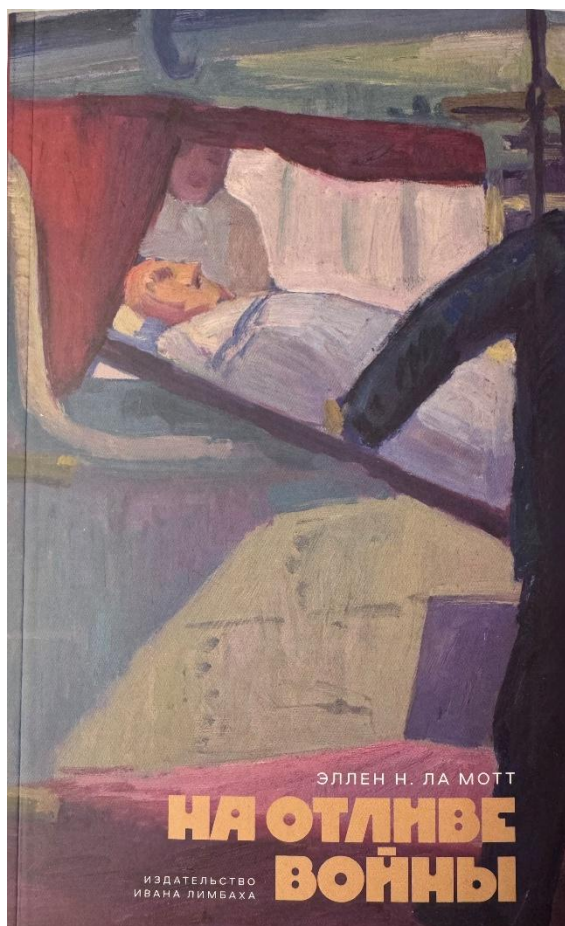
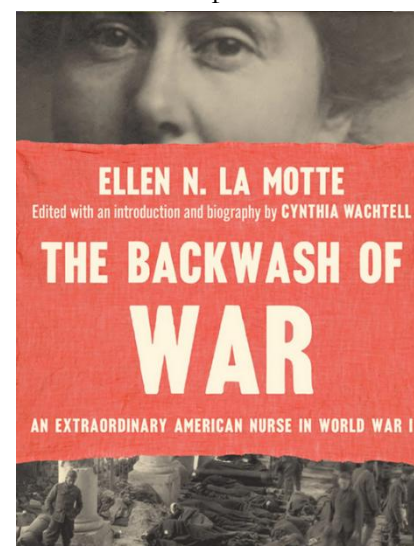


Publications



In 2019 **Cynthia Wachtell** (English) published a new edition of Ellen La Motte's forgotten anti-war classic, *The Backwash of War*. La Motte was an American nurse who wrote a collection of stories in 1916 based on her experience of the western front. The book was immediately banned in France and the United Kingdom, and censored in the U.S. Ivan Limbakh Publishers, one of the best-known independent publishers in Russia, has now published a Russian translation, including a special version of Cynthia's introduction as well as her biography of La Motte written for Russian readers. Russian wartime censorship laws forbid criticism of the attack on Ukraine, so this new translation and edition of La Motte's remarkable anti-war book is intended as a bold and powerful protest against that war. It is also testament to the brilliance and continued relevance of La Motte's extraordinary work, more than a century after its original publication. As Cynthia writes, "there is wonderful poetic justice in using a once censored antiwar book to protest a new war fought by a censoring regime."



Matt Incantalupo (Political Science) is publishing two papers with Carolyn Abott (CUNY Baruch) and Ahkeil Singla (Arizona State University School of Public Affairs). The first, "Informing Voters about Public Finance: Evidence from a Survey Experiment," *Public Finance Journal* (available [here](#)), is the winner of the inaugural GovFi Prize from the Government Finance Officers Association (\$8,500 total award). The second, "Voter Responsiveness to Signals of Local Government Financial Health" will come out soon in the *Urban Affairs Review*. Matt will speak about his work for these papers at the second faculty colloquium sponsored by the Sacks-Herstein Center and the undergraduate colleges on May 7th.

Congratulations to Cynthia and Matt!

Stern College for Women
Yeshiva College



Presentations

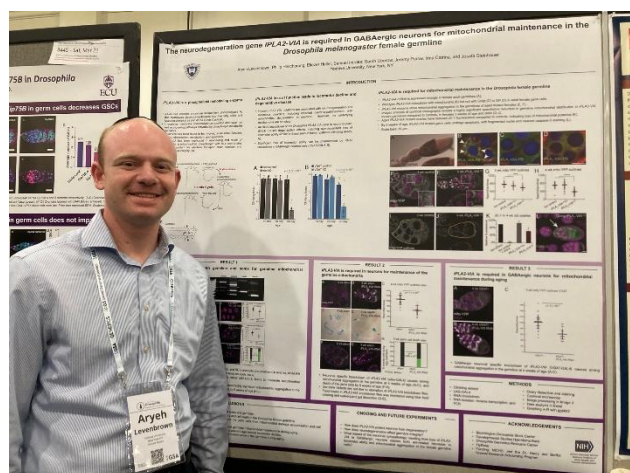
The inaugural faculty colloquium faculty colloquium sponsored by the Sacks-Herstein Center and the undergraduate colleges featured **Charlotte Fiehn** (English) talking about her first book, *George Eliot and her Women* (Rowman & Littlefield/Lexington Books). Charlotte discussed Eliot's life, and especially the ways in which her gender affected her education and ability to promote her work. Charlotte also spoke about Elizabeth von Arnim at the NEMLA in Philadelphia at the beginning of March.

Rebecca Cypess presented a lecture on "Women's Self-Fashioning and the Making of Eighteenth-Century Musical Knowledge" at the conference "Music and Knowledge Making in the Eighteenth Century," held at the École des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales in Paris in February.

Ari Malka (Psychology) was invited to speak on "Polarized Attitudes and Anti-Democratic Orientation among American Partisans" at a conference on Democracy and Discontent in Europe and the US organized at The Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M University.



Charlotte Fiehn getting ready to speak: George Eliot faced various obstacles in her career, but dealing with projectors in 215 Lex wasn't one of them.



Josie Steinhauer (Biology) and her student **Aryeh Levenbrown** (YC) attended the annual Drosophila Research Conference of the Genetics Society of America in San Diego, where Aryeh presented data that he gathered during his Kressel Fellowship in a poster entitled, "The neurodegeneration gene *iPLA2-VIA* is required in GABAergic neurons for mitochondrial maintenance in the *Drosophila melanogaster* female germline."

Aryeh Levenbrown with his poster

Gabriel Cwilich (Physics) gave various presentations related to Network Theory during his sabbatical last semester, including “Models of random sequential deposition (RSA), jamming and all that” to his long-term collaborators at the Donostia International Physics Center in San Sebastián, and “Study of cascade of failures and resilience in the US banking network” at the Complex Networks XIII conference in Istanbul, with his student Liteswar Rao (Katz).

Michelle Levine (Bible) gave three shiurim for the Orthodox Union’s Nach Yomi program in Brookline, MA, in February, entitled “Song of Deborah: A Reflection on a Feminine Leader Ahead of Her Times”, “King David’s Song of Lament: How Can We Honor Our Fallen Heroes?”, and “Poetry, Prophecy, and Polemic: Literal and Allegorical Perspectives on Song of Songs”.

Performances and Shows

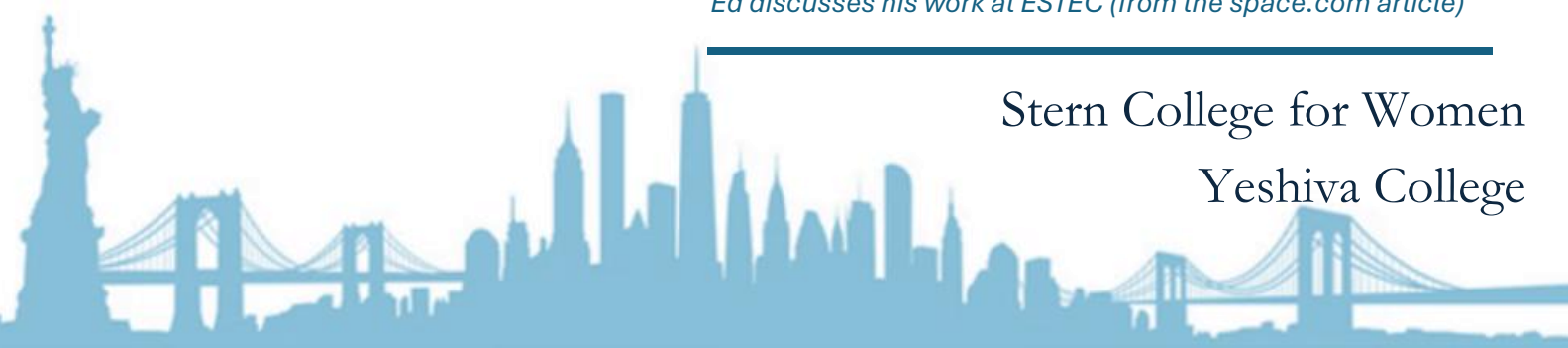
Daniel Beliaevsky (Music) presented his film “Secret Music”, on the neo-romantic composer David Del Tredici (d.2023), at the Conservatory of University of Missouri - Kansas City, where he also gave a piano recital, featuring work by Schubert, Chopin, Donald Harris, and Rachmaninoff, as well as Del Tredici.

Wednesday April 2 will see the annual performance of the Stern College New Music Ensemble in Residence, supported by the Beatrice Diener Endowment for Music at SCW. The concert will include two premieres of work by **David Glaser** (Music), String Quartet No. 6 and “Moonset No. 3” for soprano and violin, as well as Darius Milhaud’s String Quartet No. 3, for quartet and soprano and Fanny Mendelssohn-Hensel’s String Quartet in E-flat. The concert is at 7:30 at the Center for Jewish History on West 16th St, and free: full details, including ticket reservations, [here](#).

The paintings of **Ed Belbruno** (Math) are the subject of a feature [“Capturing the cosmos on canvas”](#). Ed’s paintings have been on show at the European Space Agency’s European Space Research and Technology Center (ESTEC) in Noordwijk, The Netherlands; they will next be displayed at one of the ESA’s centers in Rome, Madrid, or London.



Ed discusses his work at ESTEC (from the space.com article)



Events at YU

In March, the Stern Speech Pathology and Audiology department and the Katz Speech Pathology Graduate School hosted an event called “Voices of Connection.” Jewish speech pathology and audiology students and faculty from all NYC area speech pathology programs as well as YU students and faculty discussed experiences of antisemitism on other campuses and heard a panel discussion on antisemitism and resilience featuring **Amiya Waldman-Levi** (Katz) and **Heidi Fuld** (SPAU) as well as Stern students Ashley Byck and Marlee Fried.

Paul Glassman (Art History, formerly Director of Scholarly and Cultural Resources and Librarian) and the students in his Evolution of the Skyscraper course welcomed three guest speakers this semester: Elizabeth Greenspan, author of *Battle for Ground Zero: Inside the Political Struggle to Rebuild the World Trade Center* (2014), who spoke about the complex relation between real-estate developer, government agencies, and architect Daniel Libeskind; Thomas Leslie, FAIA, professor in the School of Architecture at the University of Illinois and author of *Chicago Skyscrapers, 1871-1934* and its sequel *Chicago Skyscrapers, 1934-1986*, who spoke on high-rise design strategies; and Victor Dadras, R.A., who shared a case study on making office space habitable. In Paul’s Architectural Design Process course, students designed hypothetical 300-square-foot work-live cottages, rendered them by hand, and produced 3D-printed models in the Gottesman Library’s Digital Media Studio.

With the sponsorship of the YC English Department, Jay and Jeanie Schottenstein Honors Program, and Shevet Glaubach Center for Career Strategy & Professional Development, **David Poretz** (English) facilitated a campus visit by author, journalist, and YC English alum Reuven Fenton in February. Fenton spoke at David’s classes, where he and the class engaged in a lively discussion about narrative voice, memory, and the blurry line between fact and fiction. A dinner event for the entire Wilf campus took place afterward, where Fenton read from his debut novel *Goyhood* (in [hardcover](#) and coming out in [paperback](#) in April). The reading was accompanied by a lively conversation between Poretz and the author, followed by an open Q&A with the audience. Fenton stayed afterward to sign books and chat with students.



Reuven Fenton at YC



Each semester, the Wilf Campus Writing Center hosts an Open Mic Night that brings students and faculty together to share their creative work in front of a supportive audience. This semester's event—organized by **David Poretz**, **Lauren Fitzgerald**, and **Brian Trimboli** (English)—was their most successful yet, with nearly 40 students from both the Beren and Wilf campuses in attendance. The evening featured readings from undergraduate writers published in the latest issue of *The Maccabee Review*, Yeshiva University's first digital, student-led literary journal, along with spontaneous performances from students who signed up on the spot. The result was a heartfelt evening filled with poetry, stories, personal

essays, and original music. *The Maccabee Review* explores themes such as love, grief, faith, and identity, many of which were reflected in the pieces shared throughout the night. The journal has become a meaningful platform for student storytelling and creative expression across both campuses. The Open Mic Night fosters an inclusive creative community at YU and provides students with a space to share their voices, perspectives, and art.



And finally, on March 28 faculty from Stern and YC joined for the second faculty professional development morning, on “How do we know if our students are learning?”. We compared strategies to understand how we establish and meet our departmental goals in a congenial and constructive environment.

