



UNIVERSITY OF
SAN FRANCISCO

Swig Program in Jewish Studies
and Social Justice

September Newsletter



***Night Watch* with Artist Shimon Attie: LGBTQI+ Refugees and Asylum Seekers**

Tuesday, Sept. 21 | 6:30–8 p.m. | Online

The Swig Program in Jewish Studies and Social Justice is co-hosting the West Coast debut of artist Shimon Attie's ***Night Watch***, a floating media installation featuring 12 video portraits of refugees granted political asylum in the United States. The silently displayed images largely feature members of international LGBTQI+ communities, as well as unaccompanied minors, who fled tremendous violence and discrimination in their homelands of Colombia, Honduras, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Nigeria, Peru, and Russia. During this presentation, Attie will discuss the exhibit as well as his creative process. In

addition, an off-campus field trip to see the *Night Watch* project will be held the previous Saturday, Sept. 18 (visit [Eventbrite](#) or the [Catharine Clark Gallery website](#) for more information about the Sept. 18 show; free admission if you pre-register with [Victoria Farlow](#)). These two programs are part of our “Open Doors” Sukkot celebration. Co-sponsored by the USF [Museum Studies Program](#).

[Register Now »](#)



Feeling Jewish: Nostalgia and American Jewish Religion

Tuesday, Oct. 5 | 6:30–8 p.m. | Online

Over the last half century, American Jews have increasingly told nostalgic stories about Eastern European Jewish immigration to the United States at the turn of the twentieth century. Based on her book, *Beyond the Synagogue: Jewish Nostalgia as Religious Practice*, Religious Studies Professor [Rachel B. Gross](#) will speak about American Jewish longing for the

past as expressed through artisanal delis, picture books, historic synagogues, and Jewish genealogy. Asserting that these nostalgic activities are forms of religious practices, Gross illuminates how many American Jews are finding and making meaning within American Judaism today.

[Register Now »](#)



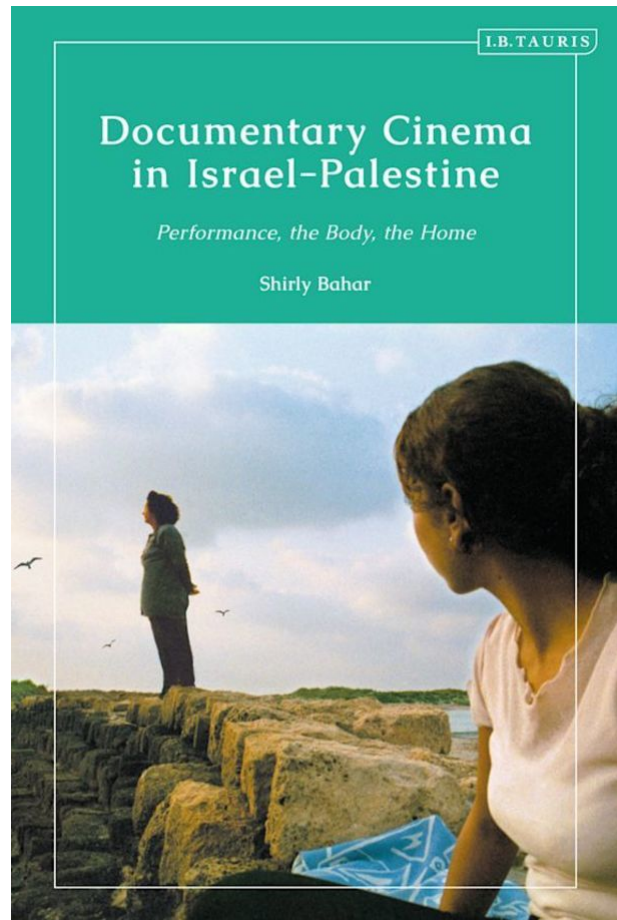
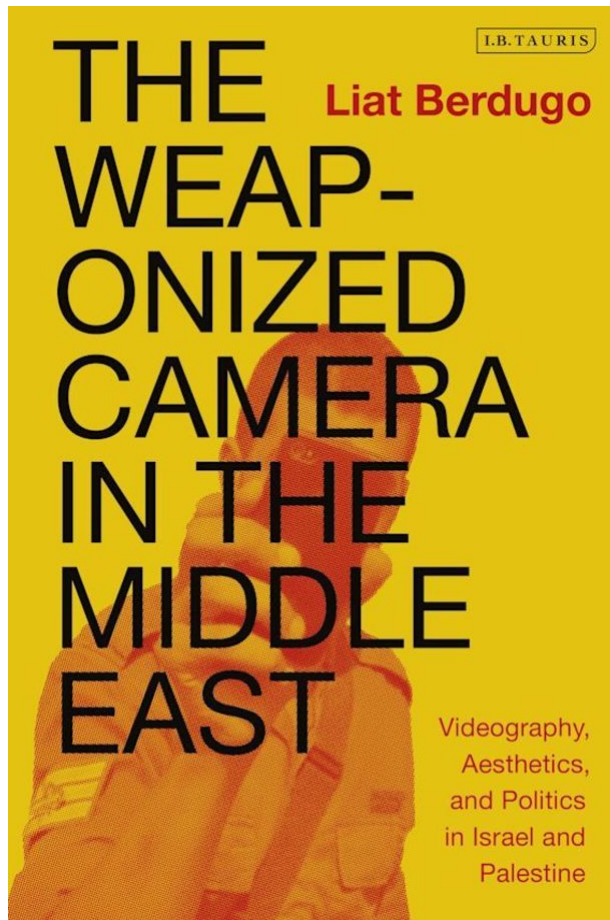
Racial Justice in Twenty-First-Century America: Jews, People of Color, and Multiculturalism

Sunday, Oct. 24 | 6:30–8 p.m. | Online

Marcella White Campbell will deliver the seventh annual Swig JSSJ Program Human Rights Lecture, followed by a conversation between her and USF Rabbi-in-Residence Camille Angel. As the new executive director of **Be'chol Lashon** — a not-for-profit educational organization strengthening Jewish identity by raising awareness about the ethnic, racial, and cultural diversity of Jewish communities and experiences — White Campbell will

speaking about the imperative for racial justice in twenty-first-century America in the Jewish communities and beyond.

[Register Now »](#)



The Visual is Political: Citizen Videography and Documentary Cinema in Israel/Palestine

Tuesday, Nov. 16 | 5:30–7 p.m. | Online

How is oppression represented onscreen in Israel/Palestine? What can we learn from both cinema and everyday videos filmed on cell phones and camcorders about how power structures the visual field in the Middle East, how the visual in turn impacts the political, and how resistance is embedded in people's self-representation of their lives? This talk brings together Professors **Shirly Bahar** (Columbia University) and **Liat Berdugo** (USF), two scholars and artists who study the moving image in Israel and Palestine.

Performance, the Body, the Home, analyzes the new wave of documentaries that center on Palestinians' and Mizrahi Jews' (Jews of Middle Eastern origins) historical and lived experiences of pain and oppression across Israel/Palestine and beyond. Berdugo's 2021 book, ***The Weaponized Camera in the Middle East: Videography, Aesthetics, and Politics in Israel and Palestine***, draws on unprecedented access to the citizen-recorded video archives of B'Tselem, an Israeli NGO that, among other projects, distributes cameras to Palestinians living in the West Bank, East Jerusalem, and Gaza to contribute to the discourse of human rights work through the documentary form of image-making.

[Register Now »](#)



Community Partner Opportunities

JFCS Holocaust Center University Fellowship

The **JFCS Holocaust Center** is now accepting applications for the **Pell and Manovill University Fellowships**! The fellowships provide undergraduate and graduate students the opportunity to become essential members of the

Holocaust and genocide survivors, and facilitate virtual programming for students and adults. They support the Holocaust Center's work in confronting antisemitism through education and public policy. Virtual programming has expanded the Holocaust Center's reach beyond California and the United States.

Each fellowship is a paid position, with a commitment of about 10 hours a week, October through June. Fellows may receive course credit upon completion. The application period for the 2021–22 fellowship is now open. Undergraduate and graduate students interested in becoming a Pell or Manovill University fellow should fill out the **[inquiry form](#)**.

JFCS Holocaust Center Conversation Circle

Undergraduate and graduate students are also encouraged to apply for the JFCS Holocaust Center's **[Conversation Circle](#)** — a unique opportunity to develop a deep connection with a Holocaust survivor. The group will meet on Zoom weekly beginning in October. **[Applications](#)** will be accepted on a rolling basis.