

# MOSES MONTEFIORE THE MAN BEHIND THE WINDMILL

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AT MISHKENOT SHA'ANANIM, JERUSALEM

WEDNESDAY 27 TO FRIDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2013

## THE 2013 ANNUAL MEDITERRANEAN CULTURE CONFERENCE

We gratefully acknowledge a generous donation in memory of Richard Norton; and the help of the Wohl Foundation; Dr. and Mrs Moshe Kantor; and Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Morris.

**Conference Convener:** Rabbi Dr. Abraham Levy OBE

This international conference presents a dynamic and engaging overview of the life and times of Sir Moses Montefiore, the man behind the famous windmill, showing him to be an inspiring role model for present-day Israel. Here was a man who was religious and moderate; who had strong values of social justice and helped Jews, regardless of whether or not they were members of his own community, and non-Jews; who maintained his strong Sephardi background as he moved through many different worlds, Jewish and non-Jewish; who bridged the Sephardi/Ashkenazi and secular/religious divides, and for whom wealth was a blessing that came with an obligation to be philanthropic.



Montefiore Endowment



תקן ירושלים  
THE JERUSALEM FOUNDATION  
مؤسسة صندوق القدس



מרכז התורה והתורה  
Mishkenot Sha'ananim  
مركز التوراة والتوراة  
The Konrad Adenauer Conference Centre



משרד  
התרבות  
והספורט  
Ministry of Culture  
and Sport



אשה עיני ל ההרים בואי יבוא עזרי  
עזרי מעם ה

WEDNESDAY 27TH NOVEMBER 2013

### 15.30-18.00 Prophetic Visions: Moses Montefiore in Jerusalem

Walking tours in Hebrew and English in the footsteps of Moses Montefiore, taking in the First Train Station and the neighborhoods of Mishkenot Sha'ananim and Yemin Moshe. We will explore his pioneering projects in Jerusalem, those built and fully realized, those imagined by Montefiore but built by others, and those that remained as dreams. We will learn about his influence on the Jews of Jerusalem and the wider population, and we will see what still stands today. Tours are run by the Yad ben Zvi Institute and cost NIS 50 per person. The Hebrew speaking tour will be guided by **Efrat Campaniano** and the English speaking tour will be guided by **Nir Ortal**. To reserve a place and learn where to meet, call 02- 6292210.

19.00-19.30 Welcome and candle lighting for the first night of Hanukkah.

Opening Lecture:

**Moses Montefiore: Each Man under his Vine and his Fig Tree** Adam Montefiore of Israel's Carmel Winery will speak about Moses Montefiore's vision for agriculture in the land of Israel, with special attention to viticulture.

Wine tasting.

Opening concert.

**Ladino in London** - Music from Montefiore's World.

Part 1: liturgical music from the Spanish and Portuguese tradition with hazanim **Eliot Alderman** (London) and **Daniel Halfon** (Jerusalem), accompanied by the Kolot Ha'Esnoga singers.

Part 2: Ladino songs sung by **Galit Giat**, renowned actress with Ha'Bima, Israel's national theatre company and lead singer of Bustan Sefaradi,

9.30-10.00 Welcome and registration

10.00-11.30 **Session One:  
Moses and Judith Montefiore: Between  
Tradition and Modernity**

Lecture. **Dr. Abigail Green**, Fellow of Brasenose College, Oxford and author of the award-winning biography *Moses Montefiore: Jewish Liberator, Imperial Hero*, will offer a portrait of Moses Montefiore and his wife Judith in their historical context. Dr. Green will explore the Montefiores' ability to embrace different worlds that were seemingly in conflict: the world of the Victorian gentleman and his lady, and the 'traditional' Jewish worlds they encountered in Eastern Europe and Eretz Israel. Emphasising the vital contribution of Judith to Montefiore's life and work, she will consider their complementary activities and the way in which their commitment to traditional forms of spirituality sat alongside a more modern commitment to social change.

Panel discussion

**The Relevance of Montefiore's Life for our Times.**

Participants:

**Dr. Reuven Gafni** (moderator), Yad ben Zvi Institute, Jerusalem, a scholar of Jewish pioneers and the development of Jerusalem in modern times.

**Rabbi Yuval Sherlow**, Rosh Yeshiva, Yeshivat Hesder Amit Orot Shaul, and member of Zohar.

**Professor Margalit Shilo**, Department of Land of Israel Studies, Bar Ilan University, and a specialist in the history of Jewish women in Israel.

Audience questions

11.45-13.00 Break

13.00-14.30 **Session Two:  
Rebuilding Jerusalem: Montefiore's Vision of  
a Socially Responsible City**

Lecture. **David Kroyanker**, influential Israeli architect and scholar at the Jerusalem Institute for Israel Studies and a widely-published historian of the architecture of Jerusalem, will highlight the social conscience that motivated Montefiore's building projects in Jerusalem, for example his desire to create an economically independent community at Yemin Moshe, and to shift habitation patterns away from the impoverished Old City towards the cleaner and healthier slopes of Mishkenot Sha'ananim.

Panel discussion

**The Relevance of Montefiore's Life for our Times, focusing on such issues as the importance of creating affordable housing for young families alongside luxury second-home apartments.**

Participants:

**Ofer Berkowitz**, chairman of Hitorerut, an urban renewal movement in Jerusalem & city councillor.

**Rabbi Gideon Sylvester** (moderator), United Synagogue's Israel Rabbi and director of Israel's branch of the René Cassin Judaism and Human Rights programme.

**Naomi Tsur**, Deputy-Mayor of Jerusalem, responsible for strategic planning, the environment, and preservation and heritage.

Audience questions

14.30-15.00 Break

15.00-16.30 **Session Three:  
Negotiating Schisms and Sects:  
Montefiore's Commitment to One People**

Lecture. **Dr. François Guesnet**, Department of Hebrew and Jewish Studies, University College London and Co-ordinator, Montefiore Digital Testimonials Project, will discuss the testimonials sent to Moses Montefiore over many decades and especially on the occasion of his one hundredth birthday by a wide range of Ashkenazi and Sephardi communities, congregations, associations and institutions. Dr Guesnet will suggest that Montefiore's observance, his commitment to the Land of Israel and to charity, and his involvement in the protection of persecuted Jewish communities around the world contributed to a new sense of Jewish unity towards the end of the 19th century.

Panel discussion:

**The Relevance of Montefiore's Life for our Times, emphasizing the practical value of Montefiore's unifying message in today's divided Israel.**

Participants:

**Dr. Aliza Lavie**, Member of Knesset (MK) for the Yesh Atid party and Chair of the Women's Committee. Dr. Lavie is a Senior Lecturer in Communications at Bar Ilan University, where her research focuses on communications, gender, and multi-culturalism. She has published books dealing with the role of women in Judaism and questions of identity and belonging.

**Rabbi Dr. Daniel Tropper** (moderator), founder and president of Gesher, a religious-secular dialogue movement in Israel.

Audience questions

16.30-17.00 Break



17.00-18.30 **Session Four: Montefiore's Enduring Model of Philanthropy**

Lecture.  
**Professor Israel Bartal**, Avraham Harman Professor of Jewish History, Hebrew University, and chairman of The Historical Society

of Israel, will discuss what factors might have inspired Montefiore's philanthropy, how in practical terms he employed his money for the benefit of others, and who in

FRIDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 2013

9.00 - 9.30 Welcome and registration

9.30 - 11.00 **Session Five: Moses Montefiore -- Collected, Preserved and Disseminated**

This session will introduce fascinating documents associated with Moses Montefiore that are held in public collections. The session will be chaired by Professor Shalom Sabar, Professor of Jewish Art and Folklore, Hebrew University, who will speak about Moses Montefiore and Jewish art.

Participants:

**Sally Style**, Montefiore Endowment Librarian, London.  
**Mathilde Tagger**, Montefiore Censuses Project, Jerusalem.  
**Ilana Tahan**, Lead Curator, Hebrew and Christian Orient Studies, British Library.

**Mathilde Tagger**, Montefiore Censuses Project, Jerusalem;  
**Ilana Tahan**, Lead Curator, Hebrew and Christian Orient Studies, British Library;

**Milena Zeidler**, Deputy Director, Leopold Muller Memorial Library, Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies. Each participant will present an overview of the documents in her or his collection and will introduce one document in particular.

particular benefitted from his visionary generosity. Israel Bartal was among the first to study the complex motives that lay behind Montefiore's activity in the years 1827 to 1875.

Panel discussion:

**The Relevance of Montefiore's Life for our Times, considering especially the lessons that can be learned by today's philanthropists and fund-raisers about effective giving.**

Participants:

**Ruth Cheshin**, Chairman of the Board, Mishkenot Sha'ananim and former President of the Jerusalem Foundation.

**Benjamin Gidron**, Professor Emeritus, Founder and Former

11.00-11.30 Break

11.30-13.00 **Session Six: two parallel sessions.**

EITHER:

**Moses Montefiore and Halacha**

Please note that this session will take place in the Sephardi Synagogue, Yemin Moshe (a few minutes away from the conference centre).

This session will be conducted in English, without simultaneous translation.

At this session a panel of experts will discuss major halachic issues connected with the life and works of Moses Montefiore, such as the laws of tzedakah and the redemption of captives, as well as a halachic matter that concerns the guardians of his memory today.

Participants:

**Rabbi David Ebner** (moderator), Rosh Yeshiva, Yeshivat Eretz haTzvi, Jerusalem.

**Rabbi Dr. Abraham Levy** OBE, Rabbi Emeritus, Spanish and Portuguese Jews' Congregation, London and trustee of the Montefiore Endowment.

**Professor James Kugel**, Professor of Bible Emeritus, Bar Ilan University.

Director, The Israeli Center for Third Sector Research (ICTR), Ben Gurion University of the Negev, and Professor of Social Enterprises, School of Business Administration, College of Management Academic Studies, Rishon Le'Zion.

**Rick Sopher**, CEO of the Capital Holdings Funds, a joint venture between Edmond de Rothschild and RIT Capital Partners, chaired by Lord (Jacob) Rothschild, and a trustee of the Montefiore Endowment, London.

**Eliezer Yaari** (moderator), journalist, author and former CEO of the New Israel Fund (Israel office).

**Milena Zeidler**, Deputy Director, Leopold Muller Memorial Library, Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies.

Audience questions

18.30-19.00 Closing remarks and candle lighting for second night of Hanukkah

OR:

**Lady Judith Montefiore's Cookbook**

This session will take place in the regular conference venue, the De Botton auditorium, Mishkenot Sha'ananim. Judith Montefiore, the wife of Sir Moses, was the author of a cookbook that sought among other things to enable members of the Spanish and Portuguese community in London to cook English dishes according to the laws of kashrut and to instruct its readers in etiquette. In this session, culinary experts will discuss the social history, culture and anthropology that lies behind this fascinating book.

Participants:

**Edna Assis**, Yad ben Zvi Institute, Jerusalem.

**Yaron Enosh** (moderator), journalist and radio presenter. Food Tasting (nominal charge)

The conference will conclude with a food tasting of dishes from the world of Sir Moses Montefiore prepared by Mishkenot Sha'ananim's world class kosher "Montefiore" restaurant.

## CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP

### The Winds Are Blowing and It's Time to Get Going: Hanukkah at the Jerusalem Windmill

Friday 29 November, 9.00 to 1.30, for children aged 4-9

Come to the Children's Compound in Djanogly Hall at Mishkenot Sha'ananim for an arts and crafts session in which children produce their own windmill and magic money box, and a dreidel blowing activity. Cost: NIS 25 per child. No charge for accompanying adults. Places are limited, so book early.

## Shabbat

Conference participants are warmly invited for Shabbat tefillot in the combined Spanish and Portuguese and Oriental traditions at Yemin Moshe's beautiful Sephardi synagogue.

Friday 29 November, Minha and Arbit: 4:10pm.

Shabbat morning, 30 November (parashat Mikketz)

Nishmat at 8am; Sefer Torah at about 8:30am.

## Exhibition (Dwek Gallery)

There will also be a small exhibition of illustrations of Montefiore and objects and places that were associated with him.

## Interactive Computer Displays (Fostell Hall)

Throughout the conference there will be a chance to examine computer displays of archival footage, historical press reports and other documents. Conference participants will be able to explore via computers in Hebrew and English an interactive database of the Censuses of the Jewish inhabitants of the Holy Land, Alexandria, Sidon and Beirut that were compiled by Sir Moses Montefiore between the years 1839 and 1876. Census project experts Rose Feldman, Billie Stein and Mathilde Tagger will be available to answer questions during session breaks on Thursday. Conference participants will also be able to examine the brand new digitized collection of testimonials sent to Sir Moses on the occasion of his one hundredth birthday.

## Book Stand

During the conference there will be a book stand, offering a special discounts for conference participants.



The conference will take place at the Konrad Adenauer Conference Center, Mishkenot Sha'ananim, Jerusalem, the site of Montefiore's famous windmill. It will run from Wednesday 27 November, the night of the first candle of Hanukkah, to Friday 29 November.

## Prices

Wednesday 27th, Walking tour: 50 NIS per person.

Wednesday 27th, Lecture, wine tasting and concert: 100 NIS per person.

Thursday 28th, all events including light refreshments: 100 NIS per person.

Friday 28th, all events (excluding Children's Workshop and food tasting): 100 NIS

Friday 28th, Children's Workshop: 25 NIS per child (accompanying adults free).

Entire Conference (excluding Children's Workshop and food tasting): 250 NIS per adult.

The program is subject to change.  
Seating is limited and unassigned.

To book tickets and for more information about any of the events listed above, please see [www.mishkenot.org.il](http://www.mishkenot.org.il), or e-mail [prog@mishkenot.org.il](mailto:prog@mishkenot.org.il), or call 02 629 2210.

## Mishkenot Sha'ananim Staff:

Director General: Moti Schwartz

Assistant Director General: Hana Lifshitz

Guest House and Conference Center Director: Rita Kramer

Director of Finance and Organization: Barak Ducas

Programme Director: Tal Kramer-Vadai

Mishkenot Sha'ananim Staff: Asher Uliel, Benny Goren, Riki Canfi, Raya Koval-Umansky, Kandice Nahum, Natally Tessler, Sami Awad, Silvi Amar, Maria Rozman

Producer: Orly Abuloff

Production Team: Meital Cohen, Keren Zefania

Montefiore Conference Consultant: Dr. Diana Lipton

Graphic Design: Rami & Jaki

Public Relations: Amalia Eyal, Elinor Glickman

Simultaneous Translation: Shulamit Haran, Elita

Sound and Lighting: Shuli Oded

Photography: Yoli Productions - Yoray Liberman

Exhibition: Studio Chefetz, Shlomi Chen and Pnina Friedman

## We are grateful for support from:

### The Montefiore Endowment, London:

Chairman of Trustees: Lucien Gubbay

Trustee: Rabbi Dr. Abraham Levy OBE

Secretary to Rabbi Levy: Joanne Reich

Librarian: Sally Style

### The Jerusalem Foundation:

Co-founder and President Emeritus: Ruth Cheshin

President: Mark Sofer

General Director: Daniel Mimran

Director of Arts and Culture: Eyal Sher

Spokeswoman: Liat Rosner

### Ministry of Culture and Sport: Betty Dan

### Public Transportation:

Bus Lines: 4, 4a, 7, 8, 13, 18, 21

Mishkenot Sha'ananim has limited parking.

Paid Parking: The Liberty Bell Park, YMCA (King David Street).

Free Parking: The First Station complex (accessible from Hebron Road); Mount Zion car park (opposite the Mount Zion Hotel).

Conference proceedings will be in English and Hebrew with simultaneous translation on Thursday and Friday. On Wednesday night the proceedings will be in English