

SIDDY WRONSKY

1883 BERLIN -
1947 JERUSALEM

Social Work
Gender
Jewish History

חול וכוכבים

Sand and Stars

Sand und Sterne

Symposium and Book Release
of Siddy Wronsky's long undiscovered
and now published novel



28.04.2025



10:00 CET



online

Background

This event highlights a previously undiscovered work by Jewish social work pioneer **Siddy Wronsky** (1883, Berlin – 1947, Jerusalem).

In her novel “Sand and Stars”, Wronsky portrays the Aliyah of four young Jews fleeing Nazi Germany for Palestine. The book is deeply embedded in the **transnational transfer of Jewish social work** from Germany to Mandatory Palestine, reflecting its development as an emerging, gendered profession.

The manuscript has been **digitized**, **contextualized**, and **published** through a collaborative effort led by DZI – formerly Archiv für Wohlfahrtspflege – where Wronsky once served as board member and director.

The event will introduce the **book** and explore its historical context, as well as its **significance** for the historiography of social work.

Program

10.00 a.m.

Welcome and moderation

Burkhard Wilke (executive and scientific director of DZI)

Greetings

Cansel Kiziltepe (Senator for Labor, Social Affairs, Equality, Integration, Diversity and Anti-Discrimination of the State of Berlin)

10.20 a.m.

Symposium

Siddy Wronsky as a lead of the Jewish social work transfer from Germany to Mandatory Palestine

Dr Ayana Halpern (The Hebrew University Jerusalem)

& Dr Dayana Lau (Alice Salomon Archiv, Berlin)

The digitization process as a field of experimentation for collaborative, transnational research on the history of social work

Dr Stephanie Pigorsch (DZI, coordinator “Sand and Stars”)

& Dr Sinai Rusinek (e-Lijah-Lab, University of Haifa)

“Sand and Stars”: The novel’s multi-layers of social work, gender, and Jewish history

Dr Yehudit Avnir (Emerita, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

12.00 p.m.

Podium: The significance for the historiography of social work

Dr Yehudit Avnir, Dr Ayana Halpern & further guests:

Norman Böttcher (Ludwigshaven University of Business and Society)

& Dr Adriane Feustel (historian and founder of the Alice Salomon Archiv, Berlin)

12:40 p.m.

End of the online part

Registration
for online Participation:
redaktion@dzi.de

for further information:



Gestaltung: Lara-Sophia Bredow