

## **RAS AWARDS: The AJL Judaica Reference Award and The Judaica Bibliography Award**

**Description:** In this session, we will hear from the winners of AJL's Reference and Bibliography Awards. William Gross's *Catalog of Catalogs* is a monumental work that brings together untapped source material that will be of interest to scholars of Judaica, Jewish art, social life and customs, liturgical objects and religious life, architecture, Jewish museums, the Holocaust, as well as the history of exhibiting. Noam Sienna's *The Rainbow Thread* identifies and collects a range of texts that bear witness to two millennia of Queer Jewish life and history, and introduces researchers to a new range of primary sources by recovering a lineage that, according to the authors, "has been denied and withheld from the people who have sought it." Marcin Wodzinski, whose *Historical Atlas of Hasidism* won the 2018 AJL Reference Award will be discussing his work as well.

**William Gross** is a Judaica collector in Tel Aviv, Israel, and has been involved for 55 years in the Judaica world. He has exhibited widely, written more than thirty contributions to books and journals, and lectures frequently.

**Noam Sienna** received his PhD in Jewish history from the University of Minnesota in May 2020. His work focuses on Jewish society and material culture in the Islamic world. His dissertation explored Jewish book culture in early modern North Africa. He is the editor of *A Rainbow Thread: An Anthology of Queer Jewish Texts from the First Century to 1969* (Print-O-Craft, 2019).

**Marcin Wodzinski** is Professor of Jewish history and literature, and head of the Department of Jewish Studies at the University of Wrocław. The scope of his academic interests ranges from the social history of Jews in the 19<sup>th</sup> century to the history of Jews in Silesia and Jewish material culture, especially the history of Hasidism and Haskalah. His publications include more than one hundred articles in Polish, English, Hebrew, French and Czech, nine books authored and one co-authored, and six volumes co-edited. His publications include: *Hebrew Inscriptions in Silesia from the 13<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> Centuries* (1996); *Bibliography on the History of Silesian Jewry II* (2004); *Haskalah and Hasidism in the Kingdom of Poland* (2005); *The Polish Kingdom Authority Against Hasidism* (2008); and *Hasidism and Politics* (2013). Wodziński is the editor of the Makor Academic Series/Sources of Austeria Publishing, Bibliotheca Judaica Series at the University of Wrocław Press, editor-in-chief of "Studia Judaica."