

A Rainbow Thread by Noam Sienna

Book Launch

Wednesday, October 2, 8:00 pm

Wolfond Centre, 36 Harbord Street

Noam Sienna is a Jewish educator, artist, and doctoral candidate in Jewish History and Museum Studies at the University of Minnesota. He also holds degrees in Anthropology and Religious Studies from Brandeis University and the University of Toronto. He has taught and lectured about Jewish cultural heritage at academic and community venues around the world, and he has published articles about Jewish history, culture, and art in both scholarly and popular journals.

His academic work has focused on the history and culture of Jewish communities in the Islamic world, from the Middle Ages to the present. *A Rainbow Thread: An Anthology of Queer Jewish Texts from the First Century to 1969* is his first book.



Spanning almost two millennia and containing translations from more than a dozen languages, *A Rainbow Thread* collects for the first time more than a hundred sources on the intersection of Jewish and queer identities.

Featuring poetry, literature, law, midrash, and memoir, this is an unprecedented examination of the histories of gender and sexuality over two millennia of Jewish life around the world. Come discover centuries of hidden history, from a gay brawl in a medieval synagogue to a gender-bending Jewish stowaway in colonial Canada.

Join us for a reading of selected stories from this groundbreaking collection, and a discussion and book-signing with the author, followed by kosher refreshments.

Shir Libeynu is proud to co-sponsor this event with Annex Shul, Beth Sholom, Beth Tzedec, City Shul, Danforth Jewish Circle, Darchei Noam, First Narayever, Hillel at the University of Toronto, Holy Blossom, Makom, and the Miles Nadal JCC.