

Call for Papers

The Historical German Jewish Press as Interface

Platform, Mouthpiece, and Sources of Current Research Programmes

Conference to be jointly held between the Universities of Bremen and Portsmouth

25 -27 November 2019 at the University of Bremen

Mapping the Jewish press between German Enlightenment and National Socialism is the theme of this conference, which undertakes to attribute significance to the location of the German-Jewish press at a crossroads in time and space. The conference will examine the cultural and transcultural aspects of periodicals, normally pertaining not just to a city or region but also to a particular era. It will take a hermeneutical approach, the strong emphasis being on a cautious, rigorous, and contextualized interpretation of ongoing research. This includes curation and retrieval, documentary appreciation, conceptual frameworks and questions of citizenship. The latter aspect is of particular relevance in view of the powerful communication ethos characterizing Jewish presses since their emergence as a child of the Haskala, with their traditional tasks of spiritual guidance and knowledge dissemination, both of which reached far beyond the confines of Jewish communal structures.

Papers will focus on

- The contextualized study of periodicals
- Specific agents involved in the production of periodicals: publishers, editors, authors, translators, censors and their ideologies as animating forces
- Aspects of citizenship and transculturality: concepts of home versus Jewish cosmopolitanism
- Interaction, delimitation and polemic between Jewish and non-Jewish presses
- Ephemerality, mechanisms for selection and preservation: What made periodicals survive?
- Conceptual frameworks for the study of German-Jewish periodicals, curation and retrieval
- Language and layout, typography and illustration
- After the deluge: German-Jewish periodicals after 1945, continuities and breaks

We request active researchers and curators to submit your paper proposals / abstracts (in English or German) of no longer than 150 words together with five lines about yourself (principal research interest, current position, recent relevant publications) by 31 January 2019 to:

Susanne.Marten-finnis@port.ac.uk

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Subject to the availability of sufficient funds, contributors may expect their expenses for travel and accommodation (up to four nights) to be covered by the organisers.

6 December 2018

Susanne Marten-Finnis

Michael Nagel