

HIS PEN AND INK ARE A POWERFUL MIRROR:

A COLLOQUIUM IN HONOR OF ROSS BRANN

ON HIS 70TH BIRTHDAY

ALI HUMAYUN AKHTAR

RAMA ALHABIAN

ESPERANZA ALFONSO

ZVI BEN-DOR BENITE

ADAM BURSI

JONATHAN DECTER

ZIAD FAHMY

KILEY FOSTER

KIM HAINES-EITZEN

URIAH KFIR

S.J. PEARCE

JESSICA STREIT

DAVID TOROLLO

HAMZA M. ZAFER

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50 WASHINGTON SQ. SOUTH

OCTOBER 25, 2019

9:30AM-5:30PM



Sponsors: Department of Near Eastern Studies, Cornell University; Department of Spanish and Portuguese, NYU; and the Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies, NYU.

9:30-10. Breakfast and Welcoming Remarks

Adam Bursi, Utrecht University; Ziad Fahmy, Cornell University; Sarah Pearce, NYU; and Hamza Zafer, University of Washington

10:00-11:30. Seminar I: Compunctious Authors

Sefer ha-Pardes: A Short Introduction to the Human Experience
David Torollo, King's College London

The Poetics of Contingency in al-Ḥarīrī's Maqāmah of Oman
Rama Alhabian, Cornell University

Respondent: Hamza Zafer, University of Washington

11:30-11:45 Coffee Break

11:45 – 1:15. Seminar II: Portraying the Hebrew Bible

From Provence to Castile: The Hebrew Bible in the Vernacular
Esperanza Alfonso, CSIC-CCHS

Solomon vs. Solomon
Uriah Kfir, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

Respondent: Jonathan Decter, Brandeis University

1:15-2:45. Lunch Break

2:45-3:00. Postprandial Remarks

Kim Haines-Eitzen, Cornell University

3:00-5:00. Seminar III: Ideas Unmoored

Conceptions of Pre-Islamic Iberia: The Andalusī Ishbān Story
Kiley Foster, Cornell University

Growing Almohad Aesthetics: The Mosque of Seville in Context
Jessica Streit, College of Charleston

Merchant Networks in the Venetian-Ottoman Mediterranean
Ali Humayun Akhtar, Bates College

Respondent: Zvi Ben-Dor Benite, New York University

5:00-5:30. Concluding Remarks

Ross Brann, Cornell University

5:30-6:30. Reception

