The 41st Annual Philosophy/Theology Symposium

FOCUS ON:
The Judeo–Christian Tradition

PERFORMED BY:
Walsh University Chamber Singers, directed by Dr. Britt Cooper

Jon D. Levenson is the Albert A. List Professor of Jewish Studies at Harvard Divinity School, a position he has held since 1988. He holds a Doctorate in Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations from Harvard University (1975) and has authored twelve books and innumerable articles on topics relating to the Hebrew Bible and its interpretive legacy among Jews, Christians and Muslims. Throughout his academic career, Levenson has utilized his scholarship to advance the cause of interfaith dialogue and to safeguard it from the corrosive effects of intellectual and theological relativism.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, please contact

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www.walsh.edu
Educating students to become leaders in service to others through a values-based education with an international perspective in the Judeo-Christian tradition is the heart of Walsh University’s mission. But what is the Judeo-Christian tradition? The expression itself has no long-standing pedigree within either faith; and yet, in increasing numbers, Jews and Christians today are affirming and celebrating commonality, while exploring new ways of understanding one another that seek to redress past antagonisms and distortions. Since the Second Vatican Council, the Catholic Church has recognized the importance of interfaith dialogue for an authentic appreciation of what unites Jews and Christians. One community cannot define this common ground unilaterally. Consistent with this principle, this year’s Philosophy–Theology Symposium features a parity of Jewish and Christian speakers. This collaboration will extend to both venues (alternating between Temple Israel and the Birk Center for the Arts) and sponsorship (our Visiting Scholar is co-sponsored by Walsh University and Temple Israel’s Blanche K. Feiman Kallah Fund).

Friday, March 18th, 5:00 p.m

**“Jewish and Catholic Approaches to Dialogue”**

**Temple Israel (432 30th Street NW, Canton)**

**SCHEDULE:**

5:00 – 5:30 p.m. Oneg
A traditional time of gathering and fellowship at sundown, welcoming the arrival of Shabbat and remembering God’s act of creation.

5:30 – 6:15 p.m. Shabbat Service
Christian participants are welcome to attend.

6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Shabbat Dinner
Those wishing to partake are asked to RSVP and contribute a $5 donation. (To RSVP, please contact the office of Temple Israel: 330.455.5197)

7:30 – 9:00 p.m. Jewish and Catholic Approaches to Dialogue
How do Jews and Catholics approach the challenge of interfaith dialogue?

Saturday, March 19th, 10:00 a.m.

**“The Idea of a Shared Tradition”**

**Birk Center for the Arts (Walsh University)**

**SCHEDULE:**

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. The Idea of a Shared Tradition
How did the idea of a shared tradition emerge and what’s at stake in affirming it?

12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Exploring Tradition through Song
Dr. Britt Cooper will direct the Walsh University Chamber Singers in performing selections of Jewish and Christian sacred music.

Sunday, March 20th, 10:30 a.m.

**“What is the Judeo-Christian Tradition?”**

**Temple Israel (432 30th Street NW, Canton) 10:30 a.m.**

**Birk Center for the Arts (Walsh University) 1:30 p.m.**

**PRESENTERS:**

**Jewish Perspective:**
John Spitzer, D.Min
Associate Professor of Jewish Studies, Walsh University, North Canton, Ohio

**Catholic Perspective:**
John G. Trapani Jr., Ph.D.
Professor of Philosophy, Walsh University, North Canton, Ohio

**Catholic Intellectual Perspective:**
Donald Wallenfang, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Theology, Walsh University, North Canton, Ohio

**Historical Perspective:**
Chris Seeman, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Theology, Walsh University, North Canton, Ohio

**PRESENTERS:**

**2016 VISITING SCHOLAR:**

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**SCHEDULE:**

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. A Conversation with Jon Levenson (Temple Israel)
Dr. Levenson will be making an informal presentation on the topic of the Judeo-Christian tradition to members of Temple Israel. All are welcome to attend.

12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Lunch (Temple Israel) Temple Israel will be offering a light dairy lunch for those attending.

1:30 – 3:30 p.m. What is the Judeo-Christian Tradition? (Birk Center for the Arts)
Dr. Levenson will deliver the keynote address for the symposium, followed by time for questions and audience engagement.