

The Allen and Joan Bildner Center for the Study of Jewish Life

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"Jewish Revival in Contemporary Poland" Lecture at Rutgers on May 12

NEW BRUNSWICK/PISCATAWAY, N.J. – Since the fall of Communism, Poland's small Jewish communities have undergone a significant revival, a process occurring in tandem with non-Jewish Poles' soul-searching about their role in the Holocaust and the development of their interest in Jewish culture and in Poland's Jewish past. Professor Geneviève Zubrzycki, University of Michigan, will discuss this revival, which is visible in the mushrooming of festivals of Jewish culture, the renewed popularity of klezmer music, the dramatic proliferation of Judaica bookstores and Jewish restaurants, new museums and memorials, the emergence of Jewish studies programs, and artists' and intellectuals' engagements with Poland's Jewish past and Polish-Jewish relations.

The talk, "Jewish Revival in Contemporary Poland," is free and open to the public and will take place on May 12 at 7:30 p.m. in the Douglass Campus Center, 100 George Street in New Brunswick. Free parking is available behind the Campus Center. (For GPS search, use "57 Lipman Drive.") Advance registration is requested by contacting 848-932-2033 or csjlrsvp@rci.rutgers.edu. Sponsored by the Allen and Joan Bildner Center for the Study of Jewish Life at Rutgers University, the talk is the Raoul Wallenberg Annual Program funded by Leon and Toby Cooperman. For more information, visit BildnerCenter.rutgers.edu.

Dr. Zubrzycki is a professor of sociology, director of the Copernicus Program in Polish Studies, and faculty at the Frankel Center for Judaic Studies at the University of Michigan. Her book, *The Crosses of Auschwitz: Nationalism and Religion in Post-Communist Poland*, won awards from the American Sociological Association, the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, and the Polish Studies Association.

The Allen and Joan Bildner Center for the Study of Jewish Life connects the university with the community through public lectures, symposia, Jewish communal initiatives, cultural events, and teacher training.