

20th anniversary conference of the
Association of European Jewish Museums
Amsterdam November 22nd – November 25th 2008
Hosted by the Jewish Historical Museum

Programme (19 November 2008)

Saturday, November 22, 2008

06.00 - 07.00 pm

Arrival of the guests

Registration at the Jewish Historical Museum (JHM) Nieuwe Amstelstraat 1, Amsterdam.

07.00 pm.

Welcome at the Jewish Historical Museum by Joël Cahen, director

Opening of the AEJM conference by Rickie Burman, chairperson AEJM

Panel discussion

Jewish Museums in Europe - Looking back, looking forward.

A panel discussion to review developments twenty years after the founding of AEJM

Moderator: Edward van Voolen (Amsterdam)

Panel with Joël Cahen (Amsterdam), Felicitas Heimann-Jelinek (Vienna), Johannes Wachten (Frankfurt) and Macy B. Hart (former chairman of the CAJM).

Location: Auditorium JHM

08.30 pm

Welcome reception in the presence of the Mayor of Amsterdam Job Cohen, offered by the City of Amsterdam

Location: Museum café JHM, with access to the temporary exhibitions of the JHM

Sunday, November 23, 2008

10.00 am

Meeting point at the Jewish Historical Museum

10.15 am

Guided boat trip through Jewish Amsterdam

12.00 am

Lunch on the boat

01.00 pm

Arrival at the Jewish Historical Museum

Gathering in the Auditorium

01.30 pm – 3.00

Group will divide into two subgroups that will alternately do:

- Indoor activity: Guided tours of the permanent exhibitions of the Jewish Historical Museum (topic: developing new permanent exhibitions)
- Outdoor activity: Walking tour through Jewish Amsterdam including a visit of the Hollandsche Schouwburg, initially a theatre, during the years '42-'43 a deportation centre, today a war memorial and an exhibition.

03.00 – 03.30 pm

Coffee/Tea break

Location: Museum café

03.30 – 05.00 pm

The two subgroups will switch for the second part of the programme:

- Indoor activity: Guided tours of the permanent exhibitions of the Jewish Historical Museum (topic: developing new permanent exhibitions)
- Outdoor activity: Walking tour through Jewish Amsterdam including a visit of the Hollandsche Schouwburg, initially a theatre, during the years '42-'43 a deportation centre, today a war memorial and an exhibition.

05.00 – 7.30 pm

Dinner individually

Evening Programme

07.30 – 09.00 pm

Panel discussion

New Developments in Jewish Museums. Presentations highlighting developments in Europe, Israel and the United States

Chairperson: Felicitas Heimann-Jelinek (Vienna)

Presentations:

Representative of the Jewish Museum Oslo

Representative of the Jewish Museum Warsaw

Representative of the Israel Museum

Representative of the Russian Jewish Tolerance Museum Moscow

Representative of the Auschwitz Jewish Centre

Representative of the National Museum of Italian Jewry and the Shoah, Ferrara

Location: Auditorium

Monday, November 24, 2008

09.15 am

Meeting Point: Jewish Historical Museum, Nieuwe Amstelstraat 1

Location: Auditorium

09.30 - 11 am

Keynote lecture (25 min)

"Presenting Israel in Jewish Museums in Europe" by Cilly Kugelman (Berlin)

Followed by short presentations (10 min each) of the museums who held exhibits to mark Israel's 60th anniversary, highlighting their points of view, the angles they chose and reactions of the public and the media. Discussion (25 min)

Presentations by: Eva Atlan (Frankfurt), Daniel Dratwa (Bruxelles), Felicitas Heimann-Jelinek (on the Spertus Museum, Chicago), Edward van Voolen (Amsterdam)

Location: Auditorium

11 - 11.30 am

Coffee/Tea

Location: Museum café

11.30 am - 01.00 pm

Introduction by Hetty Berg (JHM)

Location: Auditorium

Workshop sessions first round

1. Collection Management issues: Database / Digitisation
By Lonnie Stegink (JHM)
Location: Resource centre
2. Education / Children's Programmes
By Petra Katzenstein and Batya Wolff (JHM)
Location: Children's Museum
3. Object identification: case-study Mediene (provincial Jewry) Project
By Mirjam Alexander (JHM)
Location: conference room office building
Meeting point: entrance area
4. Digital Monument to the Jewish Community in the Netherlands.
By Daniël Metz (JHM)
Location: Auditorium
5. Tours of Collection storages
By Irene Faber (JHM)
Meeting point: Outside

01.00 - 02.00 pm

Lunch break

Location: Museum café

02.00 - 02.45 pm

Guided tour Portuguese Synagogue and Ets Haim Library

03.00 - 05.00 pm
Annual General Meeting at the Jewish Historical Museum
Chairperson: Rickie Burman
Location: Auditorium

7.30 pm
Dinner hosted by the Jewish Historical Museum

Tuesday, November 25, 2008

09.15 am Meeting Point: Jewish Historical Museum

09.30 - 11.00 am

Workshop sessions second round

1. Collection Management issues: Database / Digitisation
By Lonnie Stegink (JHM)
Location: Resource centre
2. Education / Children's Programmes
By Petra Katzenstein and Batya Wolff (JHM)
Location: Children's Museum
3. Object identification: case-study Mediene (provincial Jewry) Project
By Mirjam Alexander (JHM)
Location: conference room office building
Meeting point: entrance area
4. Digital Monument to the Jewish Community in the Netherlands.
By Daniël Metz (JHM)
Location: Auditorium
5. Tours of Collection storages
By Irene Faber (JHM)
Meeting point: Outside

11.00 - 11.30 am

Coffee break

Location: Museum café

11.30 am - 01.00 pm

Feedback from the workshops followed by a discussion on future priorities

Location: Auditorium

01.00 - 02.00 pm

Lunch break

Location: Museum café

02.00 - 03.00 pm

Keynote lecture "The Global Aspect of Raising Funds for Jewish Cultural Institutions"

by Lilka Elbaum (The North American Council of the Museum of the History of Polish Jews, USA), followed by Q&A.

Location: Auditorium

03.00 - 03.30 pm

Presentation "Digital access to Jewish Heritage in Europe" by Susan Hazan (European Association for Jewish Culture)

Location: Auditorium

03.30 - 04.00 pm

Further discussion on future priorities and conclusion.

Chaired by Rickie Burman

Location: Auditorium

04.00 - 05.00 Refreshments

Location: Museum café

Additional program: Looted Judaica from Jewish Museums collections

Tuesday evening November 25, 2008

07.15 pm

Coffee and tea

07.30 pm

Welcome

07.45 pm

Lecture "Relics of the Second World War: Dealing with Missing and Misplaced Objects in the Jewish Historical Museum collection" by Julie-Marthe Cohen (JHM)

08.30 pm

Lecture "*Hashavat Avedah*: The Distribution of Heirless Jewish Cultural Property by the Jewish Cultural Reconstruction Inc. after WWII" by Dana Herman (USA)

09.15-09.45 pm questions

Wednesday, November 26, 2008

AEJM members only

9.30 am - 14.30 pm

Short presentations and discussions on provenance research. How to deal with missing and misplaced objects in the collections of Jewish museums.

A more detailed programme will follow.