

SAMUEL LEBENS

Department of Philosophy
University of Haifa
Mount Carmel
Haifa 3498848
Israel

E-mail: slebens@univ.haifa.ac.il
Tel: +972 58 572 2211

EDUCATION

2010-2013 Rabbinic Ordination, Jerusalem, Zalman Nehemia Golberg
2006-2010 PhD, Birkbeck College, London, Philosophy
2003-2006 University College London, Philosophy, 2006

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENT

2016-2019 Postdoctoral Research Associate, University of Haifa, Philosophy Department
2014-2014 Postdoctoral Research Associate, Rutgers University, Center for Philosophy of Religion
2013-2014 Postdoctoral Research Associate, University of Notre Dame, Center for Philosophy of Religion

RESEARCH AREAS

Philosophy of Language, Metaphysics, Early Analytic Philosophy, Jewish philosophy, Philosophy of Religion

PUBLICATIONS

Monographs

2017 *Bertrand Russell and The Nature of Propositions: A History and Defense of the Multiple Relation Theory of Judgement*. New York: Routledge.
2020 *The Principles of Judaism (Oxford Studies in Analytic Theology)*. Oxford: Oxford University
Under contract *Introducing the Philosophy of Fiction*, with Tatjana von Solodkoff. London and New York: Routledge.

Edited Volumes

2019 *Jewish Philosophy in an Analytic Age*, with D. Rabinowitz and A. Segal, Oxford: Oxford University Press

Journal Articles

Forthcoming 'On the Harmony between Epistemology and Pistology,' *Australasian Philosophical Review*

- Forthcoming 'Hyper-Past Evils: A Reply to Bogdan V. Faul', with T. Goldschmidt, *Open Theology*
- Forthcoming 'Divine Contractions', with T. Goldschmidt, *Religious Studies*
- Forthcoming 'Revelation Through Concealment: Kabbalistic Responses to God's Hiddenness', *European Journal for Philosophy of Religion*
- 2020 'Pascal, Pascalberg, and Friends', *International Journal for Philosophy of Religion*, 87, 109–130
- 2019 'Dormant Dispositions, Agent Value, and the Trinity', with D. Tuggy, *Journal for Analytic Theology*, 7, 142-155
- 2019 'Nothing Else', *European Journal for Philosophy of Religion*, 11, 2:91-110
- 2017 'The Promise of a New Past', with T. Goldschmidt, *Philosophers' Imprint* 17, 18, 1-25
- 2017 'An Advertisement of a New Paper', with T. Goldschmidt, *Journal of Analytic Theology*, 5, 1: 629-36
- 2017 Russell and Bradley: Revisiting the Creation Narrative of Analytic Philosophy', *Journal for the History of Analytic Philosophy* 5, 7: 1-10
- 2017 'The Ashes of Isaac', *Journal of Analytic Theology* 5: 500-514
- 2017 'Is there a Primordial Torah?', *International Journal for Philosophy of Religion*, 82, 2: 216-239
- 2017 'The Life of Faith as a Work of Art: A Rabbinic Theology of Faith', *International Journal for Philosophy of Religion* 81, 1: 61-81
- 2015 'Would this Paper Exist if I hadn't written it?' 2015, *Philosophical Studies* 172, 11: 3059-3080
- 2015 'God and His Imaginary Friends: A Hassidic Metaphysics', 2015, *Religious Studies*, 51, 2: 183-204
- 2014 'Why so Negative about Negative Theology: The Search for a Plantinga-Proof Apophaticism', *International Journal for Philosophy of Religion* 76, 3: 259-275
- 2013 'True Succession and Counterfactual Approval,' *Social Epistemology Review and Reply Collective* 2, 10: 26-31
- 2013 'Counterfactual Approval and Idiosyncratic Counterfactual Approval', *Social Epistemology Review and Reply Collective* 2, 11: 65-69
- 2013 'The Epistemology of Religiosity', *International Journal for Philosophy of Religion* 74, 3: 315-332
- 2009 'The Meaning of Death and Dying in Judaism', *European Journal of Palliative Care* 16, 5
- 2008 'A Substantive Non-Solution to the Problem of Unity', *The Baltic International Yearbook of Cognition, Logic and Communication* 4

Book Chapters

- Forthcoming 'Russell's *Foundations of Geometry*: Heading out of Kant's Hot-House', with F. MacBride, in K. Klement (Ed.) *The Oxford Handbook of Bertrand Russell*. Oxford: Oxford University Press

- Forthcoming 'Ex Nihilo Nihil Fit: An Argument for Anti-Nihilism', with T. Goldschmidt, in Sarah Bernstein and Tyron Goldschmidt (eds), *Non-Being: New Essays on the Metaphysics of Non-Existence*, Oxford University Press
- 2019 'A Commentary on a Midrash: Metaphors about Metaphor', in S. Lebens, D. Rabinowitz, and A. Segal (Eds.) *Jewish Philosophy in an Analytic Age*. Oxford: Oxford University Press
- 2019 'Are you Experienced?', in G. Oppy, G. Dawes, E. Fales, J. Koterski, M. Al-Allaf, Robert Fastiggi, and D. Shatz (Eds.) *Theism and Atheism: Opposing Arguments in Philosophy*. Macmillan Reference
- 2017 'Negative Theology as Illuminating/Therapeutic Falsehood', in M. Fagenblat (Ed.) *Negative Theology as Jewish Modernity*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press
- 2017 'Hassidic Idealism: Kurt Vonnegut and the Creator of the Universe' in T. Goldschmidt and K. Pearce (Eds.) *Idealism: New Essays*. Oxford: Oxford University Press
- 2016 'Reconciling Imagery and Doctrine,' in D. Franks and A. Segal (Eds.) *Jewish Philosophy Past and Present: Contemporary Responses to Classical Sources*. New York: Routledge

Reviews

- Forthcoming *On the Genealogy of Universals: The Metaphysical Origins of Analytic Philosophy* by Fraser MacBride, *Philosophical Quarterly*
- 2020 *Joseph Albo on Free Choice: Exegetical Innovation in Medieval Jewish Philosophy* by Shira Weiss, in *Religious Studies*, 56/1, 135-138
- 2019 *Jewish Philosophy in the Middle Ages* by T. Rudavsky, *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*
- 2018 *Radical Skepticism and the Shadow of Doubt* by E. Hirsch, *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*
- 2016 *Ritualized Faith: Essays on the Philosophy of Liturgy* by T. Cuneo, *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*
- 2014 'Hebrew Philosophy or Jewish Theology? A False Dichotomy', review of *The Philosophy of Hebrew Scripture* by Y. Hazony, *Journal of Analytic Theology* 2

PRESENTATIONS

Conference Talks

- 2020 'Russell and the Philosophy of Philosophy', Jerusalem Philosophical Encounter, Hebrew University
- 2019 'Russell and Idealism', Bar Ilan University, Israeli Philosophical Association
- 2018 'From Maimonides to the Ba'al Shem Tov: Via Copenhagen, Consciousness, Kurt Vonnegut, and Berkeley', University of Innsbruck, Personal and A-personal Theology Conference
- 2017 'Rationality, Reasonability and Religiosity', University of Haifa, Rational Belief and Normative Commitments Conference

- 2017 'On the Semantics of Nonfictional Names in a Fictional Context', Ben Guiron University, Israeli Philosophical Association
- 2016 'The Life of Faith as a Work of Art', Baylor University and Western Washington University, Summer Seminar on the Nature and Value of Faith
- 2015 'Rational Religiosity', Baylor University and Western Washington University, Summer Seminar on the Nature and Value of Faith
- 2014 'Interpreting Religious Belief', Baylor University and Western Washington University, Conference on the Nature and Value of Faith
- 2013 'Midrash and Metaphor', Shalem Center, Philosophical Investigation of the Hebrew Bible Talmud and Midrash
- 2011 'How to Cut a Sentence into Bits', Shalem Center, Philosophical Investigation of the Hebrew Bible Talmud and Midrash
- 2012 'The Izbicer, Gareth Evans, and Berkeley, on Free Will', University of St Thomas, Philosophy of Religion Summer Seminar
- 2009 'Keith Hossack's Theory of Judgement', Birkbeck/University College London Conference
- 2009 'A Neglected Theory of Judgement', Chicago, Bertrand Russell Society, Central APA
- 2008 'A Substantive Non-Solution to the Problem of Unity', University of Latvia, Annual Symposium of Cognition, Logic and Communication; on 200 years of Analytic Philosophy
- 2007 'The Meaning of Pain and Suffering: A Jewish Perspective', Lake Windmere, The British Pain Society

Colloquia

- 2019 'Dying *De Se* and *De Re*', Department of Philosophy, Tel Hai
- 2018 'The Principles of Judaism', Center Philosophy of Religion, Rutgers University
- 2016 'Kurt Vonnegut and the Creator of the Universe', Philosophy of Religion, Reading Group, Fordham University
- 2016 'The Promise of a New Past', with T. Goldschmidt, Center for Philosophy of Religion, Rutgers University
- 2015 'The Primordial Torah', Center for Philosophy of Religion, Rutgers University
- 2014 'The Primordial Torah', Center for Philosophy of Religion, University of Notre Dame
- 2013 'God and His Imaginary Friends', Center for Philosophy of Religion, University of Notre Dame
- 2010 'Russell's Theory of Judgment', Department of Philosophy, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Invited Lectures

- 2018 'Berkeley and Hassidic Idealism', D Society, University of Cambridge

- 2018 'Pantheism, Panentheism and Acosmism', Department of Philosophy, University of Birmingham
- 2013 'Negative Theology', Philosophy Club, Pepperdine University
- 2013 'Epistemology of Religiosity', Glazer Institute, Pepperdine University

Conference Organizer (or co-Organizer)

- Upcoming, 2021 Worship: A Jewish Philosophical Investigation
- 2019 Worship: A Jewish Philosophical Investigation
- 2019 Meaning of Life Conference, University of Haifa
- 2018 Philosophy of Religion Conference, University of Haifa

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2018-2020 John Templeton Foundation Project Grant (\$234,575)
- 2016-2019 Templeton World Charity Foundation Research Grant (\$214,710)
- 2016 Baylor Summer Seminar on the Nature and Virtue of Faith (\$4000 scholarship)
- 2015 Baylor Summer Seminar on the Nature and Virtue of Faith (\$4000 scholarship)
- 2012 St Thomas Summer Seminars in the Philosophy of Religion (\$3000 scholarship)
- 2006-2010 Arts Humanities Research Council Award

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Recent Courses

- 2020 Introduction to Medieval Philosophy
- 2016-2020 Philosophy of Literature
- 2016-2020 Idealism from Berkeley until Today
- 2017-2020 Time and Time Travel
- 2015-2016 Philosophy of Language
- 2014-2015 *Tractatus Logico Philosophicus*
- 2014-2015 Advanced Topics in Philosophy of Religion

MANUSCRIPT REVIEW

American Philosophical Quarterly, Analysis, British Journal for the History of Philosophy, Erkenntnis, Faith and Philosophy, Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism, Journal for the History of Analytic Philosophy, Mind, Pacific Philosophical Quarterly, Res Philosophica, Synthese, Journal of Religious Ethics

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- 2011-2018 Association for the Philosophy of Judaism (founding chairperson)
- 2013-2016 American Philosophical Association
- 2016-2020 Israeli Philosophical Association
- 2009-2010 Bertrand Russell Society

REFERENCES

Upon request, references can be supplied from

Professors Robert Adams, Thomas Baldwin, Dorothy Edgington, Jon Kvanvig, David Shatz, Saul Smilansky, Danny Statman, Mark Textor, Dean Zimmerman, and from Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks.