University of Cambridge & Heksherim Research Institute for Jewish and Israeli Literature and Culture at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

Cordially invite you to an international conference:

A Tribute to:

**RONIT MATALON**

**May 10–11, 2017**

Intellectual Forum, Jesus College, Jesus Lane, Cambridge CB5 8BL

Co-chairs | Professor Yigal Schwartz, Dr. Yaron Peleg

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**Wednesday, May 10, 2017**

**Registration at Jesus College, Intellectual Forum**
14:00

**Opening Session (Bawden Room)**
16:00-17:30

Chairperson:
Yaron Peleg, University of Cambridge

Greetings:
Prof. Yigal Schwartz, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
Dr. Yaron Peleg, University of Cambridge

Speakers:
Michal Ben-Naftali, Tel Aviv University
*On Sarah, Sarah*, and the Genre of Friendship

Deborah Starr, Cornell University
Seeing, Reading, Remembering: Ronit Matalon and the Literature of Egyptian Jewish Memory

Nissim Calderon, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
Ronit Matalon – The Silent and the Noisy

Dinner (Cranmer Room)
19:00-20:30

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**Thursday, May 11, 2017**

**Session One (Bawden Room)**
09:00-10:30

Chairperson:
Tsila Ratner, University College London

Speakers:
Tamar Hess, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Ekphrasis in Ronit Matalon’s Fiction

Nancy Berg, Washington University
Second Look: Reinventing the Portrait in *Kol Tza’adenu* (The Sound of Our Steps)

Yiftach Ashkenazi, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
Ronit Matalon as a Central Voice of Israeli Literature: Understanding the Hybrid Poetics of the *Sound of Our Steps* from a Synchronic Perspective

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**Coffee Break**
10:30-11:00

**Session Two (Bawden Room)**
11:00-12:30

Chairperson:
Tamar Hess, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Speakers:
Gil Hochberg, University of California Los Angeles
*The One Facing Us* still Facing Us: Matalon’s Levantine Ethics Reexamined

Moran Benit, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
‘A Room of One’s Own’: Becoming an Educated Young Mizrahi Woman in Hebrew Literature

Yigal Schwartz, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
The Trojan Horse: Ronit Matalon’s Sophisticated Entrance into the Heart of the Israeli Literary Scene

**Lunch (West Court Dining Room)**
12:30-14:00

**Session Three (Bawden Room)**
14:00-15:00

Chairperson:
Yigal Schwartz, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

Speakers:
Yaron Peleg, University of Cambridge
*And the Bride Closed the Door*, a Neo-National Hebrew Romance

Naama Tsal, Sapir College
Concealment, Side Glances, Capturing Possibility: Ronit Matalon’s Poetic Engagement with the Mizrahi Stereotype

**Closing Session (Webb Library)**
17:00-18:00

Tsila Ratner Interviews Ronit Matalon

**Concluding Remarks**