

**Mysterium Tremendum:
Horror and the Aesthetics of Religious Experience**

Workshop at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, 12 – 15 December 2002

Thursday, 12.12.02

20.00 Reception

Ruth HaCohen and Navid Kermani will outline the general topic of the workshop and the overarching project “Jewish and Islamic Hermeneutics as Cultural Critique”.

Friday, 13.12.02

9.30 - 13.00 First Session:

Distant pasts - Textual Analysis of ‘Tremendous’ Moments in the Religious Sources

Chairperson: Abdulkader Tayob

9.30 – 11.30 Michael Fishbane:

Between Mysterium and Tremendum in Jewish Liturgical Poetry: Some Phenomenological and Textual Considerations

Reinhard Kratz:

Scheol and Gehenna in the Books of Enoch

11.30 – 12.00 Coffee Break

12.00 – 13.00 Stefan Wild:

The Aesthetics of the Qur’anic Hell

13.00 – 15.00 Lunch in the Wiko restaurant

15.00-18.30 Second Session:

Past & Present - The Archaeology of Hidden Dialogue and the Acoustics of Horror

Chairperson: Galit Hasan-Rokem

15.00 – 17.00 Wilhelm Schmidt-Biggemann:

Days of Wrath: Theology of Redemption vs. Theology of Punishment

Ilana Pardes:

The Horror and Seduction of Divine Intimacy: God’s Questions and Job’s Response

17.00 – 17.30 Coffee break

17.30 – 18.30 Angelika Neuwirth:

Divine Wrath and Awesome Divine Presence and the Emergence of a Community

20.00 “Symposium” with Poetry and Music

Saturday, 14.12.02

9.30-13.00 Third Session:

Community in the Making and the Dynamics of Excommunication

Chairperson: Nasr Hamid Abu Zaid

9.30 – 11.30 Abdelkader Tayob:

Quranic Verses on Jihad in International Relations: Reading a Text in the Light of Competing Theories of Jihad

Mahmoud Ayoub:

Shi'ite Devotions and the Ethos of Martyrdom

11.30 – 12.00 Coffee break

12.00 – 13.00 Gil Anidjar:

The Horror of the Messiah: Sabbatai Zevi's Descent to Hell

13.00 – 15.00 Lunch

15:00-18.30 Fourth Session:

Internalizing and Secularizing Awe

Chairperson: Angelika Neuwirth

15.00 – 17.00 Almut Bruckstein:

The Uprising of Images as Horror Tremendum: Where Contemporary Image Theory Meets Kabbala

Nasr Hamid Abu Zaid

Ibn Arabi: The Tension Between Spirituality and Social Constraint

17.00 – 17.30 Coffee break

17.30 – 18.30 Ruth HaCohen:

Updating Horror: Changing Sound Imagery in the Jewish and Christian "Day of Judgment"

20.00 Dinner at the Restaurant "Oren"

Oranienburger Straße 28, close to the S-Bahn station Hackescher Markt

Sunday, 15.12.02

9.30-12.00 Fifth Session:

The Enactment of Trauma through Images

Chairperson: Almut Bruckstein

Galit Hasan-Rokem:

The Rage of God – a Human Perspective

Navid Kermani:

The Letter of the Guardians: Trauma and Politics in the Islamic Republic of Iran

12.00 – 12.30 Coffee break

12.30-14.00 Résumé and Preview

Chairpersons: Ruth HaCohen and Navid Kermani

20.00: Public Discussion

Current Political Repercussions

Yaron Ezrahi, Farid Esaak, Almut Bruckstein, Hassan Hanafi, and Navid Kermani

Volksbühne, Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz (close to the S-Bahn station Alexanderplatz)

11/5/2012