

the Department of Music and the Department of Jewish Studies present a colloquium on

Shared Soundscapes from Ottoman-Era Safed



Dr. Naomi Cohn Zentner

Bar-Ilan University, Department of Music

Self-recorded repertoires in the early twentieth century, much like historical memoirs, may serve as musical microhistories, bringing new perspectives to everyday life and challenging dominant historical accounts. Dr. Zentner will discuss how Safed born Rabbi Abulafia's unusual self-recorded repertory of Arabic and Turkish melodies with Ashkenazi liturgical music and Hassidic niguns, testifies to the interconnectivity of Jewish and Muslim Arab musical communities in late Ottoman era Palestine. According to her analysis, this musical snapshot narrates how the musical exchange of traditional and popular music from Ashkenazi, Sephardic and Arab traditions was possible and perhaps even matter-of-fact in this era preceding national dichotomies of Arab and Jewish cultures.



Tuesday, March 26 at 4pm

Douglass Library, Performing Arts Seminar Room (basement)