glatstein and the Problem of World Literature,” Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, December 2012

“The Wise and Humble Language of Us All: Isaac Bashevis Singer and the Problem of World Literature,” Harvard University Modern Jewish Worlds Workshop, Boston, MA, October 2012 (invited lecture)

“Ruins of the Present: Yaakov Shabtai’s Anti-Nostalgia,” National Association of Professors of Hebrew International Conference on Hebrew Language, Literature and Culture, Los Angeles, CA, June 2012

“The New Problem of World Literature: Jacob Glatstein and the Politics of Translation,” *The New*, a conference jointly organized by the Columbia University Jewish and Israel Studies Graduate Student Association and the Van Leer Institute, Jerusalem, Israel, June 2012

“A Return to Exile: Jacob Glatstein’s Chronicle of a Lost Homeland,” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting, Providence, RI, March 2012

“A Place for the Dead: Avrom Sutzkever’s Late Style,” Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, Boston, MA, December 2010

## COURSES TAUGHT AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY

CL 166 – Jews, Humor, and the Politics of Laughter  
CL 178 – Writing Jewish Modernity  
CL 179 – Ghostwriters and Ventriloquists: Postwar Jewish American Culture  
FRSEMR 611 – Heretics, Gangsters, Writers  
YIDDISH 107 – The Politics of Yiddish  
YIDDISH 115 – The Yiddish Short Story: Folk Tales, Monologues, and Post-Apocalyptic Parables

## ADVISING AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY

**Rachelle Grossman, G5**, secondary advisor to her dissertation on the postwar anthological imagination in Yiddish literature  
**Lana Jaffe Neufeld**, secondary advisor to her dissertation on the “off-home,” a counter-argument to ideas of diaspora in Hispanic, Hebrew, and Francophone literatures  
**Michaela DiLoreto ‘19**, undergraduate, primary advisor for her senior thesis on the Hebrew writer S.Y. Agnon

## PREVIOUS TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Lecturer**, Washington University in St. Louis  
Modern Hebrew Writing: Seminar in Israeli Culture, Fall 2015  
Modern Jewish Literature: Ghostwriting and Ventriloquy, Spring 2016  
**Lecturer**, The Jewish Theological Seminary  
Introduction to Modern Jewish Literature (instructor of record, designed syllabus), Spring 2013

## HARVARD ACADEMIC SERVICE

Job Placement officer, Comparative Literature, Fall 2018  
Center for Jewish Studies Executive Committee Member, 2016-present  
Undergraduate Committee, Comparative Literature, 2016-2018  
Undergraduate Committee, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, 2016-present  
Fellowships Committee, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, 2016-2017  
Member of the Advisory Committee on New Media in the Humanities, FAS, 2017-present  
Co-Chair of Jewish Cultures and Societies Seminar at the Mahindra Humanities Center, 2016-present

## EXTERNAL ACADEMIC SERVICE

**Academic Advisory Board Member**, *The Adventures of Saul Bellow* (NEH funded documentary on Saul Bellow)  
**Peer Reviewer**, Modernism/Modernity, 2016-present  
**Peer Reviewer**, Jewish Social Studies, 2017-present  
**Senior editor**, *In geveb: An Online Journal of Yiddish Studies*, 2016-present (co-editor of the journal’s peer review section)  
**Editor-in-chief**, *In geveb: An Online Journal of Yiddish Studies*, 2014-2016

## PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

Association for Jewish Studies  
Modern Language Association  
American Comparative Literature Association

## **ADDITIONAL TRAINING**

Wabash Center Teacher Training for Religious Studies, The Jewish Theological Seminary, 2012-13  
Russian Language Study, Columbia University, New York, Summer 2010  
Yiddish Language Study, Sholem Aleichem House/Tel Aviv University, Israel, Summer 2008  
Yiddish Language Study, Vilnius Yiddish Institute, Lithuania, Summer 2007

## **LANGUAGES**

Fluency in English, Hebrew, and Yiddish  
Research in Italian, German, Russian, and Romanian