Studies in Jewish Manuscripts

Ed. by Joseph Dan and Klaus Herrmann, in Collaboration with Johanna Hoornweg and Manuela Petzoldt

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Undoubtedly one of the most fascinating areas of Judaic research, Jewish manuscripts, has experienced a remarkable renaissance. What the field has largely lacked, however, is professional publications to bring together researchers who, albeit in different specialist areas (history, philosophy, Kabbalah, bibliography, art history, comparative manuscript studies, paleography and codicology), all deal variously with Hebrew manuscripts. This desideratum of Judaic scholarship appears all the more reasonable when we look at the situation of the classical philologies which have a long tradition of specialist publications devoted exclusively to the study of Latin and Greek manuscripts.

The authors of the collected eight articles show the perspectives and the possibilities of such a discourse based on Jewish manuscripts within Judaic Studies; moreover numerous tie-ins with disciplines relating to general Medieval and early modern history and culture can be developed.

Survey of contents

Joseph Dan: The Book of Divine Glory by Rabbi Judah the Pious of Regensburg – Klaus Herrmann: The Reception of Hekhalot-Literature in Yohanan Alemanno's Autograph MS Paris 849 – Naftali Loewenthal: Rabbi Shneur Zalman of Liadi's Kitzur Likkutei Amarim British Library Or. 10456 – Aviezer Ravitzky: The God of the Philosophers versus the God of the Kabbalists. A Controversy in 15th Century Crete (MSS Vatican Heb. 105 and 254) – Marc Saperstein: The Manuscript/s of Morteira's Sermons – Gabrielle Sed-Rajna: The History of a Hebrew Codex. A Hebrew Codex as History. Maimonides' Mishnah Torah at the Library of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences – Joseph Shatzmiller and Anne-Marie Weil: Un autographe de Gersonide. Examen graphologique – Marc Verman: Signor Tranquillo's Magic Notebook

Joseph Dan Born 1935, studied at the Hebrew University, 1964 Ph.D; since 1982 Gershom Scholem Professor for Kabbala; 1993–2002 Guest Professor for Jewish Studies at the Freie Universität Berlin, since 2002 Professor emeritus.

Klaus Herrmann is a lecturer at the Institute for Jewish Studies at the Freie Universität, Berlin.

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