

Dr. Neta Bodner

Senior Lecturer, Department of Literature, Languages and the Arts
The Open University of Israel

Education

- 2016 Ph.D. in Art History, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
“Architectural Translations of Jerusalem’s Holy Sites to Pisa in the Middle Ages”
Supervisor: Prof. Bianca Kühnel
- 2009 MA in European Studies, *summa cum laude*, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Supervisor: Prof. Bianca Kühnel and Dr. Lola Kantor-Kazovsky
- 2006 BA in Art History and Comparative Literature, *magna cum laude*, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Fellowships and Professional Appointments

- 2024- Senior lecturer, The Open University of Israel, Raanana
- 2020-2024 Lecturer, The Open University of Israel, Raanana
- 2019 Visiting Scholar, Oxford Centre for Hebrew & Jewish Studies, University of Oxford
- 2018-2019 Visiting Fellow, Faculty of History, University of Oxford; Associate Member of the Senior Common Room, Lady Margaret Hall (LMH), University of Oxford
- 2016-2018 Postdoctoral Fellow, ERC project “Beyond the Elite: Jewish Daily Life in Medieval Europe”, the Hebrew University, of Jerusalem, PI: Elisheva Baumgarten
- 2015-2018 Research Consortium Member “Landscape, Heritage, and Identity of Europe, Cathedral Cities Living Memories”, PI: Gerardo Boto Varella, Girona University
- 2010-2016 Doctoral Research Fellow, ERC project “Spectrum: Visual Translations of Jerusalem”, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, PI: Bianca Kühnel
- 2008-2009 Research and Teaching Assistant, The European Forum at the Hebrew University
- 2007-2010 M.A Research Fellow, Fritz Thyssen Foundation project, “Sites of Memory and Memory of Sites: Positioning the Holy Land in Europe”, PI: Bianca Kühnel

Research Funding, Collaborations and Awards

- 2025-2026 PI, Internal Open University Funding, Project: “Built to Last: Histories of Speyer's Cathedral and Synagogue Complex”, International collaboration with Eva Haverkamp (LMU Munich) and Conrad Leyser (University of Oxford)
- 2025-2026 PI, Digital Humanities & Social Science’s Hub (OpenU) Project “Visualizing Space & History: An integrated Timeline, Map & Architectural History of Speyer”.
- 2022-2025 PI, Israeli Science Foundation (ISF) Research Grant, “Digging Deep: Interdisciplinary Study of the Medieval *Mikveh* in Cologne”, International

- collaboration with Tanja Pothoff, Michael Wiehen, Christiane
Twiehaus (Cologne) and Tzafrir Barzilay (Bar Ilan).
- 2023-2024 PI, Digital Humanities and Social Science's Hub Project, "Immersive Experiences, Photogrammetry & History of Religious Architecture", with Beni Zaks (OpenU).
- 2022 Academic consultant, 'Ritual Echoes' project, *Schum Artist in Residence Programme* PI Avery Gosfield
- 2020 CI, Massada Research Network 'Body, Gender, Ritual, Purity', collaboration with Conrad Leyser, Laura Quick and Alice Raw
- 2020 Short-term Massada Visiting Fellow, Worcester College, University of Oxford
- 2018-2019 Rothschild Yad-ha-Nadiv Postdoctoral Fellow
- 2018-2019 Postdoctoral Scholarship for Outstanding Female Scholars for research abroad, Victor Smorgen Charitable Fund and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem
- 2013 Romolo-Deotto and Vigevani Foundation Prize for Field Research in Italy
- 2013 Faculty of Social Sciences Travel Grant to New York, CAA annual conference
- 2012 ICMA Travel Grant to the International Medieval Congress, Kalamazoo
- 2012 IMAGO Travel Grant to the International Medieval Congress, Kalamazoo
- 2010 Municipality of Vienna Travel Grant for research in Austria
- 2010 Centre for Austrian Studies at the Hebrew University Travel Grant to Austria
- 2009-2010 European Forum Scholarship for participation in Student Consortium on Memory
- 2008 Fritz Thyssen Foundation and European Forum Travel Grant for research at the Max Planck Kunsthistorisches Institut, Florence
- 2008-2009 M.A. Excellence Scholarship, The European Forum at the Hebrew University
- 2008 Robert H. and Claris Smith Travel Grant for research in Pisa
- 2007-2010 Fritz Thyssen student scholarship, "Sites of Memory and Memory of Sites"
- 2005 BA Scholarship for outstanding students of Art History, the Smith Foundation
- 2004 BA Dean's list, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Faculty of Humanities

Membership in University Committees

- 2025-2027 Open University Academic Committee on the Humanities and Social Sciences BA Programs as part of the Academia 360 Project
- 2025-2026 DHSS (Digital Humanities and Social Sciences) Hub Advisory Forum
- 2024-2026 OpenU Academic Committee on Artificial Intelligence
- 2023-2026 OpenU Senate Member
- 2023-2026 Committee for Recognition of Previous Academic Studies

Publications

Monograph Under Review

Bodner, Neta. *Wondrous constructions: Jewish Ritual Baths from Cologne, Worms, Speyer and Friedberg 1160-1260*.

Edited Books

Kühnel, Bianca, Neta Bodner and Renana Bartal eds. *Projection of Jerusalem in Europe*, Art & Religion, vol. 14 (Leuven: Peeters, 2023)

Bartal, Renana, Neta Bodner and Bianca Kühnel eds. *Natural Materials of the Holy Land and the Visual Translation of Place 500-1500* (New York: Routledge, 2017)

Edited Books in Progress

Tanja Potthoff, Neta Bodner, Christiane Twiehaus, Michael Wiehen, Tzafrir Barzilay, *Digging Deep: The Medieval Jewish Ritual Bath of Cologne in Context* (Cologne: MiQua)

Journal Articles

Bodner, Neta. "Appropriation, Creolization or Entanglement? Jewish Religious Architecture in Cologne 1060–1170." *Frühmittelalterliche Studien* 59 (2025), 327-355

Winer, Amir, Neta Bodner, & Nitza Geri. "Crafting personalized learning experiences in 3D environments with pedagogical conversational agents." *Joint Proceedings of LAK 2025 Workshops co-located with 15th International Conference on Learning Analytics and Knowledge (LAK 2025)* Dublin, Ireland, March 3-7, 2025, Vol. 3995, (2025): 35-40

Bodner, Neta and Ariella Lehmann, "The Worms Mikve Inscription in Its Cultural Context." *Zion* 90.3 (2025) pp. 379-384 [Response Article, Hebrew]

Bodner, Neta and Ariella Lehmann. "The Dedication Inscription of the Worms *Mikveh*, 1185/6." *Zion* 88, 1 (2023), 7-40 [Hebrew]

Pinkus, Assaf, Neta Bodner, and Einat Segal. "A Holy Land within *The Holy Land*: Duc in Altum as a Case in Point." *Arts* 11, no. 6 (2022): 121 (27 pages)

Bodner, Neta. "Romanesque Beyond Christianity: Jewish Ritual Baths in Germany in the 12th and 13th Centuries." *Jewish Studies Quarterly* 28 (2021), 369-387

Bodner, Neta and Ariella Lehmann. "'So that a Person Sees Himself as if He was Created that Very Same Hour' Ritual Immersion of Men, Utensils and the Public in Jewish Ritual Baths in Germany in the Middle Ages." *Hidushim: Studies in the History of German and Central European Jewry* (2019), 47-83 [Hebrew]

Bodner, Neta. "Why are there Two Medieval Copies of the Holy Sepulchre in Pisa? A Comparative Analysis of San Sepolcro and the Baptistery." *Viator: Medieval and Renaissance Studies*, 48.3 (Spring 2018), 103-124

Articles in Peer-Reviewed Edited Volumes

Bodner, Neta and Ariella Lehman. "The Medieval Stone Revolution Reflected in Hebrew Inscriptions from Worms and Mainz," in Elisheva Baumgarten ed. *People, Spaces, Objects, and Rituals* (Cornell University Press, 2026), 175-207

Bodner, Neta. "The Presence of Jerusalem in Mantua." in Bianca Kühnel, Neta Bodner and Renana Bartal eds. *Projection of Jerusalem in Europe* (Leuven: Peeters, 2023), 243-266

Bodner, Neta. "The Camposanto, Pisan Medieval Architecture and Military Commemoration." in David Ganz, Michele Bacci and Rahel Meier eds., *Journeys of the Soul: Multiple Topographies in the Camposanto of Pisa* (Pisa: Edizioni della Normale, 2020), 41-64

Bartal, Renana, Neta Bodner and Bianca Kühnel. "Natural Materials, Place and Representation." in Bartal, Bodner and Kühnel eds., *Natural Materials of the Holy Land and the Visual Translation of Place 500-1500*, (New York: Routledge, 2017), xxiii-xxx

Bodner, Neta. "Earth from Jerusalem in the Pisan Camposanto." in Renana Bartal and Hanna Vorholt eds., *Between Jerusalem and Europe: Essays in Honour of Bianca Kühnel* (Leiden: Brill, 2015), 74-93

Bodner, Neta. "The Baptistery of Pisa and the Rotunda of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem – a Re-consideration." in Bianca Kühnel, Galit Noga-Banai and Hanna Vorholt eds., *Visual Constructs of Jerusalem* (Turnhout: Brepols, 2014), 95-105

Bodner, Neta. "The Kreuzweg of Vienna: Local History and Universal Salvation." in Marija Wakounig and Karlo Ruzicic-Kessler eds., *From the Industrial Revolution to World War II in East Central Europe*, Europa Orientalis vol.12 (Vienna: Universität Wien, 2011), 225-239

Bodner, Neta. "Transcending Geography: the Architectural Transportation of Sanctity from the Holy Land to the Home Land." in Benjamin Drechsel and Claus Leggewie eds., *United in Visual Diversity. Images and Counter-Images of Europe* (Innsbruck: Studien Verlag 2010), 238-249

Peer Reviewed Reference Works

Bodner, Neta. "Architecture of Pisa," in ed. Kevin Murphy ed., *Oxford Bibliographies in Architecture, Planning, and Preservation* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2021)

Bodner, Neta. "Nazareth | Visual Arts," in Constance M. Furey et alia eds., *Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception* (Berlin: De Gruyter, 2022)

Catalogue Entries and Playbills

Bodner, Neta. "Why do we have Lions in Libraries?." in Ran Bechor ed. *Library Lion Playbill* (Boston: Adam Theater, 2024), 17

Bodner, Neta. "Cleaning a Medieval Ritual Bath (*Mikveh*)," in Tzafrir Barzilay, Eyal Levinson and Elisheva Baumgarten eds., *Jewish Daily Life in Medieval Europe A Reader* (Kalamazoo: Medieval Institute Publications, 2023)

Bodner, Neta. "Jewish Ritual Baths: Immersion and Spiritual Renewal in the Medieval City," in Elisheva Baumgarten and Ido Noy eds., *In and Out, Between and Beyond: Jewish Daily Life in Medieval Europe* (Jerusalem: Beyond the Elite, 2021), 29-34

Bodner, Neta, Astrid Riedler-Pohlrs, Eva Haverkamp-Rott. "Die Mikwe in Regensburg." in Haverkamp-Rott and Riedler-Pohlrs, *Jüdisches Leben im mittelalterlichen Regensburg* with collaboration of Neta Bodner, Michael Brocke, Ahuva Lieberles-Noiman, Bernd Päßgen, Sandra Schmidt (Stadt Regensburg Museen: Regensburg, 2019)

Published Book Reviews

Lucy Donkin, *Standing on Holy Ground in the Middle Ages* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2021), *The English Historical Review* (2023)

Ephraim Kanarfogel, *Brothers from Afar: Rabbinic Approaches to Apostasy and Reversion in Medieval Europe* (Detroit IL: Wayne State University Press, 2021), *Journal of Jewish Studies*, Spring Issue 72:2 (2021) pp. 429-432

Yitzhak Hen and Thomas F. X. Noble (eds), *Barbarians and Jews: Jews and Judaism in the Early*

Medieval West (Brepols: Turnhout, 2018 and Frank Ries, *The Journey of Deacon Bodo from the Rhine to the Guadalquivir: Apostasy and Conversion to Judaism in Early Medieval Europe* (London and New York: Routledge, 2019), *Early Medieval Europe* (2021) pp. 626-628

Nina Caputo and Mitchell B. Hart (eds), *On the Word of a Jew: Religion, Reliability and the Dynamics of Trust* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2019), *Journal of Jewish Studies*, Spring Issue 72:1 (2020), pp. 222-225

Conference Papers

- 19-20.11.2025 The Medieval Mikveh of Cologne: From excavation to digital twin, in: *Ecclesia et Data: Studying medieval religious buildings in the digital age*, with Michael Wiehen, Montpellier
- 4-7.8.2025 Speyer's Synagogue and Local Architectural Infrastructures, in: *World Congress of Jewish Studies*, Jerusalem
- 6-10.7.2025 Cologne's Romanesque Churches, Its Jewish Ritual Bath, and VR Modelling of Medieval Space and Ritual, in: *International Medieval Congress*, Leeds (Online)
- 8.6.2025 Bridging Real, Virtual and Reimagined Space: A VR Project on the Medieval Mikveh in Cologne, in: *Jewish Interpreting Space: Jewish Spaces and Identities in the Pre-Modern Era*, Jerusalem
- 29-30.5.2025 Simulating Sensory Experiences in the Medieval Jewish Ritual Bath of Cologne: Real and Virtual Immersive Experience, in: *Empty Boxes? Modeling the Lost and Ephemeral in Medieval Sacred Spaces*, with Amir Winer, Rome
- 2-3.4.2025 Entangled Performative Details between Jewish Immersion Ceremonies and Christian Baptism in the Twelfth and Thirteenth Centuries in Latin Europe, in: *Co-Produced Rituals between Judaism, Christianity, and Islam*, Bern
- 10-13.2.2025 The Search for "Living Waters" and the Cologne Medieval Mikveh, in: *Digging Deep: An International Conference on the Medieval Mikveh in Cologne*, LVR Köln, Cologne
- 11-13.9.2023 Translating Visual Language: Jewish (and Christian) Religious Architecture in the Rhineland 1085-1185 in: *Premodern Forms of Cultural Appropriation*, Münster
- 16-20.7.2023 Sticks and Stones: Jewish Religious Architecture and Ashlar Stone Construction in the High Middle Ages, in: *12th EAJS Congress: Branching Out, Diversity of Jewish Studies*, Frankfurt am Main
- 4-6.7.2023 Hebrew Sources on Ritual Immersion and Medieval Mikvaot, in: *Digging Deep: Workshop on the Medieval Mikveh of Cologne*, Köln
- 4-6.6.2023 Purity without Pollution: Jewish Medieval Perspectives and Practices, in: *Sanitizing Pasts: Purity, Pollution and Historical Narrative*, Jerusalem
- 9-11.1.2023 Rising up from the Waters: Architectural Framing of Baptismal and Immersion fonts in the Middle Ages, in: *Religion and the Natural Environment*, Be'er Sheva
- 30.10-1.11.22 Preliminary thoughts on the Medieval Jewish Ritual Bath in the Jewish Museum London, in: *Jews in Medieval England: New Sources, Fresh Perspectives*, Bar Ilan
- 8-11.8.2022 Evocation of the Temple in Medieval Worms: Architecture, Inscription and Ritual Practice, in: *Word Congress on Jewish Studies*, Jerusalem
- 4-8.7.2022 Beautiful Settings for Shady Purifications: On the Flexible Borders of Purification in

- Medieval Ashkenaz, in: *International Medieval Congress*, Leeds
- 28-30.6.2022 Roundtable: 'How do Inter-Religious Interactions Shape or Alter Discourses of Purity and Pollution' in: *Purity, Pollution, Purification and Defilement in the Pre-modern Mediterranean*, Haifa
- 4.3.2021 Ashes to Ashes, Dust to Dust: Transfer of Earth from Jerusalem to Cemeteries in Europe, in: *The Annual Yohanan Aharoni Day 2021*, Tel Aviv
- 1-4.7.2019 Dramatic Light Effects in Jewish Ritual Architecture: Windows in Medieval Mikvaot, *International Medieval Congress*, Leeds
- 30.4-3.5.2018 Imagining Jerusalem in the Streets of Medieval Ashkenaz, *Glorious Cities: The Presence of Jerusalem in the European Urban Landscape*, Jerusalem
- 8.8.2017 What We Can Learn About Jewish Communities in Medieval Ashkenaz from the Mikveh Buildings They Left Behind?, Jerusalem: *17th World Congress of Jewish Studies*
- 17-20.7. 2017 Jewish Ritual Baths in Ashkenaz 1100-1300', *Visual and Material in Medieval and Early Modern Jewish Culture*, Münster
- 30.3.2017 Monumental Architecture Under-ground: The Mikveh of Friedberg (c. 1260) as a Case Study, *Middle Ages Now!*, Haifa
- 15-18.2.2017 Fragments of Jerusalem in Mantua: The Blood and Earth Relic in Sant'Andrea, *College Art Association Annual Conference*, New York
- 1-2.9.2016 A Reading of the Camposanto's Role among the Monuments of the 'Piazza', *Journeys of the Soul: Multiple Topographies in the Camposanto of Pisa*, Pisa
- 18-19.5.2016 Living Chronicle: The Pisa Cathedral as a Reflection of the Time Continuum, *Annual "IMAGO" Conference*, Ra'anana
- 29.5.2015 Earth, Blood and Salvation: The Transportation of Soil from Jerusalem to Pisa, *Workshop with Prof. Caroline Bynum, Israel Historical Society*, Jerusalem
- 1-3.19.2014 Holy Sepulchre? Eleventh and Twelfth Century Case Studies Reconsidered, *Translations of Jerusalem: New Case Studies*, Jerusalem
- 1-9.9.2013 The Holy Sepulchres of Mantua, Bologna and Pisa, *Mobile symposium 'Jerusalem in Italy'*, German Israeli Foundation and Spectrum, Italy (various locations)
- 20-21.6.2013 To be Buried in Jerusalem in Pisa: The Legend of the Sacred Soil in the Camposanto, *The Substance of Sacred Place*, Kunsthistorisches Institut (Max Planck), Florence
- 9-12.5.2013 Medieval Modes of Transference: Diverse Strategies of Transporting Jerusalem's Holy Sites, *International Congress on Medieval Studies*, Kalamazoo
- 13-16.2.2013 Between the Temple Mount and the Holy Sepulchre: Architectural Translation of Jerusalem to Twelfth-Century Pisa, *CAA annual conference*, New York
- 14-20.11.2010 The Baptistery of Pisa and the Anastasis Rotunda: A Reconsideration, *Visual Constructs of Jerusalem*, Jerusalem
- 20-28.10.201 The Kreuzweg of Vienna: Local History and Universal Salvation, *Annual Meeting of the Centers for Austrian Studies*, New Orleans
- 11-13.10.2009 Transcending Geography: The Transportation of Sanctity and Memory from the Holy Land to the Home Land, *New Perspective in Memory Studies: Rethinking Movement, Representation and Materiality*, Vienna
- 18-26.9.2009 Pisa Baptistery; Santo Sepolcro, Pisa and Sardinia, *Summer School: Art Space and*

Organization of Conferences, Workshops and Sessions

- 6-10.7.2025 *Recovering Knowledge of Gendered Spaces: Text, Technology, and Ritual*
International Medieval Congress, Leeds
- 10-13.2.2025 *Digging Deep: New Insights into the Medieval Mikveh of Cologne*, International
Conference, Köln
Co-organiser with Dr. Tanja Potthoff (MiQua, Cologne)
- 4-6.7.2023 *Digging Deep: The Medieval Mikveh of Cologne*, ISF International Workshop,
Cologne
Co-organiser with Dr. Tanja Potthoff and Dr. Christiane Twiehaus (MiQua,
Cologne)
- 8.11.2022 *Studies in Medieval and Early Modern Visual Culture*, IMAGO Graduate Workshop,
Raanana
Co-organiser with Dr. Gil Fishoff (Haifa University)
- 11.8.2022 “The Temple in Medieval Architectural Design”, Session on Architecture at the
World Congress on Jewish Studies, Jerusalem
Co-organiser with Karl Kinsella (Aberdeen University)
- 7.7.2022 “Unsettled Boundaries: Jews, Christians, and the Messiness of Purity I & II”, Double
Session on Purity at the International Medieval Congress, Leeds
Co-organiser with Prof. Naama Cohen Hanegbi (Tel Aviv University)
- 3.7.2022 *Body, Gender, Ritual and Purity*, Open University and Massada Foundation
International workshop, Jerusalem
Co-organiser with Dr. Conrad Leyser (University of Oxford)
- 19.11.2021 *Body, Gender, Purity, and Sexual Pleasure: Biblical and Medieval Models*,
Graduate Workshop at the Oxford Centre for Gender, Identity &
Subjectivity, Oxford
Co-organiser with Dr. Conrad Leyser and Dr. Alice Raw (University of Oxford)
- 24.11.2019 *Medieval Art and Architecture in Europe and Byzantium*, The Open
University, Raanana
Co-organiser with Prof. Mati Meyer (The Open University)
- 30.4-2.5.2018 *Glorious Cities: The Presence of Jerusalem in the European Urban Landscape*,
Israel Institute for Advanced Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem,
co-organiser with Bianca Kühnel & Hila Manor (Hebrew University)
- 15-18.2.2017 “Relics & Representation: The Holy Land Transported, I & II”, Double Session on
Relics, College Art Association Annual Conference, New York, organiser.