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Israeli Author Ruby Namdar will Speak at Rutgers-New Brunswick on September 27

NEW BRUNSWICK/PISCATAWAY, N.J. – Winner of the 2014 Sapir Prize, Israel’s most prestigious literary award, Ruby Namdar’s novel *The Ruined House* was translated into English by Hillel Halkin and recognized by *The New York Times* as a “masterpiece of modern religious literature.” The book is Namdar’s response as an Israeli author to the experience of Jewish life in America. He will discuss his sources of inspiration, his relationship to the great Jewish-American authors of the previous generation, and the rewards and challenges of living in one language, while writing in another. Nancy Sinkoff, the new academic director of the Allen and Joan Bildner Center for the Study of Jewish Life and a professor of Jewish studies and history, will moderate the program.

Born and raised in Jerusalem, Namdar is of Iranian-Jewish heritage. He currently lives with his wife and children in New York City, where he teaches Jewish literature with a specialty in biblical and Talmudic narrative.

The program, “Living in English, Writing in Hebrew: A Conversation with Ruby Namdar,” will be held at 7:30 p.m. at the Douglass Student Center, 100 George Street, New Brunswick. The talk is free and open to the public and sponsored by the Allen and Joan Bildner Center for the Study of Jewish Life. Free parking is available behind the Student Center. (For GPS search, use “57 Lipman Drive.”) Advance registration is requested - email rsvpBildner@sas.rutgers.edu, call 848-932-2033, or online on the Bildner Center website BildnerCenter.Rutgers.edu. (Check the Bildner Center website for an excerpt from *The Ruined House*. Books will be available for sale at the event.)

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.