



How to Make Religious Spaces?

Performativity and Religious Spaces in the Southern Levant from Archaeological and Biblical Perspectives

October 28–29, 2026
Leipzig

October 28, 2026

09:00 – 09:15

Judith E. Filitz

Welcome

09:15 – 10:00

Matthew Susnow

On Making Temples: Sacred
Placemaking Practices in the Levant

10:00 – 10:30: *break*

10:30 – 11:15

Aren Maeir

Rhizomatic Sacred Space in Iron Age
Philistia: Breaking Down Dichotomies

11:15 – 12:00

Naama Yahalom-Mack

Ritual Placemaking at Tel Abel Beth
Maacah and Its Implications for Iron Age
II Cult

12:00 – 01:30: *break*

01:30 – 02:15

Shua Kisilevitz

Granaries and Gods: Performing
Religious Space within an Economic
Landscape at Tel Moza

02:15 – 03:00

Angelika Berlejung

Spatial Markers of Ritual Spaces

03:00 – 03:30: *break*

03:30 – 04:15

Sabine Kleiman

Religion at the Threshold: Evidence for
Cult at Southern Levantine Gate
Structures

04:15 – 05:00

Felix Hagemeyer

“You shall not make idols for yourselves
or erect an image or pillar, and you shall
not set up a figured stone in yourland
[...]” (Lev 26:1): Ruins as Religious Spaces
in Iron Age Israel/Palestine

05:00 – 06:00: *break*

06:00 – 07:30 (evening lecture)

Jörg Rüpke

Spatialization of Religion and the
Sacralization of Space
Venue: Faculty of Theology,
Beethovenstraße 25, 04107 Leipzig

October 29, 2026

10:00 – 10:45

Judith E. Filitz

Making-of: Performativity of Non-Urban
Religious Spaces in the Hebrew Bible

10:45 – 11:30

Kirsten Schäfers

Dwelling Under Shadow Casting Trees:
Botanical Religious Spaces in the Book of
Hosea

11:30 – 11:45: break

11:45 – 12:30

Marlen Bunzel

How Do Biblical Texts Construct
"Religious Space"? A look at Selected
Speeches of God in the Book of Exodus

12:30 – 02:00: break

02:00 – 02:45

Bruno Biermann

King, Cash and Cult in a Palimpsest
Space and Time in 2 Kings 12

02:45 – 03:30

Anna-Maria Bortz

Ritual Before Temple – The Constructing
Religious Space in
Ezr 3:1-5

03:30 – 04:00

Final Discussion

Conference Venues

Daytime sessions (October 28–29):
Saxon Academy of Sciences and
Humanities in Leipzig
Karl-Tauchnitz-Straße 1
04107 Leipzig

Evening lecture (October 28)
Faculty of Theology
Beethovenstraße 25
04107 Leipzig

Online participation is available.

**Registration for online and on-site
participation:**

judith.filitz@uni-a.de



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