



YOM MASORTI

MASORTI EVERYDAY

SUNDAY 14TH MAY

New North London Synagogue

1.15PM - 7PM

TIMINGS

OPENING

1.30pm - 2.25pm

SESSION 1

2.30pm - 3.30pm

BREAK (OPTIONAL MINCHA IN BEIT TEFILLA A)

3.30pm - 3.50pm

SESSION 2

3.50pm - 4.50pm

BREAK

4.50pm - 5pm

SESSION 3

5pm - 6pm

CLOSING

6pm - 7pm

FESTIVAL TRACKS

With a range of different sessions across three tracks, there's something for everyone. Curate your own Yom Masorti experience across: Masorti Judaism, Jewish Culture and Torah Lishma.

MASORTI JUDAISM

Discussing the issues that matter to our community, this track provides an opportunity to explore the challenges and triumphs that are shaping our Jewish lives.

JEWISH CULTURE

Whether you're into literature, Judaica, storytelling, art or music, the Culture track focuses on creative minds from within the Jewish world and considers the impact of Judaism on wider culture.

TORAH LISHMA

Enjoy Torah 'for its own sake'. Join Masorti rabbis and leaders in an exploration of Jewish texts and ideas. Together we'll learn about our traditions and prayers and delve into the philosophy and ideas that have guided us for centuries.

OPENING

1.30pm



WHAT DO WE MEAN BY MASORTI EVERY DAY?

Rachel Sklan: Masorti Judaism's Chief Executive

Join the Masorti community for a conversation about what it means to be Masorti every day. What are the points in our lives when we feel most connected to our Jewish identity? And what could it mean to feel explicitly like a Masorti Jew?



MASORTI JUDAISM

MASORTI PRIDE: WHY MASORTI IS JUST AS ORTHODOX AS ANYONE ELSE

Rabbi Adam Zagoria-Moffet - St Albans Masorti Synagogue

Masorti Judaism suffers from 'Goldilocks Syndrome' - we only define ourselves by what we're not. Rabbi Adam Zagoria-Moffet will help us explore how we can do better than this, and how our insecurity is misplaced, with our own tradition a truer continuation of the past than any other.



JEWISH CULTURE

STORYTELLING AS A SOURCE OF JEWISH WISDOM

Kohenet Rachel Rose Reid

This session will explore the ways in which we have used storytelling to carry traditions, personal experience, and traces of the many lands through which we've wandered over the generations. From biblical text to fox fables, Kohenet and storyteller Rachel Rose Reid will show how the practice of oral tradition offers a storehouse of wisdom, history, and healing.



TORAH LISHMA

MYSTERIES OF THE HOUSE OF JUDGEMENT

Rabbi Chaim Weiner - Director of the Masorti Bet Din

Join Rabbi Chaim Weiner, the head of the European Masorti Beit Din for a text-based exploration of the Jewish rabbinical court. What is it and why does it matter? What can we uncover about Jewish justice by investigating its existence?



MASORTI JUDAISM

WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT ISRAEL

Senior Rabbi Jonathan Wittenberg and Dr Yizhar Hess, chaired by Dr Leonie Fleischmann, Masorti Judaism's Co-Chair

As Israeli politics becomes increasingly fraught, it's hard to know whether to lean in or turn away. Masorti Judaism's Co-Chair, Dr Leonie Fleischmann, a Senior Lecturer in International Politics, chairs this panel discussion on how, and why, British Jewry should be responding to Israel's democratic crisis. With Dr Yizhar Hess, Vice Chairman of the World Zionist Organisation, journalist and former Executive Director of the Masorti Movement in Israel.



JEWISH CULTURE

THE MASORTI ANTIQUES ROADSHOW

Dori Gamliel, of Dori London Silver Vaults, & Jonathan Fishburn, of Fishburn Books

Our experts will look at your most treasured objects and talk to you about their history and value. You'll be surprised by the range: from Haggadot and Megillot to autographs, candlesticks and Hannukiyot, New Year Cards, Youth Movement ephemera, postcards, maps, and autographs, these objects tell fascinating stories about our families and community. Our experts are happy to look at photos (please email miriam@masorti.org.uk) before you bring objects on the day, or do just bring things in.



TORAH LISHMA

KAVANAH: PRAY IT LIKE YOU MEAN IT

*Chazan Rebeca Blumenfeld & Rhiannon Humphreys
The European Academy of Jewish Liturgy and Shema Koleinu, Masorti Judaism's Tefila Skills team*

Kavanah, or intention, is the secret ingredient to meaningful prayer. Join the European Academy of Jewish Liturgy and Shema Koleinu, Masorti Judaism's Tefila (prayer) Skills team, to explore how and why we pray and tie your own tzitzit as a physical reminder of prayer.



**MASORTI
JUDAISM**

**COME AS YOU ARE: WHAT DOES SUCCESSFUL
INCLUSION LOOK LIKE IN MASORTI
COMMUNITIES?**

Dr Daniella Shaw, Masorti Judaism's LGBT+ Inclusion Manager & Rabbi Roderick Young

Come and hear how our community is cultivating diversity, inclusion and equity within Masorti spaces directly from our members with a variety of experiences.



**JEWISH
CULTURE**

NIGGUN SING

Isaac Montagu

Niggunim are wordless songs traditional to Ashkenazi communities, originating in Hassidism in the 18th century. We'll sing niggunim old and new, and share them between each other. All welcome whether you think you're a singer or not! Join us for an hour to leave words and worries behind and simply sing.



**TORAH
LISHMA**

RABBINIC DEATH MATCH

Noam Masorti Youth and the Masorti Rabbinic Team

Join Noam Masorti Youth and the Masorti rabbinic team for a no-holds-barred examination of some of the most pressing issues facing us today.

**WHERE TO NEXT?**

Join Masorti's rabbinic team and new and old friends to reflect, share and hear from other Masorti members what you're most proud of in your communities, and where we can help and support each other.

SPEAKERS



RACHEL SKLAN - MASORTI JUDAISM'S CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Opening 1.15pm

Rachel was the Masorti Judaism team Deputy Chief Executive of Masorti Judaism for three years before stepping up to the role of Chief Executive. Before that she spent eight years as the Director of Noam Masorti Youth and Marom. Rachel has spent a large part of the last 20 years focused on working with young people, developing future leaders and building resilient and strong communities.



RABBI ADAM ZAGORIA-MOFFET - ST ALBANS MASORTI SYNAGOGUE

Masorti Pride: Why Masorti is Just as Orthodox as Anyone Else, 2.30pm

Adam Zagoria-Moffet is the rabbi of St. Albans Masorti Synagogue. He was ordained from the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York where he also received an MA in Jewish Thought, studying the political philosophy of Rabbi Yehudah Ashlag (Ba'al haSulam). He grew up in Phoenix, Arizona, and has lived in Minnesota, New York, and Israel before moving to the UK. He co-edited the first Hebrew/English egalitarian Sepharadi siddur and runs the independent publisher Izzun Books. He often teaches about Sepharadi halakhah and culture as well as mysticism, mythology and ethics.



RABBI CHAIM WEINER - DIRECTOR OF THE MASORTI BET DIN

Mysteries of the House of Judgment, 2.30pm

Rabbi Chaim Weiner was rabbi for Edgware Masorti Synagogue (now SHEMA) and he followed Dr. Louis Jacobs as the Rabbi of the New London Synagogue. Rabbi Weiner was instrumental in the establishment of the Masorti Bet Din in the United Kingdom, and in its development into the European Masorti Bet Din. He plays a key role in the Assembly of Masorti Synagogues in Great Britain, and is the Masorti Movement representative on cross-communal forums. Rabbi Weiner is the Director of Masorti Europe. In this capacity, he regularly visits both established and small developing Masorti communities across Europe, and is in regular contact with all Masorti rabbis across the continent. As Av Bet Din (Director) of the European Masorti Bet Din, he oversees the provision of advanced Rabbinic services to European Masorti communities.

SPEAKERS



KOHENET RACHEL ROSE REID

Storytelling as a Source of Jewish Wisdom, 2.30pm

Rachel's work as a writer, storyteller, ritualist, and Kohenet, is bound together by her love of shaking the dust from old narratives and lost histories, so that we can find new connection and understanding in the present. She is Spiritual Educator for Sadeh, England's only Jewish environmental and farming community, and an award-winning artist who has worked with Billy Bragg, BBC Radio and the London Symphony Orchestra.



CHAZAN REBECCA BLUMENFELD

Kavanah: Pray it Like You Mean It, 2.30pm

Chazan Bex is a Spiritual and Liturgical Leader, and a Jewish educator. She graduated from Hebrew College in Boston in 2015 with cantorial ordination (smicha) and a Masters in Jewish Studies and she moved back to the UK (where she was born) with her family in 2016.

Chazan Bex is a teacher and mentor for the European Academy of Jewish Liturgy, she works for the Oxford Jewish Congregation and is the Scholar in Residence for Shema Koleinu: Masorti Judaism's Tefila Team.



RHIANNON HUMPHRIES

Kavanah: Pray it Like You Mean It, 2.30pm

Rhiannon has spent the past decade volunteering as an informal educator and youth worker within the Jewish community. Rhiannon is a gifted Tefila leader and facilitator and is the Training Manager for Shema Koleinu: the Masorti Judaism Tefila Team. The team exists to take your prayer to the next level: whether you're a participant or a leader, they want to make prayer feel easier and more meaningful for you.

SPEAKERS

JONATHAN FISHBURN, OF FISHBURN BOOKS, SPECIALISTS IN JUDAICA AND HEBRAICA

The Masorti Antiques Roadshow, 3.50pm

Jonathan Fishburn has been dealing in antiquarian and second-hand books since 1997. In addition to catalogues and internet sales, he assists with collection formation, valuations, bidding and representation at auction, and selling high-value items on commission. He is based in London, UK and his clients include private collectors, libraries and museums in several countries.

DORI GAMLIEL, OF DORI LONDON SILVER VAULTS

The Masorti Antiques Roadshow, 3.50pm

Dealing in all periods of silver and plate, both British, European, and Asian, Dori Gamliel specialises in supplying other members of the trade with a complete range of articles, including silver cutlery. It is best to arrange an appointment. As a young dealer, Dori worked with his father, who also deals in a wide range of antiques.



DR LEONIE FLEISCHMANN

We Need to Talk About Israel, 3.50pm

Leonie grew up in Noam, having joined aged 10, and went on to be a movement worker and the Mazkira. She spent some time living in Israel, where the idea for the formation of the Havurah was first developed, of which she is an active member. She became Co-Chair of Masorti Judaism UK in Sept 2019, having held the Noam portfolio on the Board prior to that. She is a Lecturer in International Politics at City University of London, where she teaches and researches about civil resistance, social movements and human rights, with a focus on Israel. She lives in Leigh-on-Sea with her partner Dan, where they enjoy kayaking and swimming in the sea (aka the Thames estuary).

SPEAKERS



SENIOR RABBI JONATHAN WITTENBERG

We Need to Talk About Israel, 3.50pm

Jonathan Wittenberg was born into a family with a long rabbinical tradition going back several generations in Germany and Eastern Europe. Having earned his degree in literature at the University of Cambridge, he studied for the rabbinate at Leo Baeck College in London, and in Jerusalem. He has been the Senior Rabbi of Masorti Judaism since 2008 and the Rabbi of New North London Synagogue for over 25 years.

Rabbi Wittenberg loves Judaism, literature, history, plants, animals and people. Interfaith work and pastoral care interest him deeply. He writes and speaks about the Jewish faith, moral issues, his love of nature, the spiritual search, human responsibility, and the transience of life.



DR YIZHAR HESS

We Need to Talk About Israel, 3.50pm

Yizhar Hess has a broad range of experience in Jewish communal service. After holding the Deputy Director position at the Shorashim Centre for Jewish Studies, Yizhar served as the Jewish Agency's community shaliach to Tucson. On his return to Israel, he worked for the Jewish Agency as Director of Partnerships. Yizhar has professional experience in advertising and journalism. He is a regular contributor to the Israeli press on the subjects of religion and state.

Between 2007-2020 Yizhar served as the Executive Director of the Masorti Movement in Israel - part of the worldwide Masorti Movement dedicated to a traditional, egalitarian and pluralistic vision of Israel and Judaism. Yizhar represented the Masorti Movement in the negotiations with the Israeli government regarding egalitarian prayer at the Kotel, and he is one of the leading voices in Israel promoting Jewish pluralism. Hess is a member of the Executive of the Jewish Agency, the Board of Trustees of Keren Hayesod and the Board of Governors of The Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Hess is the senior representative of MERCAZ in the National Institutions.

SPEAKERS



ISAAC MONTAGU

Niggun Sing, 5pm

Isaac Montagu is a musician, dancer and Jewish educator who loves to bring communities together through texts and song. With roots in London's Spanish and Portuguese Sephardi community, Isaac is currently researching Sephardic liturgical music at SOAS as a scholar of the Jewish Music Institute. Also an ex-Noamnik, Isaac has a deep love of Ashkenazi niggunim, and their power to welcome all into singing that is lishmah, for its own sake.



DR DANIELLA SHAW

Come As You Are: What does inclusion look like in Masorti communities?, 5pm

Daniella is the LGBT+ Inclusion Manager at Masorti Judaism, leading on the LGBT+ Inclusion Project. The project seeks to reflect Masorti values of inclusion and diversity by developing and embedding best practice on LGBT+ issues within all Masorti communities and spaces.

Daniella has a PhD focussing on faith communities' adaptations to a rapidly changing world. When Daniella is not working on LGBT+ Inclusion within Masorti communities, she is doing her postdoctoral studies on encounters between different faith groups. In her spare time, she co-convenes the Masorti LGBT+ Network, runs a reading group focussing on sexuality, race and gender and agrees to far too many other exciting projects.



RABBI RODERICK YOUNG

Come As You Are: What does inclusion look like in Masorti communities?, 5pm

Rabbi Roderick Young has a BA and an MA in English Literature from Oxford, an MA in Jewish studies from The Jewish Theological Seminary of America and ordination from Hebrew Union College, New York. He was Assistant Rabbi/Education Director of Congregation Beit Simchat Torah (the world's largest synagogue serving the LGBTQ+ community) in New York for six happy years. In the UK he was Associate Rabbi at West London Synagogue (Britain's largest and oldest Reform synagogue, founded in 1840), Rabbi of the Leicester Progressive Jewish Congregation and then Principal Rabbi of Finchley Reform Synagogue in North London. He is now a member of the Rabbinical Assembly of Conservative Judaism and works as a free-lance Conservative/Masorti rabbi, concentrating on writing, teaching and life-cycle events. He lives in Norfolk, UK, and Tuscany, Italy, with his husband Zoltan. They are proud members of New London Synagogue.