

Shames JCC on the Hudson

Renard Lectures

SPRING 2018

This intimate lecture series offers a unique opportunity for audiences to hear from scholars and experts in their fields. Presenters offer stimulating, informative, engaging, and unique insights in music, literature, art, history, film, archeology, and pop culture, and more. The series is open to all and geared toward people 50 years of age and older, seeking a cultural and intellectual experience.

Every Monday, 10:00 to 11:30 AM

Doors open at 9:30 AM

Shames JCC on the Hudson Library

Fee: \$5 per person per lecture

NO advance registration required.

Renard Lectures are made possible in part by a grant from the Henry H. Renard Foundation, sponsors, and program participants. *Thank you!*

Jews, Nazis, and the Cinema of Hungary, 1929-44

Monday, March 12

"Without the Jews, how will we produce Hungarian culture?" This talk will cover the birth, unexpected ascendance, and wartime collapse of Hungary's cinema and place it within a peculiar international temporal context. This episode brought together Hungarian cultural and political elites, Jewish film professionals and financiers, Nazi officials, and global film moguls in a strange dance macabre. Although intended to contribute to forging a new national culture, Hungary's film industry found itself propelled to unprecedented heights by war even as it became mired in contradictions of its own making, buffeted by racial nationalism based in anti-semitism, and flummoxed by the vagaries of capitalism. *David Frey's recent book is Jews, Nazis, and the Cinema of Hungary: The Tragedy of Success, 1929-44. He is a Professor of History and Director of the Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at the United States Military Academy at West Point.* . Fee: \$5 per person

Harlem Renaissance

Monday, March 19

A retrospective on the Harlem Renaissance which will cover the growth of Harlem during the turn of the century .We will explore how the great migration of African Americans from the South and Caribbean affected the political, artistic and cultural landscape of Harlem making it the place to be in New York. We will discuss the political beginnings of the NAACP led by W.E.B. Du Bois, the poetry of Langston Hughes, and the art work of Aaron Douglass and other notable artists, musicians, and trailblazers of the time. *Charlese Randolph is the owner of Modern Moves (2008), and a dance and exercise fitness consultant.* Fee: \$5 pp

Geology, Paleontology and Biodiversity of the Shawangunk Ridge at Mohonk Mountain House in the Hudson Valley

Monday, March 26

Learn how to read the earth's history as recorded in the rocks, including signs of earthquakes, evidence of glaciation and, fossils preserved in ancient rock strata. We will see how fossils provide evidence that America and Africa were once a single continent. Explore the biodiversity of the 'Gunks,' such as which animals inhabit the region, which are dangerous to humans and, which plant can take the sting out of a scrape. Specimens will be on display including, a dinosaur footprint from New Jersey, local invertebrate fossils and, a means of determining an animal's diet by looking at its dentition. *Howard R. Feldman is a Research Associate in the Division of*

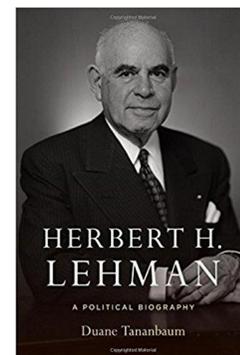
Paleontology (Invertebrates) at the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH) and a professor in the Biology Department of Touro College in New York City. Fee: \$5 per person

Herbert H. Lehman: A Political Biography

Monday, April 2

When a writer for *Look Magazine* asked American Jews in 1955 to name the "top five leaders of U.S. Jewry," Herbert H. Lehman was the only person to appear on every list.

Between 1928 and 1950, Lehman was elected Lieutenant Governor of New York twice, Governor of New York four times, and United States Senator twice. He also served as Director General of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration during World War II, and he led the reform movement that overthrew Carmine De Sapio and the political bosses who had controlled the Democratic Party in New York for decades. Explore how Lehman's Judaism influenced his personal beliefs and his political career as one of the leading liberal icons of the mid-twentieth century. *Duane Tananbaum is a professor at Lehman College In 2016, he published Herbert H. Lehman: A Political Biography (SUNY Press), the definitive biography of the man for whom Lehman College is named.* Fee: \$5 per person



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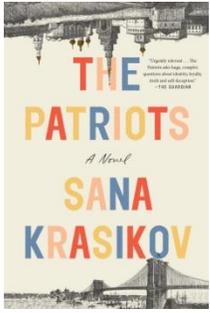
371 South Broadway
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www.shamesjcc.org



Move! Learn! Connect!

The Patriots: A Riveting Evocation of the Cold War Years ... Americans in Russia, or the biggest Jewish fundraising campaign you've never heard of



Monday, April 9

An idealistic young American woman heads for the Soviet Union in 1934, with consequences that reverberate through three generations of one Jewish family. It is an epic that takes us

from Stalin's era to America to the oil-rich world of New Russia. "Urgently relevant. The Patriots asks huge, complex questions about identity, loyalty, truth and self-deception." —The Guardian *Sana Krasikov was named one of Granta's Best Young American Novelists. To research The Patriots Sana traveled to oil fields in Texas and KGB record warehouses in Moscow.* Fee: \$5 per person

History of the Jewish Labor Movement in America Through Song And Poetry - Lecture and Performance

Monday, April 16

Maddy Simon will be discussing the early beginnings and growth of the Jewish Labor Movement and the events and people that influenced it. She will be illustrating her talk through songs, piano, and poetry in Yiddish with English translations. *Maddy Simon has an extensive Yiddish education in literature, history and culture. She leads the adult Yiddish Conversation and Culture class at the Shames JCC. Sponsored by the Novins Family.* Fee: \$5 per person

Understanding Past Native American Cultures in the Hudson Valley through Archaeology

Monday, April 23

The presentation will examine Native American cultures and adaptations in the southeastern New York region from the area's earliest occupation by humans, at least 13,000 years ago, to the period of

initial European exploration. Changing climate and environmental settings over that time, particularly the end of the last ice age and the appearance of an essentially modern climate, as well as population movements, resulted in the development of many prehistoric cultures and diverse life ways. Archaeologists refer to these specific timeframes and associated cultures as the Paleo-Indian (11,000 – 6,500 BC), Archaic (6,500 – 1,000 BC), Woodland (1,000 BC – AD 1,500), and Euro-American Contact periods (AD 1,500 – 1,650).

Eugene Boesch, of Mahopac, has undertaken archaeological investigations in the Hudson Valley area for 30 years. His work has primarily focused on Native American cultures and adaptations in the Eastern Woodlands of North America and on early Euro-American settlement in the Hudson Valley region. Fee: \$5 per person

Pagliacci: a Clown Tragedy

Monday, April 30

Pagliacci is wonderful opera is about the eternal love of a famous clown for his wife and his discovery of her unfaithfulness. The opera is world famous and many great tenors, like Enrico Caruso, have sung its thrilling music. Recorded music will enhance Dr. Elkins talk. *Irwin Elkins teaches courses in opera appreciation. He created, and manages, the Omega Opera Archive website.* Fee: \$5 pp

From Depression to Exultation: American Music In the 1930's

Monday, May 7

Americans in the 1930s may have been economically down but musically they emerged in high spirits. The decade witnessed the first socially conscious songs and some of the best dance music ever recorded. Join us for a look at the decade in American music as we start out by asking if you can "spare a dime" and finish with a voyage "over the rainbow".

Michael Shamosh is a musician and historian of American music. He is a lecturer at Westchester Community

College Collegium for Lifelong Learning.

Fee: \$5 per person

Songs of Steven Sondheim

Monday, May 14

A true wunderkind, Sondheim rose to fame as a protégé of Oscar Hammerstein II and the lyricist for *West Side Story*. He went on to become America's most prolific and controversial playwright, lyricist and composer. Was he an *enfant terrible* or a genius? We will seek an answer to this question song by song, show by show, assisted by filmed interviews with Sondheim himself.

Arthur Aldrich is the founder, editor, and publisher of the Our Town newspaper. In the 1950s, he was stage manager of an off-Broadway theater and technical director of the Folksbiene Theater on the Lower East Side. He was an adjunct professor at Rockland C. C. and has taught more than 60 Elderhostel and adult education courses. Fee: \$5 pp

Also coming up....

ADVANCED REGISTRATION REQUIRED

FOUR WEEK LECTURES

Kabbalah: Its Traditional Texts and Historical Practice with Ze'ev Aviezer

4 Fridays, April 6, 13, 20, 27

10:30 AM -12:00 noon

Members \$60; Non-members \$72

The First World War with Richard Borkow

4 Fridays, May 4, 11, 18, June 1

10:30 AM -12:00 noon

Members \$60; Non-members \$72

EATS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Music and Song with Randy Herman: The Piano Man with Lunch

Monday, May 7, 12:00 noon to 1:30 PM

Member \$20; Non-member \$25

Music and Song with Orit Dahari:

Popular Musicals with Lunch

Monday, June 4, 12:00 noon to 1:30 PM

Member \$20; Non-member \$25



Harold & Elaine
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