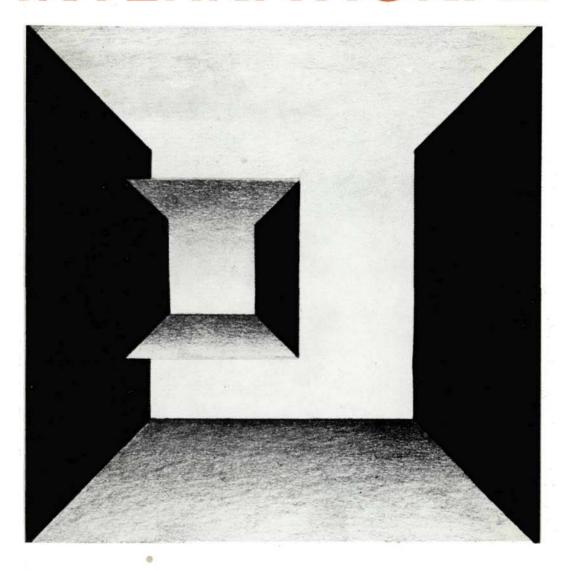
# THEATRE RESEARCH INTERNATIONAL



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#### NOTES TO CONTRIBUTORS

- 1. Contributions should be in English. Two copies of all manuscripts should be sent to the Editor, Department of Theatre Studies, University of Glasgow, Glasgow G12 8QF, Scotland.
- 2. Articles should not exceed 4000 words and must be accompanied by an abstract of approximately 200 words which should be a succinct condensation of the paper.
- 3. Manuscripts should be typed double-spaced with wide margins.
- 4. Illustrations (reproducible photographs or line drawings) should be carefully labelled and captioned.
- 5. Footnotes must be listed at the end of the manuscript.
- 6. All articles will be acknowledged upon receipt. Authors will be informed of a decision within four months of receipt.
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- 8. Book reviews are usually by invitation, but the editors are always ready to consider offers to undertake reviewing.
- g. Twenty-five complimentary offprints of each article will be sent to authors; additional offprints are available at the author's expense. Book reviewers will receive a complimentary copy of the journal.
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#### Note to North American Publishers

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### Israeli Issue

Guest Editor: Eli Rozik

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## Introduction

This issue, which includes some pieces of highly specialized research, rather than being an exhaustive study of Jewish Theatre, opens several windows, wide enough I hope, onto this quite unknown and peculiar cultural landscape. We consider three basic periods of Jewish theatre: Italy, in the seventeenth century – the years of gestation of popular Jewish Theatre; New York, by the end of the nineteenth century – when professional Yiddish Theatre was in its hayday and Hebrew Theatre, from its creation in Moscow until the present day in the Land of Israel.

Ahuva Belkin ('The theatrical figures in Tyrnau's Illustrated Book of Customs') focuses on one of the most fascinating and almost unknown periods of Jewish theatrical activity in the seventeenth century, in Mantua. Mrs Belkin relies on contemporary illustrations of theatrical figures in Jewish manuscripts and others, when she claims that instead of using borrowed iconography from the Christian Italian stage, these books record dramatis personae from the repertoire of theatre of the Jewish Ghetto.

Ilana Bialik ('Audience Response in the Yiddish 'Shund' Theatre') throws light on a very significant feature of Yiddish Theatre: its grassroots nature. Probably, by the close of the nineteenth century, Yiddish theatre became the most popular form of entertainment among the Jewish immigrants to the New World and in its avidity for popular acclaim it obviously reflected the taste and expectations of this most peculiar audience.

Shoshana Weitz ('Theatre and Society in Israel') explores the relation between the ideological concensus of Israeli society and Hebrew theatre from its inception until the present day. This sociological description of the function of theatre in the formation of Israeli society, as a crucial means for self-determination and self-definition, focuses also on the theatrical reflection of the changing self-image of the Israeli as a new version of Jewish identity.

Freddie Rokem ('Ideology and Archetypal Patterns in the Israeli Theatre') examines some of the ideological assumptions of Israeli society, as reflected in the theatre, by means of an exhaustive study of one of the central myths in Jewish culture, the Sacrifice of Isaak. This myth has become a major theme, especially in the literature of recent years, since the feeling of the youth has been that Israeli society demands their sacrifice for the sake of the materialization of their parents' ideological dream.

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Dwora Gilula ('The First Greek Drama on the Hebrew Stage') throws light on one of the most fundamental cultural struggles in the history of Judaism. For more than two thousand years Greek culture in general and Greek drama in particular have been viewed as foreign and dangerous. The inclusion of Greek drama in the repertoire of Hebrew theatre reflects the sense of historical reconciliation with this ancient culture that pervades modern Judaism. Needless to say, although Greek drama has seldom been produced since this memorable production, it commands profound admiration amongst modern Jews.

Shimon Levy ('The Gospel According to Hanoch') presents one of the most prominent Israeli playwrights, Hanoch Levin. In his study, Shimon Levy focuses on one of the most important plays of the author, *The Sorrows of Job*, in which the author provocatively uses sacred motifs, Jewish and Christian, to poke 'fun at sacred traditional values', thus reflecting a prevalent profane mood in Western society in general, and in Israel, in particular.

Eli Rozik