

September 11–13

2018

Castelen, Augst

WHAT FOLLOWS

*la mort de
l'auteur?*

Re-Evaluating the
Concept of Authorship
in Hebrew Bible
Studies



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In light of the various ways in which scholars have approached the concept of 'authorship' in biblical scholarship of the past decades, and the lack of clear consensus on how it might be re-configured in biblical scholarship, it is clear that 'authorship' remains an unresolved yet critical issue. There is broad agreement among biblical scholars that the notion of individual authors and their intentions is too simplistic for the study of the Hebrew scriptures. However, there is little consensus on how else we should conceive text production and transmission in ancient Israel. In addition, few attempts have been made to bring together scholars who are interested in both the theoretical and the historical aspects of 'authorship' for the study of the Hebrew scriptures. As 2018 marks fifty years since the publication of Roland Barthes' *La mort de l'auteur*, it is a fitting occasion to review the place of 'authorship' in Hebrew Bible studies and its consequences for socio-historical research. This conference provides such an opportunity, and seeks to foster greater integration between the assortment of approaches and results that characterize the scholarly discussion at this time.

Tuesday, September 11

14.00 What follows *la mort de l'auteur*?

Introduction.

| Sonja Ammann (University of Basel)

14.15 Authorial Presence in Late Babylonian Historiography

| Caroline Waerzeggers (University of Leiden)

15.00 Rewriting Authorship in the Dead Sea Scrolls

| George Brooke (University of Manchester)

15.45–16.15 Coffee Break

16.15 Authorial Strategies in Hellenistic Judean Literature

| Sylvie Honigman (Tel Aviv University)

17.00 Functions of Authorship and Power Relations

| Ehud Ben Zvi (University of Alberta)

17.45–18.30 Discussion

Wednesday, September 12

9.00 The Concept of Author as a Problem for Hebrew Bible Studies: A Survey of Issues

| Christophe Nihan (University of Lausanne)

9.45 Authorial Intention(s) in Old Testament Texts

| Melanie Köhlmoos (Goethe University Frankfurt)

10.30–11.00 Coffee Break

11.00 From Amos to Ben Sira: The Development of the Concept of Authorship in the Hebrew Bible in Comparative Perspective

| Konrad Schmid (University of Zurich)

11.45–12.30 Discussion

12.30–14.00 Lunch

14.00 Rereading Anonymous Oral-Written Pentateuchal Prose in a Post-Author Twenty- First Century Context: Strategies and Goals for Historically-Oriented Interpretation

| David Carr (Union Theological Seminary, New York)

14.45 Divine Authorship in Pentateuchal Law

| Julia Rhyder (University of Lausanne)

15.30–16.00 Coffee Break

16.00 Author vs. Narrator? Some Observations on 2 Sam in the Context of the So-Called Deuteronomistic History

| Ilse Müllner (University of Kassel)

16.45 Authors and Narrators in Wisdom Literature: Proverbs, Qohelet and Job Compared

| Thomas Krüger (University of Zurich)

17.30–18.30 Discussion

Thursday, September 13

9.00 Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Authorship in Prophetic Literature: A Case Study

| Katharina Pyschny (University of Lausanne)

9.45 Jeremiah, the "Paradigmatic" Author: Authorship in and behind Lamentations

| Christian Frevel (University of Bochum)

10.30–11.00 Coffee Break

11.00 Review and Summary

| Katharina Pyschny

11.15–12.00 Final Discussion

Conference organizers:

Sonja Ammann, Katharina Pyschny, Julia Rhyder.

Registration for the conference is free of charge, lunch participation on Wednesday is CHF 30.

Please register by September 1st: helge.bezold@unibas.ch

