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**World-Renowned Scholar Robert Alter Speaks on the Art of Biblical Narrative
In Person at Rutgers-New Brunswick, April 19**

NEW BRUNSWICK/PISCATAWAY, N.J. – The stories of the Hebrew Bible are the foundational texts of western civilization and are essential to storytelling itself. On April 19, Robert Alter, Professor Emeritus of Hebrew and Comparative Literature at UC Berkeley, will discuss the stunning poetry, prose, and literary genius of the Hebrew Bible at a public talk at Rutgers. Alter changed the field of Biblical Studies with his groundbreaking book *The Art of Biblical Narrative* in 1981, which for the first time placed the scholarly focus on the literary aspects of the original Hebrew text.

Robert Alter published an English translation of the complete Hebrew Bible in 2018 that is widely considered to be a masterpiece. Winner of the PEN Center Literary Award for Translation, it is a magnificent capstone to a lifetime of distinguished scholarship.

Free and open to the public, the talk will be held on Wednesday, April 19, at 7:30 p.m. at the Douglass Student Center, located at 100 George Street New Brunswick. Light refreshments will be served following the talk, which is presented by the Allen and Joan Bildner Center for the Study of Jewish Life at Rutgers University as part of its 25th anniversary celebration. The program is made possible through generous funding from Leon and Toby Cooperman. Free campus parking is available. For more information and to register, visit:

BildnerCenter.Rutgers.edu.

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.