

# INVITATION

## 23 JUNE 2015, 7 P. M.



Jewish Museum Berlin

ACADEMY PROGRAMS



## Carlos Fraenkel: Teaching Plato in Palestine

### Book Launch and Discussion

In "Teaching Plato in Palestine: Philosophy in a Divided World" Carlos Fraenkel invites readers on a tour around the world as he meets students at Palestinian and Indonesian universities, lapsed Hasidic Jews in New York, teenagers from poor neighborhoods in Brazil, and members of an Iroquois nation in Canada.

They turn to Plato and Aristotle, al-Ghazālī and Maimonides, Spinoza and Nietzsche for help to tackle big questions: Does God exist? Is piety worth it? Can violence be justified? What is social justice and how can we get there? Who should rule? And how shall we deal with the legacy of colonialism?

Fraenkel shows how useful the tools of philosophy can be – particularly in places fraught with conflict – to clarify such questions and explore answers to them. In the course of the discussions, different viewpoints often clash. That's a good thing, Fraenkel argues, as long as we turn our disagreements on moral, religious, and philosophical issues into what he calls a "culture of debate".

The book presentation will be commented by Refqa Abu-Remaileh (EUME-Fellow at the Forum Transregionale Studien, Berlin).

Chair: **Haim Mahlev** (Jewish Museum Berlin)



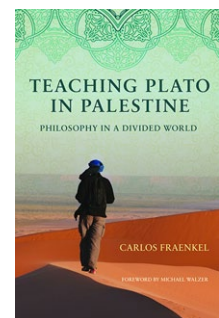
**Carlos Fraenkel** teaches philosophy and religion at the University of Oxford and McGill University in Montreal. He is the author of *Philosophical Religions from Plato to Spinoza*, and his writing has appeared

in the New York Times, the Nation, the London Review of Books, and the Times Literary Supplement, among other publications.



**Refqa Abu-Remaileh** is currently EUME Fellow of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation at the Forum Transregionale Studien in Berlin. Her academic research revolves around the intersections between

modern Arabic literature and film. She is also engaged in conflict-resolution projects focused on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.



Carlos Fraenkel. Teaching Plato in Palestine: Philosophy in a Divided World. Princeton University Press, 2015

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In cooperation with "Europe in the Middle East - The Middle East in Europe" (EUME)

**EUME**

Forum  
Transregionale  
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Europa im Nahen Osten  
Der Nahe Osten in Europa

**WHEN** — Tuesday, 23 June 2015, 7 p.m.

**WHERE** — Academy of the Jewish Museum Berlin

**ADMISSION** — free

**REGISTRATION** — tel: +49 30 25993 488 or [reservierung@jmberlin.de](mailto:reservierung@jmberlin.de)