

In both Jewish and Christian traditions, the Menorah plays a prominent role as an iconic artefact in medieval and early modern art and thought. As an implement of the Tabernacle as well as of Solomon's Temple, its outstanding importance in the religious and national life of the Israelites is evident in the Hebrew Bible. After the destruction of the Temple, it became the quintessential symbol of the Jewish people—both in the Land of Israel and throughout the Diaspora. Christians, for their part, regarded the Tabernacle and Temple as prefigurations of the Church; the Menorah thus figures prominently in Christian exegesis and iconography as well. Beginning in Carolingian times, seven-branched candelabra made of bronze or brass were placed in churches. The installation of such artefacts raises questions about their spatial aesthetics and liturgical and performative functions as well as about the “Christian Menorah” as adaption or appropriation.

An international, interdisciplinary conference in Tübingen aims to shed light on Jewish and Christian traditions by bringing them into direct dialogue. The conference is the outcome of a research project on “Seven-branched Candelabra in Churches: Semantics – Contexts – Practices” (“Siebenarmige Kandelaber in Kirchen: Semantik – Kontexte – Praktiken“) within the DFG-funded Collaborative Research Centre “Different Aesthetics” (SFB 1391 “Andere Ästhetik”).

<https://uni-tuebingen.de/forschung/forschungsschwerpunkte/sonderforschungsgebiete/sfb-andere-aesthetik/forschungsprojekte/projektbereich-a-praktiken/a6-worm/>



Arch of Titus, 81 CE, plaster cast © TijsB, Wikimedia Commons

SFB 1391 Andere Ästhetik

Teilprojekt A6

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Philosophische Fakultät

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<https://www.facebook.com/AndereAesthetik/>

International and interdisciplinary conference organized by:
Andrea Worm (andrea.worm@uni-tuebingen.de)

Registration is requested (free of charge):
sekretariat-khi@uni-tuebingen.de

The access information for Zoom will be sent to you after registration; it will also be announced on our website in due time. Please consult:

<https://uni-tuebingen.de/fakultaeten/philosophische-fakultaet/fachbereiche/altertums-und-kunstwissenschaften/kunsthistorisches-institut/institut/>

THE MENORAH AND THE SEVEN-BRANCHED CANDELABRUM

Jewish and Christian Manifestations
in the Medieval and Early Modern
Periods

09.11.–12.11.2022

EBERHARD KARLS
UNIVERSITÄT
TÜBINGEN



Gefördert durch
DFG Deutsche
Forschungsgemeinschaft

Wednesday, 9.11.2022

Venue: Universitätsbibliothek Tübingen, Bonatzbau

16:00–18:00 Kristina STÖBENER (Tübingen)
Visit to the Department of Manuscripts and
Rare Books (speakers only)

Thursday, 10.11.2022

Venue: Tübingen, Alte Aula

9:30 Welcome by the Dean of the Faculty of
Philosophy, Prof. Dr. Jürgen LEONHARDT

9:45–10:30 Andrea WORM (Tübingen)
Introduction. Menorah and Seven-branched
Candelabrum

10:30–11:00 *Coffee Break*

11:00–11:45 Lutz DOERING (Münster)
Priester, Tempel oder Jüdischsein?
Überlegungen zum Zeichencharakter der
Menora im antiken Judentum

11:45–12:30 Matthias MORGENSTERN (Tübingen)
The Fate of the Temple Menorah. Mysteries,
Interdictions, Speculations

12:30–14:00 *Lunch*

14:00–14:45 Vera HENKELMANN (Erfurt)
Seven-branched Candelabra from the
Carolingian Period

14:45–15:30 Tobias BIDLINGMAIER (Salzburg)
Seven-branched Candelabra in Medieval
England. Gathering the Evidence

15:30–16:00 *Coffee Break*

16:00–16:45 Emma ABATE (Paris/Bologna)
Temple Vessels: a Brief Account of their
Iconography and Tradition in Hebrew Biblical
Manuscripts from Spain and Italy
(14th–15th Century)

16:45–17:30 Josef H. CHAJES (Haifa)
“A Secret Particularly Obscure”: The
Menorah and the Sacred Space of Classical
Kabbalistic Trees

19:00 Mary J. CARRUTHERS (New York/Oxford)
Articulating the *geometricalia* of Scripture:
Bezeleel, Aaron, and Moses

Friday, 11.11.2022

Venue: Tübingen, Alte Aula

9:00–9:45 Hanna GENTILI (Haifa)
Guillaume Postel's Interpretation of the
Menorah: Remarks on the Hebrew Text, its
Sources and its Circulation in Latin, French
and Italian

9:45–10:30 Ilia RODOV (Bar Ilan)
Survival or Revival? The Menorah in Early
Modern European Synagogue Art

10:30–11:00 *Coffee Break*

11:00–11:45 Margit KRENN (Heidelberg)
Der siebenarmige Leuchter im *Speculum
humanae salvationis*

11:45–12:30 Lesley SMITH (Oxford)
Jewish and Christian Re-imagining of the
Seven-branched Lampstand in the Postilla of
Nicholas of Lyra, OFM (†1349)

12:30–14:00 *Lunch*

14:00–14:45 Andrea WORM (Tübingen)
Image – Space – Context. The Seven-
branched Candelabrum and the Baptismal
Font at the Marienkirche in Frankfurt (Oder)

14:45–15:30 Jochen VENNEBUSCH (Hamburg)
Marienwohlde oder Mölln. Überlegungen zur
Provenienz des siebenarmigen Leuchters in
der Möllner Nikolaikirche (1436)

15:30–16:00 *Coffee Break*

16:00–16:45 Judith UTZ (Salzburg)
Der siebenarmige Leuchter in Vulturella
(Mentorella) in Latium und sein Kontext

16:45–17:30 Maria STREICHER (Tübingen)
“Madonna dell'Albero, dandole tal cognome
quella gran Pianta“. On the Spatial and
Liturgical Reconfiguration of the Trivulzio-
Candelabrum in Sixteenth-Century Milan
Cathedral

19:00 *Conference Dinner*

Saturday, 12.11.2022

Venue: Tübingen, Alte Aula

9:00–9:45 Gerd BLUM (Münster/Wien) und
Katrin KOGMAN-APPEL (Münster)
In God's Shadow: Towards a Reception
History of Ex. 24–40 on Bezalel's Tabernacle

9:45–10:30 Eva-Bettina KREMS (Münster)
Die Menora in Darstellungen der Vertreibung
des Heliodor und der Vertreibung der Händler
aus dem Tempel

10:30–11:00 *Coffee Break*

11:00–11:45 Claudia ECHINGER-MAURACH (Münster):
Siebenarmige Leuchter im 16. Jahrhundert.
Zu einem kaum bekannten Entwurf
Michelangelos und einer “Vertreibung der
Wechsler aus dem Tempel” von Marcello
Venusti

11:45–12:30 Jens NIEBAUM (Münster)
„den store liusestaken af bronz med dess Siu
Lampor.“ Siebenarmiger Leuchter und
schwedisches Königstum bei Nicodemus
Tessin d. J., 1708

Concluding Remarks