EVENT: The Ian and Mildred Karten Memorial Lecture 2022
"Town Fools, Madmen, and Possessed Women: The Mentally Ill in Jewish Eastern Europe" Professor Natan M. Meir (15 March)

Discussion published by Katie Power on Friday, March 4, 2022

The Parkes Institute for the Study of Jewish/non-Jewish Relations (University of Southampton) invites you to register for the annual Ian and Mildred Karten Memorial Lecture, delivered by Professor Natan M. Meir (Portland State University) and titled 'Town Fools, Madmen, and Possessed Women: The Mentally Ill in Jewish Eastern Europe'. The Ian and Mildred Karten Memorial Lecture is part of the Parkes Institute annual lecture series and has been named to honour the generosity and interest shown by Ian and Mildred in the Parkes Institute.

Date: 15 March 2022
Time: 6-7:30PM GMT

Event Details
East European Jewry was no more or less neurodiverse than any other human community. Then why did so many people in the early twentieth century—both Jews and non-Jews—take it for granted that Jews were more prone to madness and neurosis than their neighbors? And what was traditional Jewish society’s understanding of mental illness and cognitive disorders? We will examine a variety of historical sources in an attempt to gain a better understanding of the role of mentally ill people in Jewish society in pre-Holocaust Eastern Europe.

About the Speaker

Dr Claire Le Foll is the Director of the Parkes Institute and Associate Professor of East European Jewish History and Culture at the University of Southampton and will chair this event.

Registration is free and all are welcome. This is an online event that will take place on Zoom. Please [click here](https://www.southampton.ac.uk/parkes/news/events/2022/03/the-ian-and-mildred-karten-memorial-lecture-2022.page) to register.