

Judaic Studies Program

School of International and Public Affairs



Religion, Art and Politics in the Passover Haggadah: Then and Now

April 7, 2011 | 10:30 AM - Light Refreshments | 11 AM - Lecture
FIU Modesto A. Maidique Campus | Frost Art Museum

Marc Michael Epstein of Vassar College, author of *The Medieval Haggadah: Art, Narrative and Religious Imagination* (forthcoming from Yale University Press, June 2011), will compare and interpret a selection of images from stunningly beautiful medieval haggadot and some truly intriguing (and shocking) contemporary examples from the ultra-Orthodox world, exploring the intersection of art with politics and relations between Jews and others “in those days” and in our own. Dr. Epstein has been teaching at Vassar since 1992, and was the first director of Jewish Studies. He has written on various topics in visual and material culture produced by, for and about Jews. He is the author of *Dreams of Subversion in Medieval Jewish Art and Literature* (Penn State Press, 1997). During the 1980s, Epstein was director of the Hebrew Books and Manuscripts Division of Sotheby’s Judaica Department, and continues to serve as consultant to various libraries, auction houses, museums and private collectors throughout the world, among them the Herbert C. and Eileen Bernard Museum at Temple Emanu-El in New York City, for which he curated the inaugural exhibition, and the Fowler Museum at UCLA, where he is presently curating a major exhibition on Kabbalah.

The program is co-sponsored by the Frost Art Museum and the Department of Religious Studies and supported in part by Dr. and Mrs. Lawrence Fishman. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 305-348-7266. Metered visitors’ parking is available at the nearby Blue Parking Garage.