

Special Events for the Winter Cold

Enjoy the world from the coziness of your home

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29th | 11-Noon

Virtual Trip to Jewish China - *Encounters between Cultures*



Common wisdom leads many people to think that in China it is very difficult to find Jews today, and even more difficult to find a Jewish history from a hundred years ago, let alone from 1,000 years ago. In this talk, we are going to discover how the first Jews arrived in China, what recent migrations were like and what Jewish life is like in China today. We will explore the mythical community of *Kaifeng*, as well as the most recent communities *Harbin* and *Shanghai*.

Join Pablo Faivel Levinton, originally from Argentina, a descendant of Polish Jews who came before the Holocaust. Mr. Levinton holds an



MA in economics, and in 2017 moved to China to study for a second master's degree. He also studied Yiddish and Jewish culture at YIVO at Vilnius University summer seminars. Living in China, he was part of the local community of Beijing. Currently he is traveling again in the post pandemic world, shooting videos for his YouTube channel.

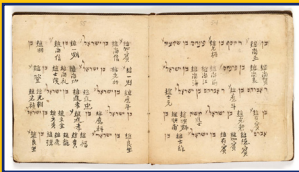
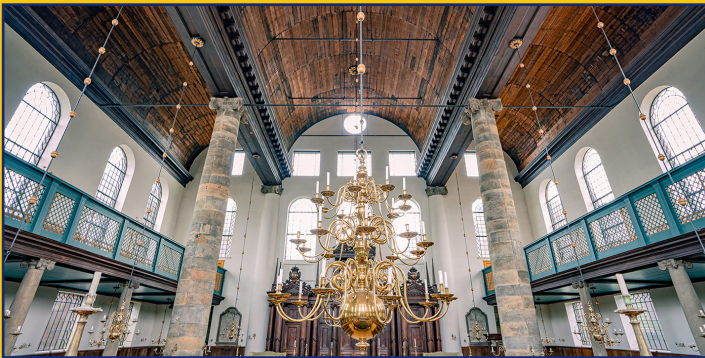


Photo of Kaifeng Jewish prayer book with names in Hebrew and Chinese courtesy of the Klau Library in Cincinnati.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15th | 11-Noon

Virtual Trip to the Jews of Amsterdam - *More than Anne Frank*



There is a special connection between the Jewish communities of Philadelphia and of Amsterdam. *Mikveh Israel*, the first synagogue in Philadelphia, follows the traditions of the Amsterdam *Esnoga* (in the photo) and was established by Spanish Portuguese Jews who were early immigrants to the New World. The Spanish Portuguese community settled in Amsterdam already in the 16th century after the expulsion from Spain. The Ashkenazi community arrived in Amsterdam a hundred years later after riots in Poland. Their synagogue is standing across from the Sephardic synagogue. Currently there are

about 15,000 Jews living in Amsterdam. Come and learn about the fascinating history of this Jewish city beyond the story of Anne Frank.

Join Nachshon Rodrigues Pereira, a native Dutchman who will discuss the past and present community of Amsterdam. Mr. Pereira is the community leader and hazzan (cantor) of *The Bendigamos* community in Amsterdam. His family has been part of the Portuguese Jewish community of the Netherlands for four centuries. After



studying political science and a short political career, he decided to spend most of his time teaching and rebuilding the Jewish community in Amsterdam.

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You will receive your Zoom link upon registration

One session \$36
Both sessions \$50