

F. K. Schoeman (aka Clementi)
Professor of English, Comp Lit, Jewish and Women's & Gender Studies
University of South Carolina

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Positions

Co-editor of *AJS Perspectives*

The journal of the Association for Jewish Studies, 2022-2025

SC Council on the Holocaust Board

By appointment by the Governor of South Carolina Henry McMaster, 2023-2025

Director of the Jewish Studies Program

University of South Carolina, 2017-2022

Interim Director of the Jewish Studies Program

University of South Carolina, Fall 2017

Interim Director of the Jewish Studies Program

University of South Carolina, Fall 2013

Affiliate Faculty in Comparative Literature

University of South Carolina, 2008-present

Affiliate Faculty in Women's and Gender Studies

University of South Carolina, 2008-present

EDUCATION

Ph.D., 2008 Comparative Literature
CUNY Graduate Center

M.A., 1998 Near Eastern and Judaic Studies
Brandeis University

Laurea, 1994 Lettere e Filosofia *cum laude*
University of Rome La Sapienza

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Rhetoric of Humor, a translation of Lucie Olbrechts-Tyteca's *Le comique du discours* with Chris Holcomb. Brill's *International Studies in the History of Rhetoric*—under contract.

South of My Dreams: Finding My American Home. A memoir. USC Press, 2024.

Holocaust Mothers and Daughters: Family, History, and Trauma. Brandeis University Press, 2013.

Reviews: Michael A. Grodin, in *Modern Judaism* (2015) 35(3): 347-351.

Evelyn Torton Beck, in *Women's Review of Books* March/April (2015) 32(2): 14-16.

Rachel Sara Rosenthal, online for the Jewish Book Council (2014).

Judy Tydor Baumel-Schwartz, in *Holocaust and Genocide Studies* (Aug 2016)

Pour La Vie/For Life – screenplay (submitted/under review).

Postmortem – A novel (manuscript ready for submission).

Journal Articles

"Funny Professors, Serious Lessons: An Analysis of the Image of Jews as Academics in Film," F.K.Schoeman and Christian Anderson. In *Jewish Film & New Media* vol. 8 (2): Wayne State University Press, 2021; 153-185.

"Between Jew and Nature: Tracing Jewish Ethics in the Ecological Imagination of Bernard Malamud's *Dubin's Lives*," in *Studies in American Jewish Literature*, volume 38, Number 1 (March 2019): 47-75.

"Natalia Ginzburg, Clara Sereni, Lia Levi: Jewish Italian Women Recapturing City, Family and National Memory," in *The European Journal of Women's Studies* (Fall 2013).

"The *JAP*, the *Yenta*, and the *Mame* in Aline Kominsky Crumb's Graphic Imagination." *The Journal of Graphic Novels and Comics* (Routledge University Press) iFirst (Sept 2012): 1-23.

"Helena Janeczek's Lessons of Darkness: Uncharted Paths to Shoah Memory through Food and Language" in *Contemporary Women's Writing* (Oxford University Press) 6:1 (2012): 1-19.

"Nightbirds, Nightmares and the Mother's Smile: Art and Psychoanalysis in Sarah Kofman's Life-Writing" in *Women in French Studies*, Vol. 19 (2011): 67-84.

“Nightbirds, Nightmares and the Mother’s Smile” won the national Florence Howe Award for Feminist Scholarship.

“Rottweilers, Please Take Note: The Superpowers of Jewish Women’s Graphic Memory!” essay contributed to the catalogue for the exhibition *Graphic Details: Confessional Comics by Jewish Women* (*The Jewish Forward*) 2010.

“Fra Bene Supremo e Male Supremo, la Fede di un Poeta: Jan Twardowski (“A Poet’s Faith between Ultimate Good and Ultimate Evil: Jan Twardowski”) in *Si Scrive* (Cremona, Italy: 1996; 198-219).

Chapters in Edited Volumes:

“Of Mice and Women” in *Jewish Women’s Comics: Borders and Bodies*, Andrea Greenbaum, Sarah Lightman and Heike Bauer (Northwestern University Press, 2023: 31-36).

- Nominated for a Broken Frontier 2023 Award for Best Book on Comics.
- Winner of the 2024 South Atlantic MLA Award for Best Edited Collection.

“We Are No Anne Frank. And Yet...” in *Creating under Covid*, ed. Judith Tydor-Schartz. Bar-Ilan University, Israel: The Finkler Institute of Holocaust Studies, 2020; 131-32. <https://www.ourbook.com/books/creating-under-covid/>

- Reviewed in The Jerusalem Post: <https://www.jpost.com/jerusalem-report/creating-under-covid-643322> Review of the volume *Creating under Covid*, Jerusalem Post, Sep 30, 2020.

“An Academic Autobiography in Seven Uneasy Vignettes,” in *Her Story, My Story? Writing about Women and the Holocaust*, eds. Judith Tydor Baumel-Schwartz and Dalia Ofer. Bern, Switzerland: Peter Lang, 2020; 235-247.

- Finalist for the 2020 National Jewish Book Award.

“Federica K. Clementi on Aline Kominsky-Crumb,” in *Graphic Details: Confessional Comics by Jewish Women*. Sarah Lightman ed. New Jersey: McFarland, 2014.

Graphic Details won the Susan Koppelman Prize for Best Feminist Anthology, 2015.

Graphic Details won the Will Eisner Comic Industry Award 2015.

Graphic Details was a Nominee for the Broken Frontier Award, 2014.

“Introduction,” “Discussion Questions,” and “Exercises” for Art Spiegelman's *MAUS: A Survivor's Tale. The Carolina Reader*. 1st, 2nd, 3rd eds. Hayden McNeil, 2014: 134-142.

“Indispensabile Naturalezza: Una Conversazione” (“Indispensable Naturalness: A Conversation”) in *Wyslawa Szymborska, Opere* Pietro Marchesani ed. Milan, Italy: Adelphi Edizioni, 2008; 1050-1067.

“‘Shoah Delle Donne’: Famiglia e Esperienza Personale nella Letteratura Femminile Della Shoah” (“Women’s Shoah: Family and Personal Experience in Women’s Shoah Literature”) in *Tra Storia e immaginazione: gli Scrittori ebrei di lingua italiana si raccontano*. Hanna Serkowska ed. Krakow, Poland: Wydawnictwo RABID, 2008; 281-92.

Book Reviews

“Remembering Zelda: Jeremy Popkin’s Tribute to a Forgotten Jewish Writer and Grandmother Extraordinaire” –review of *Zelda Popkin: The Life and Times of an American Jewish Woman Writer* by Jeremy Popkin (Rowman and Littlefield, 2023). In *Life Writing* (Apr 8, 2024).

Review of *Laughter After: Humor and the Holocaust* by David Slucki, Gabriel Finder and Avinoam Patt eds. (Wayne State University Press, 2020). *Contemporary Jewry* (Fall 2021).

“A Match Made in Literature: How Love and Marriage Created Jewish Modernity” – review of *The Marriage Plot* by Naomi Seidman (Stanford UP). *Clio: A Journal of Literature, History, and the Philosophy of History*, 46:2 (2018).

“How Come Boys Get to Keep Their Noses?” - review of the book by the same title by Tahneer Oksman (Columbia UP). *Life Writing*, 15:4 (2016), 613-615.

Holocaust in Italian Culture 1944-2010 by Robert Gordon (Stanford University Press, 2012)— reviewed for *Clio: A Journal of Literature, History, and the Philosophy of History* 43:1(2013), 133-138.

Lives Lived and Lost: East European History Before, During and After World War II as Experienced by an Anthropologist and Her Mother by Kaja and Golda Finkler (Academic Studies Press, 2012). *H-Net Humanities and Social Sciences* (September 2013).

Consultant:

Content Consultant for the book: *Anne Frank* by Heather C. Hudak. Abdo Publishing (2021) The Groundbreaker Bios Series.

Mass Media Contributions:

Interviewed: “USC students, faculty rethink education following Holocaust Remembrance Day,” in *The Daily Gamecock* (February 17, 2023)

“When Art is All That Remains” – in The FreeTimesPost & Courier/The State newspapers. April 27, 2022: 12-13.

Special guest for a live 1-hour radio program with Mark Lieberman on WPVMfm.org, 103.7 FM <https://wpvmfm.org/new-radio-player/> (November 3, 2021)

Interviewed: "The Diary of Anne Frank: 69 Years after the New York Times Book Review" by Bill Lucey for *The Daily News Gems*. <https://www.dailynewsgems.com/2021/03/the-diary-of-anne-frank-69-years-after-the-new-york-times-book-review.html> (March 21, 2021)

"Why Remember the Women?" - in *The FreeTimes/Post & Courier/The State* newspapers, April 15, 2021.

"The End of the Holocaust: Looking on from Far away" - in *The FreeTimes*, April 15, 2020.

"Teaching the Holocaust in the South after Charlottesville" in *The Daily Kos*, August 11, 2018. <https://www.dailykos.com/stories/2018/8/11/1787630/-Teaching-the-Holocaust-in-the-South-after-Charlottesville>

"Antisemitism: Paving the Path to Genocide," in *The State* newspaper, Special Supplement from the Columbia Holocaust Education Commission, April 6 (2018) 4-5.

Interviewed by the *Carolina News and Reporter*: "If Not Us, Who? How one woman teaches people to accept the 'other'" (April 23, 2018) <https://carolinanewsandreporter.cic.sc.edu/test/if-not-us-who-how-one-woman-teaches-people-to-accept-the-other>

"The Relation between Antisemitism, the Holocaust and Today's World," in *The State* newspaper, Special Supplement from the Columbia Holocaust Education Commission, (April 2017).

Interviewed for a piece about Debra Lipstadt's visit to campus. "Professor who won historic legal battle over Holocaust denier to speak at USC," *The State* newspaper (September 6, 2017).

"Defining the Indescribable: 'Holocaust' and Its Meaning" in *The State*, A Special Supplement from the Columbia Holocaust Education Commission, April 12 (2015) 5 and 23.

"How Could This Have Happened?: Trying to Understand the Holocaust" in *The State*, A Special Supplement from the Columbia Holocaust Education Commission, April 13 (2014) 6-7.

PRESENTATIONS

Conferences

MAUS at 30 roundtable at MLA 2022. January 9, 2022.

"Women During the Holocaust" panel moderator. "'Our Story, Their Story': Recalling Women in Auschwitz and During the Holocaust," The Museum of Jewish Heritage, New York City, June 4 and 7, 2020. (Held via Zoom, and available on the websites of the Museum of Jewish Heritage, the Finkler Institute, and Youtube channels.)

"The Choice: Conversation with Edith Eger," interviewer and respondent. Part of the "Survivors Series" organized by Chabad of South Carolina open to participants nationally and internationally via Zoom. August 4, 2020.

Jewish Professors on Film, at the American (Jewish) Humor Conference: Intersections of Religion, Race, Ethnicity, and Gender in American Humor: University of SC, April 28-30, 2018.

Reading Nature in Saul Bellow and Bernard Malamud, at Association for Jewish Studies 47th Annual Conference: Boston, 13-15 December, 2015.

Remember What Amalek Did to Her: Daughters Inscribing the (Forgotten) Mother into the Jewish Story, at the Conference on Motherhood in post-1968 European Women's Writing: Cross-Cultural and Interdisciplinary Dialogues. University of London, UK, October 24-26, 2013.

“Sacrée nourriture!”: Sarah Kofman’s Indigestible Past at PACIFIC ANCIENT AND MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE (PaMLA), Washington University, Seattle, WA October 19-21, 2012.

The Yenta, The Mame and the JAP in Aline Kominsky Crumb’s Graphic Imagination at NORTHEAST MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE (NeMLA), Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ April 7-10, 2011.

Make Yourself a Graven Image: How Graphic Memoirs Revisualize the Jewish Experience at NORTHEAST MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE (NeMLA), Montreal, Quebec, April 7-11, 2010.

Re-Centering the Mother in Shoah Autobiography: Ruth Klüger, Edith Bruck, Sarah Kofman at the FIFTEENTH WORLD CONGRESS OF JEWISH STUDIES, Jerusalem, Israel, August 1-7, 2009.

Man’s Purposeful Creation: Primo Levi’s Utopia of Being in *La Chiave a stella* at the 40th Annual Conference of the NORTHEAST MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION (NeMLA), Boston, MA, February 26- March 1, 2009.

Entangled Roots: Helena Janeczek’s Lessons in Darkness, at the 40th Annual Conference of the ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES (AJS), Washington, DC, December 21-23, 2008.

Invisible Words: Fantastic Architectures in Bruno Schulz and Italo Calvino presented at the conference «CROSSING BOUNDARIES: PERSPECTIVES ON THE FANTASTIC IN ITALIAN ARTS AND CULTURES» for the Fourth Annual Robert Dombroski Italian Conference—September 22nd-23rd, 2007: University of Connecticut, Storrs, Connecticut.

Italian Jewish Identity invited by the Jewish Community of Great Neck to lecture at cultural program sponsored by CLUB CHAI (NY)—March 22, 2007.

Through the Children’s Eyes: Figurations of the Maternal in the Italian Shoah Literature presented at the conference «LETTERATURA EBRAICA ITALIANA: LINGUA E MEMORIA DELLA SHOÀ» (Italian Jewish Literature: Language and Memory of the Shoah) for the Second International Conference on Jewish Italian Literature—January 29-30, 2007: University of Warsaw and Istituto Italiano di Cultura, Warsaw, Poland.

Ode to the Small Virtues: Natalia Ginzburg, Clara Sereni & Lia Levi in Inter/National Perspective presented at the conference «RESPONSE, REMEMBRANCE,

REPRESENTATION: A DIALOGUE BETWEEN POSTWAR JEWISH LITERATURES»—6-7 November 2006: University of Antwerp and University of Ghent, Belgium.

Primo Levi and Italian Jewish Culture presented at the «SYMPOSIUM IN HONOR OF PRIMO LEVI»—April 30, 2006: State University of New York (SUNY)/F.I.T., New York.

Beauty and Death in Venice: Thomas Mann's Decadent Narrative presented at the «LOOKING IN THE EYES OF THE BEHOLDER: INTERDISCIPLINARY GRADUATE CONFERENCE»—November 5-6, 2004: CUNY Graduate Center, New York.

(In-)Visible Cousins: The Presence of the Jew in Italian Cinema presented at the «AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF ITALIAN STUDIES ANNUAL CONFERENCE»—March 13-16, 2003: Georgetown University, Washington, DC.

Invited Lectures

Writing Life. Jewish Community Center, Asheville, NC (June 7, 2024).

Antisemitism. Brevard Jewish Community in collaboration with UNC Asheville, The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, St. Philip's Episcopal Church, The Unitarian Universalists of Transylvania County, Bethel "A" Baptist Church, The Center for Spiritual Wisdom and The Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Inaugural guest for the newly-established *Explorations in Jewish Life and History* series (February 18, 2024).

Holocaust on Film. A public lecture at the Richland County Library, Columbia SC (July 2, 2023). (Event cancelled by organizers because of logistical problems on the day of).

"Jewish Perspectives," lecture for the USC Council of Academic Diversity Officers Retreat (May 9, 2022).

Holocaust Remembered. A public class for adult learning at the Lourie Learning Center in Columbia, SC (March 9, 2021).

Can We Outsmart Antisemitism? a panel with City of Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin and Representative Beth Bernstein. The Anne Frank's Center at USC (November 11, 2021).

Last Lecture Series. A prestigious lecture given by a USC professor chosen by the students among the entire university's faculty (March 29, 2021).

Remarks on Antisemitism and Teaching the Holocaust at UofSC. At the opening ceremony of the Anne Frank House on campus (August 27, 2021).

"Can We Outsmart Antisemitism?" at The Anne Frank's House at USC (November 11, 2021).

Against Nature: An Ecocritical Reading of the Holocaust, invited by the president of the Association of Holocaust Organizations to speak at the AHO annual winter conference. Charleston, SC (January 13-15, 2019).

Women Holocaust Scholars from around the World Tell Their Story, at the Spring Holocaust Forum, The Jewish Museum, New York City (May 5, 2019).

The Human Stains: Connecting Genocide and Ecocide for a New Philosophy of Caring, Keynote address, *INK! 2019* Undergraduate Conference, University of South Carolina (April 5, 2019).

“The Yellow Ticket:” Jewish Life in Russia before and after WWI, presentation and Q & A session after the music performance related to the film *The Yellow Ticket*. Recital Hall, USC School of Music (March 31, 2019).

Antisemitism: Its Origins, Its Effects, Its Echoes Today, public lecture at the at Kansas University, Kansas City, MO (October 11, 2018).

Anne Frank: Writer, Humorist, Resister lecture and workshop for grade teachers at the Midwest Center for Holocaust Education, Kansas City (October 10, 2018).

Reconsidering Anne Frank: Unexplored Perspectives, lecture delivered at the conference “Women and the Holocaust,” Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, WA (October 17-19 2016).

Women Writers of the Shoah, lecture at the John Cabot University, Rome, Italy (February 8, 2016).

Imaging Jewish Life: Jewish Humour and the Jewish-American Experience at John Cabot University of Rome and Guarini Institute for Public Affairs, Rome, Italy (February 8, 2016).

Making the Holocaust Relevant in the 21st-Century Classroom, workshop for the 10th Annual Teacher Conference “Lessons from the Holocaust” by the South Carolina Council on the Holocaust, Columbia, SC (October 16, 2015).

Holocaust Remembrance Day Lecture, at Francis Marion University, Florence, SC (February 27, 2015).

Invited to talk at the 3rd Annual Success Radiates: Successful Women's Forum, organized by Zeta Sigma Chi Multicultural Sorority at USC (November 5, 2014).

The Impact of Feminism and Gender Studies on Holocaust Studies, Plenary Session. The biannual conference *Lessons and Legacies XIII*, Florida Atlantic University (Boca Raton), organized by the Holocaust Educational Foundation of Northwestern University (October 31, 2014).

Girls under Attack: Anita Lobel, Sarah Kofman, Milena Roth and the Dear Myth of Childhood Innocence, The Children’s Literature Association (ChLA) Conference, Columbia, SC (June 19, 2014).

From Eastern Europe to West Hollywood: Imaging Jewish Life and Family, UNC Center for Jewish Studies’ *Uhlman Family Seminar*, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill (April 12, 2014).

“The Return of the Violin:” Film, Live Music, and a Conversation with Our Scholars, Presented, chaired a panel and offered introductory remarks. USC School of Music Recital Hall (February 23, 2014).

Jewish Literature a series of lectures given as part of the Adult Education Program at Beth Shalom synagogue, Columbia, SC (Nov-Dec 2012).

Holocaust Curriculum: Framework, Methodology, Ideas workshop offered at the South Carolina Council for Social Studies Annual Conference, Greenville, SC (Sept 27-29, 2012).

How Funny Can Jews Get? Jewish Humor and the Internalization of Hatred in Jewish Women's Self-Image talk for the Sunday Adult Study at Beth Shalom Synagogue, Columbia, SC (March 3, 2012).

Holocaust and Myth: How Tales Help Us Speak, lecture for the 2011 *Solomon-Tenenbaum Visiting Lectureship in Jewish Studies* at the University of South Carolina.

Recovering Voices/ Constructing Identities Lecture for the University of South Carolina *Women's & Gender Studies Conference* (March 17-18, 2011).

Entering the Matrix respondent to Bracha Ettinger's *Matrixial Transjektivty*, Plenary Lecture at the 38th ANNUAL UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA FRENCH LITERATURE CONFERENCE, Columbia, SC (March 18-20, 2010).

HONORS / FELLOWSHIPS / AWARDS

2023 ENGLISH DEPARTMENT TEACHING AWARD, University of South Carolina.

2022 WOMEN'S & GENDER STUDIES TEACHING AWARD, University of South Carolina.

2020 FELLOW AT THE INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF GLOBAL ANTISEMITISM AND POLICY (ISGAP), Oxford University, England.

2017 CURT C. AND ELSE SILBERMAN FELLOW from the Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies (US Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, DC).

2015 INTERNATIONAL WILL EISNER COMIC INDUSTRY AWARD FOR BEST SCHOLARLY ACADEMIC WORK for the volume *Graphic Details: Confessional Comics by Jewish Women*, Sarah Lightman editor (2015).

2015 USC's PROVOST GRANT RECIPIENT (2015).

PETER AND BONNIE MCCAUSLAND FELLOW OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE (2014).

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT'S TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD (2013).

FLORENCE HOWE AWARD FOR FEMINIST SCHOLARSHIP from **MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION WOMEN'S CAUCUS** (2012).

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES SUMMER RESEARCH STIPEND AWARD (2011).

JOSEPHINE ABNEY FACULTY AWARD IN WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES (2010).

HONORABLE MENTION FOR THE CAROLYN G. HEILBRUN DISSERTATION PRIZE FOR EXCELLENCE IN FEMINIST SCHOLARSHIP (2009).

MAURICE AND MARILYN COHEN FUND FOR DOCTORAL DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIPS IN JEWISH STUDIES from the **NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR JEWISH CULTURE** (2007-2008).

BLANKSTEEN FELLOWSHIP IN JEWISH STUDIES awarded to excellent dissertation proposals in the field of Jewish Studies (2006-7 and again 2007-8).

PREVIOUS ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Full-Time Lecturer,
Columbia University, 2007-2008

Teaching Assistant, Morse Program,
New York University, 2006-2007

Adjunct Professor, *Jewish Studies Program,*
City College, City University of New York, 2006

Graduate Teaching Fellow, Department of English,
City College, City University of New York, 2002-2006

Adjunct Professor of Italian Language
Fashion Institute of Technology (New York City), 2003-2006

Teaching Assistant, Department of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies
Brandeis University, 1996-1998

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Anne Frank Center at USC Board of Directors (2016-present)
- Board of the Columbia Holocaust Education Commission (2015-present)
- Board Member of Columbia Jewish Federation (2015-2022)
- Jewish Faculty Council Member (2014-present)
- Board Member for the Columbia Jewish Film Festival (2009- 2017)
- Josephine Abney Award Committee (2010)
- Carlyle Award Committee (2011)
- Columbia Jewish Federation Board of Directors (2013-2022)
- Columbia Yom haShoah Committee (2008-present)
- Committee Member for the Solomon-Tenenbaum Visiting Lectureship Series in Jewish Studies (2008-2013)
 - Chair of the Solomon-Tenenbaum Visiting Lectureship Series (2017-2022)

OTHER SERVICE

- Special Task Force "Faculty for Ukraine" Committee Member (2022)
- Special Task Force Member for the Anne Frank House Project on campus, USC
- Member of the Jewish Faculty and Staff Committee on Campus, University of South Carolina
- Affiliate faculty member of Women's and Gender Studies, University of South Carolina
- Affiliate faculty member of Comparative Literature, University of South Carolina

LANGUAGES

English, Italian, French, Polish, Czech, German, Spanish, Ukrainian, Russian, Hebrew