

The Jews of Kraków

A Two-Day Symposium of the Institute for Polish–Jewish Studies

in association with the Polish Cultural Institute and the London Jewish Cultural Centre

DAY ONE

Sunday 12 December 2010, 10.00 am to 5.30 pm
at the London Jewish Cultural Centre
Ivy House, 94–96 North End Road, London NW11 7SX

DAY TWO

Monday 13 December 2010, 9.00 am to 5.45 pm
at the Polish Embassy, 47 Portland Place, London W1B 1JH

Few cities in Poland have evoked more affection from their Jewish inhabitants than Kraków. This international symposium, taking place over two days, explores why this was true in the past and considers also the present and the future state of the relationship between Kraków and the Jews. The theme for Day One, taking place at the London Jewish Cultural Centre in NW11 on Sunday 12 December, is *From the Holocaust to the Present*. Day Two, taking place at the Polish Embassy in W1 on Monday 13 December, is entitled *The Jewish Love-Affair with Kraków over the Centuries*. This two-day symposium offers a rare opportunity to learn why Kraków has a special place in Jewish hearts and will continue to be remembered as one of the great centres of Jewish culture in east-central Europe.

The symposium marks the launch of

POLIN VOLUME 23

Jews in Kraków

Edited by MICHAŁ GALAS and ANTONY POLONSKY

Published by the Littman Library of Jewish Civilization

Reservations essential

Registration for each of the two days must be done separately, using the form attached to the programme for that day.

Please note that the programme may be subject to change.

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STUDIES IN POLISH JEWRY

IN ASSOCIATION WITH
THE LITTMAN LIBRARY OF JEWISH CIVILIZATION

Conference convenors:

Prof. Antony Polonsky and

Prof. Jonathan Webber



This two-day symposium, organized by the Institute for Polish–Jewish Studies, has been sponsored by the Embassy of the Republic of Poland and the Polish Cultural Institute, London. Additional financial support from the American Association for Polish–Jewish Studies, as well as from Mr Marcel Manson of Jewish Heritage Tours (JHTee), which organizes tours to Poland and elsewhere (www.jewishheritage-tours.co.uk), is gratefully acknowledged.

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A Two-Day Symposium of the Institute for Polish–Jewish Studies on *The Jews of Kraków*

DAY ONE

at the London Jewish Cultural Centre
Ivy House, 94–96 North End Road, London NW11 7SX
Sunday 12 December 2010

From the Holocaust to the Present

Programme

Welcome and Opening

- 10.00 a.m.** Registration
- 10.15 a.m.** Welcome
Trudy Gold
Chief executive and senior historian, London Jewish Cultural Centre

Morning Session I

Introducing Jewish Kraków

Chair: Trudy Gold

- 10.20 a.m.** Rethinking the Modern Jewish History of Kraków
Prof. Antony Polonsky (Brandeis University)
- Jewish Kraków: Real and Imagined**
Prof. Jonathan Webber (University of Birmingham, Emeritus)

- 11.15 a.m.** Coffee Break

Morning Session II

Kraków during the Holocaust

Chair: Dr Edyta Gawron (Jagiellonian University, Kraków)

- 11.45 a.m.** Kraków under Nazi Occupation, 1939–1945: The New Museum in the Former Schindler Factory
Monika Bednarek (Historical Museum of the City of Kraków)
- Road with No Return: Jewish Resistance in Occupied Kraków**
Jakub Nowakowski (Galicia Jewish Museum, Kraków)

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The Institute for Polish-Jewish Studies (established 1984) is a non-profit, educational institution devoted to the history and culture of Polish Jewry. It is an associated institute of the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies.

Conference convenors:
**Prof. Antony Polonsky and
Prof. Jonathan Webber**



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Film Screening

12.40 p.m. **Lipowa 4: Life and Work in Oskar Schindler's Factory**

Director: Marcin Kaproń, Poland, 2010. 33 minutes

Language: Polish with English subtitles

Lipowa 4 is a documentary about the enamelware factory that operated at that address in Kraków from 1937 until it was brought to a standstill in the Second World War—an enamelware factory made known to history by Steven Spielberg's film *Schindler's List*. The film features eyewitness accounts by four workers who knew the factory, as well an extraordinary range of archival materials—pre-war plans of the factory, photos of Kraków prior to and during the war—and atmospheric reconstructions that add a further perspective. Combining official pronouncements and historical data with the private experience of individuals, the film is both informative and emotional. It does not judge and does not comment on what the witnesses say, but it conveys the facts and the atmosphere of the Second World War as experienced by the Poles and Jews who worked there.

1.15 p.m. **Sandwich lunch**

Afternoon Session I

Past and Present in Contemporary Jewish Kraków

Chair: Prof. Antony Polonsky

2.00 p.m. **The Challenge of Being Chief Rabbi of Kraków: Living in the Shadow of History**

Rabbi Boaz Pash (Chief Rabbi, Kraków)

Representing Kraków's Jewish Past: The Role of Museums

Kate Craddy (former director, Galicia Jewish Museum, Kraków)

How Jewish was Pre-War Kraków? Reflections on the Recent Kraków Exhibition *World before a Catastrophe*

Dr Hanna Kozińska-Witt (University of Halle, Germany)

Two Decades of the Jewish Culture Festival in Kraków

Dr Annamaria Orla-Bukowska (Jagiellonian University, Kraków)

3.30 p.m. **Tea/Coffee Break**

Afternoon Session II

Coming to Terms with the Realities of Jewish Kraków

Chair: Prof. Jonathan Webber

4.00 p.m. **Questions and comments: Panel discussion with all of today's speakers**

5.30 p.m. **Close**

The symposium continues tomorrow (Monday 13 December) at the Polish Embassy, for which separate pre-registration needs to be made. Please refer to the separate programme for details.

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Notes on Speakers

Monika Bednarek studied history and museology at the Jagiellonian University, Kraków. She has worked in the Historical Museum of the City of Kraków since 1996, specializing since 2003 in the representation of Kraków's wartime history. In this capacity she was part of the four-person team responsible for planning the new permanent exhibition for the former Oskar Schindler factory, now officially part of the Historical Museum of the City of Kraków, which opened in the summer of 2010. The exhibition is devoted to Kraków under the Nazi occupation, and she is currently its manager.

Kate Craddy is the former director of the Galicia Jewish Museum, Kraków (2007–2010), and a member of the museum's Board of Directors. She was based in Poland from 2004 to 2010, working initially for the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum and the Auschwitz Jewish Centre, and in November 2010 returned to the UK to take up a senior post at the Barber Institute of Fine Arts, Birmingham. Kate is a member of the advisory council of the Institute for Polish–Jewish Studies and a founding council member of the Federation of International Human Rights Museums. She is currently completing her PhD on Jewish museums in Kraków at the University of Birmingham.

Hanna Kozińska-Witt is a historian specialized in the history of eastern Europe, currently a tenured researcher at the University of Halle, Germany. The titles of her books, all published in German, translate as *The Kraków Jewish Reform Community, 1864–1874* (1999); *Kraków in the Long Shadow of Warsaw: Municipal Competitions in Polish Urban Landscape 1900–1939* (2008), and *Living in the Metropolitan City: A Comparison of Housing Situation and Modernisation in Europe* (edited with Alena Janatková, 2006).

Jakub Nowakowski has an MA in History from the Department of Jewish Studies at the Jagiellonian University, having written a thesis on Jewish resistance in Kraków during the Second World War. From 2005 he has worked at the Galicia Jewish Museum in Kraków and was recently appointed its director. Among the exhibitions he has curated are *Fighting for Dignity. Jewish Resistance in Kraków* (2007) and *A City Not Forgotten: Memories of Jewish Lwów and the Holocaust* (2010–2011). Museum publications he co-authored include *Guide to Oskar Schindler's Kraków* and *Map of Jewish Kazimierz*.

Annamaria Orla-Bukowska is a social anthropologist in the Institute of Sociology at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków, specializing in the relations between Polish Christians and Polish Jews. In addition to lecturing at the Jagiellonian she has taught postgraduate programmes at the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum and the Centre for Social Studies in Warsaw; given guest lectures in Australia, Israel, and the United States; and held fellowships in England, Israel, and the United States. Her publications include *Rethinking Poles and Jews: Troubled Past, Brighter Future* (co-edited with Robert Cherry, 2007), subsequently also published in Polish. She was recently awarded a Polish Ministry of Higher Education grant to conduct a three-year study of the Jewish Culture Festival in Kraków.

Boaz Pash was born in Jerusalem in 1966, into a relatively liberal Orthodox family. Most of his formal education was in a religious setting: having studied in several yeshivas in Jerusalem, he later specialized in the kabbalistic teachings of Rabbi Ashlag. Having served as a rabbi and educator in schools and Jewish communities in Brazil, India, Israel, Portugal, and Ukraine, he has for the past four years been chief rabbi of Kraków and an emissary to Małopolska of the Israel-based Jewish outreach organization Shavei Israel.

Antony Polonsky is Albert Abramson Professor of Holocaust Studies at Brandeis University and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. He is the author of *Politics in Independent Poland* (1972), *The Little Dictators* (1975), *The Great Powers and the Polish Question* (1976), *The Jews in Poland and Russia* (3 volumes), and co-author of *A History of Modern Poland* (1980) and of *The Beginnings of Communist Rule in Poland* (1981). He is the editor as well as chair of the editorial board of the annual publication *Polin: Studies in Polish Jewry* and vice-president of the Institute for Polish–Jewish Studies.

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Jonathan Webber is Emeritus UNESCO Professor of Jewish and Interfaith Studies at the University of Birmingham. He is a social anthropologist with a strong research interest in Polish–Jewish studies: he has been a member of the International Council of the Auschwitz Museum since it was founded in 1990, is vice-chairman of the Institute for Polish–Jewish Studies, and chairman of the European Association for Holocaust Studies. He is the author of *Rediscovering Traces of Memory: The Jewish Heritage of Polish Galicia* (2009).

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DAY ONE

Sunday 12 December 2010

The Jews of Kraków: An International Symposium

Organized by the Institute for Polish-Jewish Studies

in association with the London Jewish Cultural Centre and the Polish Cultural Institute

DAY ONE From the Holocaust to the Present

London Jewish Cultural Centre

Ivy House, 94–96 North End Road, London NW11 7SX

Sunday 12 December 2010 10.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.

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RESERVATION FORM

Please note: This symposium is open to all interested persons, but reservations are essential. An early reservation is recommended, since the number of seats is limited. Your reservation will guarantee a place for the whole day, and you can then come and go as you wish; it is regretted that we cannot offer a discount for people who wish to come for only part of the day. All enquiries should be directed to **Judy Trotter at the LJCC, T: 020 8457 5000, E: admin@ljcc.org.uk**

To book a place at the Symposium

You can book a place at Day One of the symposium on the LJCC website www.ljcc.org.uk, or by phoning Judy Trotter on 020 8457 5000. Alternatively, you can register by post, as follows:

1. Print out and fill in this form
2. enclose a cheque for thirty-five pounds (£35) per attendee payable to **The London Jewish Cultural Centre**. The fee includes a kosher sandwich lunch and refreshments during the day.
3. Send to the London Jewish Cultural Centre, Ivy House, 94–96 North End Road, London NW11 7SX, to reach them **by Monday 6 December 2010**. Please note that no tickets will be sent out.

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone/e-mail _____

Institutional affiliation (if applicable) _____

I will be bringing ____ guest(s), whose name(s) is/are:

Registration fee enclosed:

Fee: ____ person(s) @ £35 per person (£ _____)

Total amount enclosed for conference registration fees: £ _____

Registration for Day Two of the symposium ('The Jewish Love-Affair with Kraków over the Centuries'), on Monday 13 December 2010 at the Polish Embassy, requires a separate registration directly with the Institute for Polish-Jewish Studies. Please refer to the separate programme for details, or contact Dr Michael Fleming: E: fleming_m11@hotmail.com T: 07799 875 901.



DAY ONE