

Sponsored by the
 UCLA Alan D. Leve Center for Jewish Studies
 Natalie Limonick Program on Jewish Civilization
 in Memory of Miriam Nisell Rose

Cosponsored by the
 UCLA Department of English
 UCLA Department of History
 UCLA Center for the Study of Religion
 Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies at UCLA
 Hillel at UCLA

MORAL GRANDEUR & SPIRITUAL AUDACITY

Conference in honor of Abraham Joshua Heschel

MAY 3-4, 2015



SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2015 • HILLEL AT UCLA

12PM ■ **WELCOMING REMARKS**

- **KENNETH REINHARD** (UCLA)
- **SUSANNAH HESCHEL** (Dartmouth College)
- **CHAIM SEIDLER-FELLER** (Hillel at UCLA)

12:15PM ■ **SESSION I**

Introduction: **DAVID N. MYERS** (UCLA)
 ■ **ARYEH COHEN** (American Jewish University)
From JTS to Riverside Church: The Relationship Between Torah min Hashamayim and Heschel's Anti-war Activism
 Respondent: **DAVID N. MYERS** (UCLA)

1:30PM ■ **SESSION II**

Introduction: **KENNETH REINHARD** (UCLA)
 ■ **DONALD PEASE** (Dartmouth College)
Heschel on the State of Moral Emergency from Selma to Ferguson
 Respondent: **MICHAEL BERENBAUM** (American Jewish University)

2:45PM ■ **BREAKOUT SESSIONS ON HESCHEL'S WRITINGS**

- **RABBI ED FEINSTEIN** (Valley Beth Shalom) *Heschel on Religious Education (selections)*
- **RABBI SHARON BROUS** (IKAR) *The White Man on Trial, from The Insecurity of Freedom*
- **RABBI ELIE SPITZ** (Congregation B'nai Israel) *God in Search of Man*
- **RABBI CHAIM SEIDLER-FELLER** (Hillel at UCLA) *The Sabbath as Spiritual Revolution*
- **RABBI PETER LEVI** (Temple Beth El) *Covet This!*

4PM ■ **SESSION III**

Introduction: **SUSANNAH HESCHEL** (Dartmouth College)
 ■ **DROR BONDI** (The Urban-Kibbutz Beit Yisrael, Jerusalem)
The Challenge: Translating Heschel into the State of Israel
 Followed by Q&A with: **SUSANNAH HESCHEL** (Dartmouth College)

5:15PM ■ **SESSION IV**

Introduction: **JACK MILES** (UC Irvine)
 ■ **ELLIOT DORFF** (American Jewish University)
Heschel's Way of Finding God in Nature
 Respondent: **CHAIM SEIDLER-FELLER** (Hillel at UCLA)

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2015 • UCLA FACULTY CENTER



CORNEL WEST



REV. JAMES M. LAWSON, JR.



SUSANNAH HESCHEL

6:30PM ■ **KEYNOTE ADDRESS: ON ABRAHAM JOSHUA HESCHEL**

Introduction: **DAVID THEO GOLDBERG** (UC Irvine)
 ■ **CORNEL WEST** (Union Theological Seminary)
 Followed by a conversation with: **SUSANNAH HESCHEL** and **REVEREND JAMES M. LAWSON, JR.**
 Moderator: **TODD PRESNER** (UCLA)

MORAL GRANDEUR & SPIRITUAL AUDACITY

Conference in honor of Abraham Joshua Heschel

MAY 3-4, 2015

A theologian of extraordinary eloquence and poetic vision, Abraham Joshua Heschel (1907-1972) was also a key figure in social justice movements in the United States in the 1960s and early 70s, including the civil rights movement, the movement against the war in Vietnam, and the transformations of the Catholic Church known as Vatican II.

Born into a distinguished Hasidic family in Poland, Heschel received a traditional yeshiva education and studied for his Orthodox rabbinical ordination, before going on to study philosophy and theology in Berlin where he also received a liberal rabbinical ordination at the *Hochschule für die Wissenschaft des Judentums*. He escaped the Nazis and came to America in 1940 with the help of

Hebrew Union College, teaching there until 1946, when he accepted a position at the Jewish Theological Seminary. Heschel was close friends with Martin Luther King, Jr., and participated in the 1965 march on Selma, in the front row with King, Ralph Bunche, and Ralph Abernathy.

Heschel's books have had immeasurable impact on both Jewish and non-Jewish thinkers. Hence, this conference will feature talks by key figures in contemporary Jewish thought and practice, as well as Christian scholars and public figures. Panels will discuss Heschel and social justice, Heschel's poetry and spiritual practices, and the continuing urgency of his life and ideas today.

MONDAY, MAY 4, 2015 • UCLA FACULTY CENTER

10:30AM ■ SESSION V

Introduction: **EFRAIN KRISTAL** (UCLA)

■ **NAOMI SEIDMAN** (Graduate Theological Union)

Heschel's Languages: Translation, Difference, and Encounter in Heschel's Work and Thought

Respondent: **EFRAIN KRISTAL** (UCLA)

11:45AM ■ SESSION VI

Introduction: **HOWARD WETTSTEIN** (UC Riverside)

■ **ROBERT ERLEWINE** (Illinois Wesleyan University)

In Marcion's Shadow: Heschel, the God of Pathos, and the Prophets

Respondent: **HOWARD WETTSTEIN** (UC Riverside)

1PM ■ LUNCH BREAK

2PM ■ SESSION VII

Introduction: **RACHEL ADLER** (Hebrew Union College)

■ **ELLIOT WOLFSON** (UC Santa Barbara)

Time for the Sake of Eternity: Tempocentrism and the Quest for Transcendence in Rosenzweig and Heschel

Respondent: **RACHEL ADLER** (Hebrew Union College)

3:15PM ■ ROUNDTABLE: WHAT IS THE ROLE OF RELIGION IN CONTEMPORARY RACE RELATIONS? WHAT WOULD ABRAHAM JOSHUA HESCHEL WORRY ABOUT TODAY?

■ **RABBI SHARON BROUS** (IKAR)

■ **REVEREND JAMES M. LAWSON, JR.**

■ **PROFESSOR AMIR HUSSAIN** (Loyola Marymount University)

■ **REVEREND CECIL L. MURRAY** (USC)

Moderator: **CHAIM SEIDLER-FELLER** (Hillel at UCLA)

4:30PM ■ COFFEE BREAK

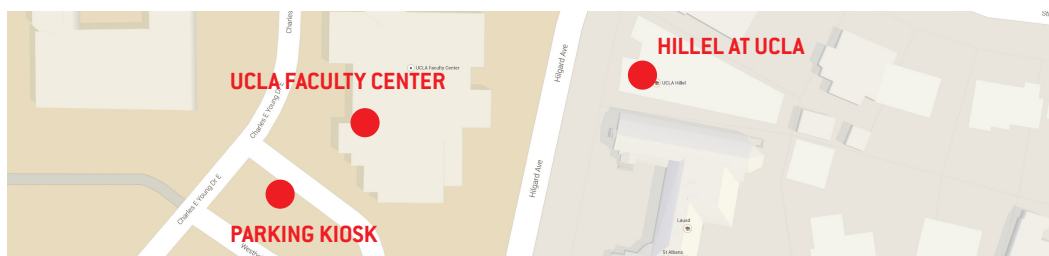
5PM ■ KEYNOTE ADDRESS: JUST TO LIVE IS HOLY - THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE OF ABRAHAM JOSHUA HESCHEL



SUSANNAH HESCHEL

Introduction: **KENNETH REINHARD** (UCLA)

■ **SUSANNAH HESCHEL** (Dartmouth College)



Events are subject to change without notice. Please visit www.cjs.ucla.edu for up to date event information. Events are free and open to the public, but **pre-registration is required**. Please email cjsrsvp@humnet.ucla.edu to RSVP.

Parking is available in **Lot 2** on the corner of Hilgard and Westholme Ave for \$12.

Hillel at UCLA is located at **574 Hilgard Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90024**.
The UCLA Faculty Center is located at **480 Charles E Young Drive North, Los Angeles, CA 90095**.