

A heart of many rooms

DIVERSE IDENTITIES

Junction Annual

10 - 12 February 2023

BERLIN - GERMANY

Speakers

A portrait of Eitan Bergman, a man with dark hair and a beard, wearing a dark suit jacket over a light-colored shirt. The portrait is set against a dark background with a red light effect.

**Eitan
Bergman**

Eitan Bergman, born in Liège, Belgium, is the Executive Director of the European Union of Jewish Students (EUJS), the umbrella organisation of Jewish student unions in 36 countries across Europe. He is an elected Executive member and Secretary General of the umbrella organisation of the Belgian Jewish community, the Coordination Committee of Jewish Organisations in Belgium (CCOJB) and a member of the World Jewish Congress Jewish Diplomatic Corps (WJC JDCorps).

Rebecca Blady



Rabbi Rebecca Blady is the Executive Director of Hillel Deutschland and spends her time working to bring together diverse communities of Jewish students and young adults across Germany to learn, grow, and build community. She received rabbinic ordination from Yeshivat Maharat in New York in 2019. She lives in Berlin, Germany.

Jeremy Borovitz



Rabbi Jeremy Borovitz is the Director of Jewish Life of Hillel Deutschland. Jeremy previously worked for the JDC, Moishe House, and served in the U.S. Peace Corps. He received Rabbinic ordination from Rabbi Daniel Landes in 2020. He now lives in Berlin, Germany.

A portrait of Dalia Grinfeld, a woman with curly hair, smiling slightly. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent red filter.

Dalia Grinfeld

Dalia Grinfeld dedicated her young career to fighting against antisemitism and hate on a German and European scale as a political Jewish activist. She brings this energy to the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) since 2019, today as the Associate Director of European Affairs. Based in Berlin, she develops and manages ADL's education programs in Europe and supports European Jewish communities in their advocacy efforts fighting antisemitism. Within her numerous volunteer leadership commitments, Dalia Grinfeld served two years as the first elected President of the Jewish Student Union Germany (JSUD) of which she is a founding member and is a founding and former board member of LGBTIQ*-Jewish organization Keshet (Rainbow) Germany.

A portrait of Tehila Darmon, a woman wearing a headscarf, smiling. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent red filter.

Tehila Darmon

Tehila Darmon, a Jewish - Israeli woman, has lived in Berlin for almost 6 years, mother of 4 lovely children, CEO of the entrepreneurial organization ICE - Israeli Community Europe e.V. and the director of the activity centers for the Israeli communities in Europe - Zusammen Berlin, Zusammen Vienna, Mazi Athens, Juntos Barcelona.

Believes in creating bridges between people and communities and in connections to yourself and your identity through a fruitful and fulfilling community life.

Shai Doitsh



Shai is Director of communities development and fundraising at ICE- Israeli Community Europe E.v and Tour Guide, telling the story of Berlin and its people since 2018. Shai loves to be a tourist, discovering new places and tastes, getting to know the hidden corners of the city up close and especially hearing the stories of the people who lived and walked the city streets throughout history. "Even though Berlin has been my home for years, I still feel like a tourist every time I am exposed to new stories and fascinating characters who made this city what it is today." Storytelling is his passion and expertise.

Lievnath Faber



Lievnath Faber is a Jewish educator and activist, birth- and death doula and ritualist. She weaves Jewish activism, life cycle awareness and ritual together to create joyful and empowered Jewish life in Europe. She is a trained mikveh guide and Jewish grief ceremony facilitator, (co)founder and program director of Oy Vey, the open, inclusive and unapologetically Jewish community in Amsterdam and part of the faculty staff of Ze Kollel, the immersive pan-European Jewish learning programme. She feels most alive when she is facilitating or accompanying people and meeting them where they are at.

Joey Leskin



Joey is a Masters-educated Leadership Consultant from London who designs and facilitates experiential and educational workshops for audiences across the globe, with travel experience in over 60 countries. He specialises in communication skills, remote work methodologies, community building and Jewish cultural engagement.

Previous professional roles include Chief Program Officer for KAHAL Abroad and Senior Fellow in Turkey for the JDC, while he also held the lay role of Programme Chair for Limmud in 2020. Alongside these, he developed the Modern Diaspora History Curriculum for the Pluralistic Rabbinical Seminary and has facilitated bespoke seminars for My Jewish Learning, the Stockholm Jewish Community and JAcademy. He is the UK Schusterman ROI Rep and a Board member for the Movement for Reform Judaism.

Benjamin Mateev



Benjamin is currently the co-founder and CEO of informed, a new platform that curates world-class journalism from premium publishers, all available under one subscription. In his professional journey, he previously worked at various startups and companies. His most important stops were being a lead engineer at award-winning startup Wunderlist, which was acquired by Microsoft, a product lead at Microsoft and the founder of an agency. In these previous roles and through his upbringing as an immigrant in Germany he learned the Ins and Outs of adapting to new circumstances and succeeding in ambiguity.

Robin Moss



Robin Moss worked professionally for more than a decade in Jewish and Israel education in the British Jewish community, first at LJY-Netzer and then at UJIA. He is now the Chief Executive of Unitas Youth Zone, an amazing youth centre in Burnt Oak in London that is open seven days a week for young people age 8-19 (up to 25 with additional needs) and sees 1000+ visits a week. He is also a Trustee of KeshetUK and the Jewish Youth Fund, and a volunteer for Limmud.

Albert Oliveras



Albert is from Barcelona, where they currently live. After studying art history in Barcelona and Germany they lived in Leipzig and Berlin, where they were involved in social work and community outreach in the queer and migrant communities. Returning to Barcelona five years ago, Albert has dedicated much of their time to community building, being involved in European Limmud projects, the local conservative synagogue, and Mozaika, a Jewish cultural platform where they also worked as project manager. He has extensive experience as a facilitator, having led workshops and community debates on issues such as social justice, veganism, and sexual and gender diversity, often in dialogue with Jewish sources. They are currently working for Moishe House, helping young Jews around the world create and sustain community spaces that are enriching, joyful, and welcoming.

Albert loves hosting people for Shabbat meals and is passionate about small intentional social spaces, Jewish learning, interior design and architecture, travel, and vegan challah.

Rabbi Michael Paley



Rabbi Michael Paley has been a rabbi and teacher for 40 years at universities, foundations and fellowships. He is currently the Founding Director of the Tarbut Fellowship, a lay leadership program of the JDC and lives in Budapest, Hungary. After completing his studies at Yeshiva HaMivtar in Jerusalem and Yeshiva B'nai Or in Philadelphia he became one of the first post denominational renewal rabbis. His life blessing was to have Rabbi Chaim Brovender, Rabbi Zalman Schachter Shalomi and Seyyed Hossain Nasr as his teachers. He enjoys being a rabbi enormously and every section of the Torah is his favorite. He cries about Ukraine and particularly his beloved Odessa and Uman. He travels constantly with his wife, Anny Dobrejcer.

Dr. Renana Ravitsky Pilzer



Dr. Renana Ravitsky Pilzer is Educational Director of the Shalom Hartman Institute's Center for Israeli-Jewish Identity. She works to define the program's educational direction and the integration of the Institute's philosophical-pluralistic approach in the program's curricula and teaching. Renana has studied and worked at the Institute for many years in different capacities. Among her positions, she served as the co-director of the Melamdim School for Teacher Training, and for the past several years as the head of the Beit Midrash at the Midrashiya Girls High School, leading an experiment to develop the school's Orthodox feminist curriculum. Renana's academic interest focuses on Jewish thought and Midrash. She received her doctorate in Midrash and Gender in the Bar Ilan University Gender Studies Program.

Ella Ponjzovsky



photography by Arndt Beck

Ella is a multilingual visual artist who was born in Moscow, immigrated to Israel in 1991 and since 2016 lives and works in Berlin. Her own hybrid identity drives her to inspect cultural self-definition in individuals and in communities. Within a dialog with Anarchist theories of the 20th century, she explores and contemplates manifestations of migration and integration processes through both visualisation and erasure of language. Ella believes that connecting a particular text to a place is a form of art, as she creates temporary interventions in public space and site-specific murals in public locations, museums and galleries. Her interventions are created to expose moral corruption.

Martin Schubert



Martin is a Storytelling trainer and Yoga teacher from Berlin. Together with Hillel Deutschland he organizes the Jewish meditation group Nefesh haShavua. For him Storytelling is about owning your narrative, and Yoga about knowing when to move beyond all narratives.

Waj Solon



Walter Solon is an artist, writer, musician and filmmaker from São Paulo, Brazil. He studied social sciences in São Paulo and Paris and visual arts/film at the Academy of Media Arts Cologne and Art Center College of Design, Pasadena. His work has been shown at Goethe-Institut Beijing, Art Sonje Center (Seoul), Oberhausen Film Festival and the 6th Thessaloniki Biennale of Contemporary Arts. Wal is now one of the LABA fellows in Berlin.

Angela Stoddard



Angela Stoddard is an international youth program administrator with over 5 years of experience in the non-profit sector. She is currently a Global Jewish Service Corps Fellow with JDC Entwine and OLAM in London, UK. She graduated from the University of Manchester with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics and Politics. Previously, Angela has lived in Netanya, Israel as part of the Masa Israel Teaching Fellows program and in Brčko, Bosnia and Herzegovina as part of the European Solidarity Corps program. In Bosnia, Angela led workshops on peacebuilding and reconciliation to bring young people of different ethnic backgrounds together which are one of her proudest achievements.

Tomer Zirkilevich



Tomer is an Israeli choreographer, director, performer and teacher, based in Berlin. Graduate of The School of Dance Arts of Kibbutzim College, Tel-Aviv; Choreographer of the works: SWAN, The ARK, My David & SODOM, Infidelity: A love story and more;

His works have been shown in different festivals and venues around Europe. His video dance 'Objective Romance' won several prizes in festivals around the world. Tomer works in the fields of physical theater and screen and stage performance. The wide theme in his works is "conflict of values and social. Tomer is now one of the LABA fellows in Berlin.