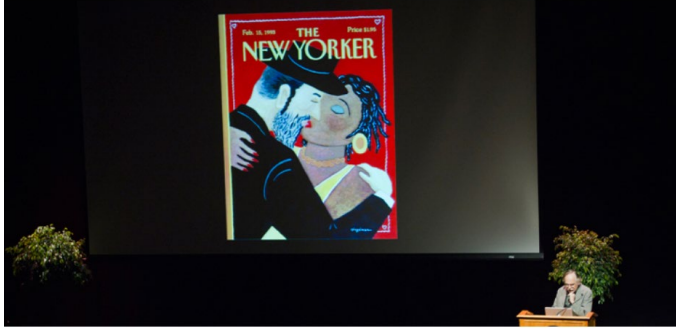


Additional Information  
Ruderman Lectures



Art Spiegelman, March 27, 2012

'What the %@&\*! Happened to Comics?' A lecture with images

"Comics burn their way past your peripheral defenses into your brain directly through the eyeball," said Spiegelman. "They dig deep because they work the same way your brain works." Spiegelman, who recalled his obsession with comics as a kid, examined the evolution of what he described as an "intimate" medium that spans from superhero and children's stories to graphic novels and political manifestos. He said comics echo the thought process through the use of sequential images, thought bubbles and speech balloons. As he put it, they "don't have to be escapist stories or funny gags. They are capable of being art."

Spiegelman was part of the underground comic movement of the late 1960s and '70s and later spent a decade working for *The New Yorker*. But his crowning achievement is *Maus: A Survivor's Tale* a two-volume comic masterpiece that explores his father's life as a Polish Jew and Holocaust survivor. The tale, which cast Jews as mice and Germans as cats, won a Pulitzer Prize in 1992.

In addition to speaking to a full house in Blackman Auditorium, Spiegelman participated in an hour-long meeting with art students in a 2D Foundations course taught by lecturer Julia Hechtman, coordinated by the Humanities Center and the College of Arts, Media and Design's Center for the Arts. The evening culminated in a dinner with faculty, students, and distinguished guests.



Nathan Englander, March 18, 2013

## What We Talk About When We Talk About Anne Frank

After reading from the title story of his new collection, Englander shared his compelling reflections on a wide variety of topics related to writing, identity, the Holocaust, politics, and personality. He observed that everything must be understood in multiple contexts as meanings are variable, and that all that he says and writes is responsive to overlapping but particular concerns.

Englander is the author of the short story collection *What We Talk About When We Talk About Anne Frank*, which won the 2012 Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award. He first became known for his internationally bestselling short story collection *For the Relief of Unbearable Urges* (1999), followed by the novel *The Ministry of Special Cases* (2007). Englander was selected by *The New Yorker* as one of the "20 Writers for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century"; he received a Guggenheim Fellowship, a PEN/Malamud Award, the Bard Fiction Prize, and the Sue Kaufman Prize from the American Academy of Arts & Letters.

Before his lecture, Englander met informally with a group of students and faculty for an intimate discussion of the themes of his work and to talk about the artistic process more broadly. The evening culminated in a dinner with faculty, students, and distinguished guests.



Brooke Gladstone, Mark Oppenheimer, Jane Eisner, Dina Kraft

October 20, 2014

On the Jewish Media: A Panel Discussion

“On the Jewish Media” provided an opportunity for distinguished panelists to discuss both the important role that the Jewish media plays in the Jewish community and the mainstream media’s coverage of issues of critical concern to the Jewish community. Panelists had a lively discussion about what is Jewish about the Jewish media and entertained sharp questions from the audience.

Brooke Gladstone, managing editor and host of National Public Radio’s *On The Media*, who moderated the discussion, is the recipient of two Peabody Awards, a National Press Club Award, and an Overseas Press Club Award, among others. She is the author of *The Influencing Machine*, a media manifesto in graphic form, listed among the top books of 2011 by *The New Yorker*, *Publisher’s Weekly*, *Kirkus Reviews* and *Library Journal*, and among the “10 Masterpieces of Graphic Nonfiction” by *The Atlantic*.

Gladstone was joined by Jane Eisner, the Editor-in-Chief of the *Jewish Daily Forward*, arguably the most influential of America’s Jewish newspapers; Mark Oppenheimer, who writes the biweekly “Beliefs” column for the *New York Times* and is a contributing editor at *Tablet Magazine*; and Dina Kraft, the Associate Program Coordinator of the Media Innovation Track at Northeastern’s School of Journalism, who has been the Jerusalem bureau chief of the Associated Press and is a regular contributor to the *New York Times*, *The Daily Telegraph*, and *Haaretz*.

*Gladstone lectured and answered questions in a journalism class before the public event. The evening culminated in a dinner with faculty, students, and distinguished guests.*



Jodi Rudoren, December 2, 2015  
Journalism in a Land of Few Facts

*The New York Times* Jerusalem bureau chief Jodi Rudoren addressed critics on both sides of the Israeli-Palestinian divide. She discussed the many ways in which contested facts complicate media coverage in the Middle East. During her years in Jerusalem, Rudoren covered two Gaza wars and two Israeli elections. She has also reported on the Syrian civil war, West Bank resettlement, terror attacks, and the fallout from the Iran nuclear deal.

*Before the public event, Rudoren visited with journalism students and fielded questions. The evening culminated in a dinner with faculty, students, and distinguished guests.*



Paul Wolpe, March 27, 2017

## Frankenstein and the Golem: How ancient tales inform modern biotechnology

This lecture with accompanying slides was about the intersection of Judaism and bioethics. Wolpe raised the question of what exactly makes something human and explained how technology allows humans to make and enhance people, and asked to what extent is it ethical to do so. To explore these big questions, and in anticipation of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Mary Shelley's classic novel, Wolpe analyzed and compared the stories of the Golem from Jewish mythology and the story of Shelley's *Frankenstein*.

Dr. Paul Root Wolpe is the Asa Griggs Candler Professor of Bioethics, the Raymond F. Schinazi Distinguished Research Chair in Jewish Bioethics, and the Director of the Center for Ethics at Emory University. Wolpe served as the first Chief of Bioethics for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). He was Co-Editor of the *American Journal of Bioethics* and is Editor-In-Chief of *AJOB Neuroscience*, the official Journal of the International Neuroethics Society. Wolpe is a past President of the American Society for Bioethics and Humanities, a Fellow of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, a Fellow of the Hastings Center, and was the first National Bioethics Advisor to Planned Parenthood Federation of America.

In addition to his public lecture, Wolpe taught a class in Jewish ethics in a course in the Jewish Studies program. His lecture was followed by a festive dinner for faculty, students, and distinguished guests. The next day, Wolpe taught a special class for combined sections of introductory ethics on case studies in biomedical ethics.



David N. Myers, March 26, 2018

## Why Is Jewish History So Important Today: An Impassioned Plea for Studying the Past

David N. Myers delivered a timely reminder of the importance of the study of Jewish history, noting among other issues new Polish legislation that punishes speech critical of the Polish role during the Holocaust. The study of Jewish History, posits Myers, has had many constructive functions, including forging the boundaries of religious denominations, creating a vehicle of national identity, and constructing a template of how immigrants adapt to majority culture. It can serve to fortify a sense of group memory and as a warning sign of the growth of intolerance.

David N. Myers holds the Sady and Ludwig Kahn Chair in Jewish History at UCLA, where he serves as the director of the Luskin Center for History and Policy. He is the President and CEO of the Center for Jewish History in New York City. Myers has written extensively in the fields of modern Jewish intellectual and cultural history; his books include *Re-Inventing the Jewish Past: European Jewish Intellectuals and the Zionist Return to History* (Oxford: 1995), *Resisting History: Historicism and its Discontents in German-Jewish Thought* (Princeton, 2003), *Between Jew and Arab: The Lost Voice of Simon Rawidowicz* (Brandeis University Press, 2008), *Jewish History: A Very Short Introduction* (2017), and *The Stakes of History: On the Use and Abuse of Jewish History for Life* (2018). Myers has edited or co-edited eight books, including *The Jewish Past Revisited*, *Enlightenment and Diaspora: The Armenian and Jewish Cases*, and *The Faith of Fallen Jews: Yosef Hayim Yerushalmi and the Writing of Jewish History*.

His lecture was followed by a festive dinner for faculty, students, and distinguished guests.



Michael Pollan, September 24, 2019

## What Can Psychedelics Teach Us About Spirituality?

Best-selling author Michael Pollan engaged in a wide-ranging conversation with Northeastern University's Ruderman Professor of Jewish Studies, Lori Lefkowitz, about his new book, *How To Change Your Mind: What the New Science of Psychedelics Teaches Us About Consciousness, Dying, Addiction, Depression, and Transcendence*. Among other topics, Lefkowitz engaged Pollan in a discussion of spiritual experiences arising from the use of psychedelics, and his conclusions (such as the importance of awe in the human experience) that echo religious experience.

Pollan's other books include five *New York Times* bestsellers: *Cooked: A Natural History of Transformation* (2013), *Food Rules: An Eater's Manual* (2010); *In Defense of Food: An Eater's Manifesto* (2008); *The Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals* (2006) and *The Botany of Desire: A Plant's-Eye View of the World* (2001). *The Omnivore's Dilemma* was named one of the ten best books of 2006 by both the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post*. It also won the California Book Award, the Northern California Book Award, the James Beard Award, and was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award. *The Botany of Desire* received the Borders Original Voices Award for the best non-fiction work of 2001, and was recognized as a best book of the year by the American Booksellers Association and Amazon.com. Several of his books have been adapted for television. Pollan was named to the 2010 TIME 100, the magazine's annual list of the world's 100 most influential people and was named by *Newsweek* as one of the top 10 "New Thought Leaders."

Pollan has been a fellow at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard. He is the Lewis K. Chan Arts Lecturer and Professor of the Practice of Non-Fiction at Harvard University and holds the John S. and James L. Knight Professor of Journalism at UC Berkeley's Graduate School of Journalism.

While at Northeastern, Pollan also taught a master class in writing to a group of students from the Jewish Studies Program, the Writing Program, School of Journalism, English Department and Psychology Department.

Later, the Ruderman family discussed with Pollan his views on the potential use of psychedelics in treating mental illnesses. His lecture was followed by a festive dinner for faculty, students, and distinguished guests.



The 2021 Morton E. Ruderman Memorial Lecture  
The Jewish Studies Program and the Northeastern Humanities Center Present:

## Trauma, the Jewish Experience, and Lessons for Post-Covid Mental Health

**SPEAKERS**

**RACHEL YEHUDA**, professor of practice and associate director of the Paul Baerwald School of Social Work, author of the book *Metiv: The Center for Psychosocial Psychotherapy and Trauma Research*


**EVA FOGELMAN**, psychologist, author, *Remember: The Psychological Effects of the Holocaust on Survivors and Their Descendants*

**DANNY BROM**, clinical psychologist and Founding Director of the Israel Center for the Treatment of Psychological Trauma

**MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2021**

The Jewish experience includes a history of dislocation, trauma, and resilience. World-renowned experts in the fields of trauma, epigenetics, and mental health will discuss the implications of the research and clinical work they have done with Holocaust survivors, Israeli soldiers, and their families. What lessons can we learn as we recover from a global pandemic, and confront systemic racism and assaults on our democratic institutions?

**5:00 pm** via webinar  
**Reservations and details:** <http://bit.ly/2021Ruderman>  
For any questions contact [d.leviso-m@northeastern.edu](mailto:d.leviso-m@northeastern.edu)

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 **N** Northeastern University  
College of Social Sciences  
and Humanities



Rachel Yehuda, Eva Fogelman and Danny Brom

March 8, 2021 via zoom

Trauma, the Jewish Experience, and Lessons for post-Covid Mental Health

Panelists Drs. Danny Brom, Eva Fogelman, and Rachel Yehuda, along with moderator Dr. Lori Lefkowitz, Director of Jewish Studies at Northeastern University, discussed the types of trauma people have experienced during the pandemic, and strategies developed from experiences within the Jewish community to cope with them, and to overcome them. Hundreds of people joined the zoom presentation from all over the world.

[Dr. Danny Brom](#), founding director of [Metiv: The Israel Psychotrauma Center](#), is an internationally renowned expert on trauma and resilience in the face of terror and disaster. As Director of Metiv, he has brought his expertise in trauma to the fields of education, community resilience, health and mental health care to increase the capacity of Israeli society to cope with ongoing existential threats.

Dr. Brom served as Adjunct Associate Professor at the Paul Baerwald School of Social Work at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He is former chair of the Israel Trauma Coalition and served as Director of Research for AMCHA, which provides psychosocial support for first and second generation Holocaust survivors. Internationally, he has provided trauma and resilience training and consulting to professionals and service providers in the wake of terrorism and disaster, including New York after 9/11, Haiti, Turkey, New Orleans, and Mexico.

Dr. Brom has been partner to 50 articles published in peer reviewed journals, and has co-authored seven books including *Helping Children Cope with Trauma: Individual, family and Community Perspectives* (2013), *Treating Traumatized Children: Risk, Resilience and Recovery* (2009), and *The Trauma of Terrorism: Sharing Knowledge and Shared Care. An International Handbook* (2005).

[Dr. Eva Fogelman](#) is a psychologist in private practice in New York City and co-director, Child Development Research (includes International Study of Organized Persecution of Children). She is a pioneer in developing therapeutic techniques for generations of the Holocaust and related historical traumas and training mental-health professionals. She was co-founder and co-director of Psychotherapy with Generations of the Holocaust and Related Traumas at Training Institute for Mental Health, and Founding Director of Jewish Foundation for Christian Rescuers, ADL (ne Jewish Foundation for the Righteous). Dr. Fogelman is the writer and co-producer of the award-winning documentary *Breaking the Silence: The Generation After the Holocaust* (PBS). Her book *Conscience and Courage: Rescuers of Jews During the Holocaust* is a Pulitzer Prize nominee. In addition to other books, her hundreds of writings appear in professional as well as popular publications. Dr. Fogelman serves on many boards as well as an advisor to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. She is a frequent consultant and speaker nationally and internationally, as well as in the media.

[Dr. Rachel Yehuda](#), Professor of Psychiatry and Neuroscience at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mt. Sinai, is the Director of the Center for Psychedelic Psychotherapy and Trauma Research. She is also Director of the Traumatic Stress Studies Division which includes the PTSD clinical research program and the Neurochemistry and Neuroendocrinology laboratory at the James J. Peters Veterans Affairs Medical Center. Dr. Yehuda is a recognized leader in the field of traumatic stress studies. She has authored more than 450 published papers, chapters, and books in the field of traumatic stress and the neurobiology of PTSD. Her current interests include the study of risk and resilience factors, psychological and biological predictors of treatment response in PTSD, genetic and epigenetic studies of PTSD and the intergenerational transmission of trauma and PTSD. She has an active federally-funded clinical and research program that welcomes local and international students and clinicians.