These are the Notes for episode 12 – "Jews in the Romanian Culture", of the "History of the Romanian Jews" podcast.

## **Incomplete list of Artists:**

- Axelrad, Avram (1879–1963), poet and journalist. Axelrad depicted in simple lines, very popular in the early twentieth century, the tragedy of Jews forced to emigrate by poverty and misfortunes. Among his works are *Spre răsărit* (To the East; 1900) and *Lădița cu necazuri* (The Little Box of Misfortunes; 1919).
- Baltazar, Camil (Leopold Goldştein; 1902–1977), poet, editor, and translator. Extremely active in the literary press, Baltazar edited (with Petru Comarnescu) the review *Tiparniţa literară* (The Literary Printing Press; 1928–1931). He published several volumes of symbolist poetry, among them *Biblice* (Biblical; 1926), and a memoir, *Contemporan cu ei* (Their Contemporary; 1962). He also translated Thomas Mann, Franz Werfel, Jakob Wassermann, and others.
- Banuş, Maria (1914–1999), poet. Banuş made her debut with a collection of poetry, *Țara fetelor* (Girls' Country; 1937), and during the Stalinist period, her work conformed to the new realist socialist literature. After 1970 she returned to reflexive poetry dedicated to personal feelings in line with her earliest works. Her memoir, *Sub camuflaj. Jurnal 1943–1944* (Under Camouflage: Journal 1943–1944; 1978), depicts the period of antisemitic persecutions.
- Baranga, Aurel (Leibovici; 1913–1979), poet, playwright, and editor. Baranga made his debut as an avant-gardist poet and edited the review *Alge* (1930) with Gherasim Luca. During the Communist era, Baranga was one of the most popular Romanian playwrights and the author of successful comedies, also staged abroad. His ideological conformism jeopardized the acceptability of many of his plays.
- Bonciu, H. (Bercu Haimovici; 1893–1950), poet and novelist. Bonciu was originally acknowledged as an essentially expressionist poet, as was evident in his Lada cu năluci (The Chest with Ghosts; 1932). Two of his prose volumes, Bagaj . . . (Luggage . . . ; 1934) and Pensiunea doamnei Pipersberg (Mrs. Pipersberg's Boarding House; 1936) generated a press scandal, as he was accused of pornography, and some of the attacks resorted to violently antisemitic language. However, several critics of the time appreciated the works as experimentalist novels under the influence of German and Austrian expressionism.
- Breslaşu, Marcel (Bresliska; 1903–1966), poet and composer. Breslaşu's first title
  publication was Cântarea cântărilor (The Song of Songs; 1938). A former Communist
  activist, he held important positions in the field of cultural affairs in the 1950s. Despite
  the concessions he made to socialist realism, his true talent, revealed in Zodiac
  (published posthumously in 1973), saved Breslaşu from being completely forgotten.
- **Bruckstein, Ludovic** (1920-1988), playwright and novelist. A descendent of a rabbinical family from Maramureş, Bruckstein grew up in Sighet. He survived the Buchenwald Nazi concentration camp, and after the war studied in Cluj and Bucharest and published several plays, in Romanian and Yiddish, that were inspired by the trauma of the

- Holocaust or by Hasidic legends. Several of these plays were staged by the Jewish State Theater in Bucharest: *Familia Grinvald* (The Grinvald Family, 1953), *Generaţia din pustiu* (The Desert Generation, 1956), and *Un process neterminat* (An Unfinished Trial, 1962). After his immigration to Israel in 1972, he continued his literary activity.
- Cassian, Nina (1924–), poet, memoir writer, and translator. After a proletarian phase that diminished her early and genuine talent, Cassian became one of the outstanding representatives of Romanian poetry. She has been living in the United States since 1985 and also writes in English. Three volumes of journals and memoirs, Memoria ca zestre (Memory as Heritage; 2003–2005) captured and analyzed the literary and political life of the Communist period. Together with Israil Bercovici, she translated Itsik Manger's poetry—Balada evreului care a ajuns de la cenuşiu la albastru (The Ballad of the Jew Who Got from Gray to Blue; 1983).
- Cornea, Paul (Cohn; 1924—), literary historian. A young Communist during World War II, Cornea held important positions in the 1950s that he gave up in favor of an academic career as professor of Romanian literature at Bucharest University. He emerged as one of the most prominent Romanian literary historians and published fundamental studies on nineteenth-century Romanian literature, including *Originile romantismului românesc* (The Origins of Romanian Romanticism; 1972) and various theoretical studies of reading and comparative literature, among them *Regula jocului* (The Rule of the Game; 1980), *Introducere în teoria lecturii* (Introduction to the Theory of Reading; 1988), and *Interpretare şi raționalitate* (Interpretation and Rationality; 2006), a comprehensive and original synthesis of interpretation in humanities, literary criticism, and everyday speech.
- Cosaşu, Radu (Oscar Rohrlich; 1930–), prose writer and journalist. After a socialist realist phase in his youth, Cosaşu became one of the most original Romanian writers, making frequent references to the fall of Communist illusions and to the Jewish environment in that era. His works include *Meseria de nuvelist* (The Profession of Short Story Telling; 1980); *Supravieţuirile* (The Survivals, 4 vols.; 2002–2006). He also has written about the Romanian Jewish community in Israel, in *Mătuşile din Tel Aviv* (My Aunts from Tel Aviv; 1993).
- Costin, Sebastian (1939–1997), poet, translator, and journalist. Costin moved to Israel in 1973, where he continued his earlier career in literary and journalistic work (as drama critic) in the Romanian-language press. His poetry collections include *Femios* (1969), *Pădurea de aer* (The Forest of Air; 1997), and *Poemele de-o zi* (The One-Day Poems; 2002). His translations from Hebrew poetry include *Sunete ebraice* (Hebrew Sounds; 1975) and *La marginea cerului* (On the Edge of the Sky; 1981). Dan, Sergiu (Rottman; 1903–1976), novelist. Focusing on social unrest and provincial stagnation— *Dragoste si moarte in provincie* (Love and Death in the Provinces; 1931); *Surorile Veniamin* (The Veniamin Sisters; 1935)—Dan also made one of the first attempts to represent the nightmare of Transnistrian camps in the novel *Unde începe noaptea* (Where Night Begins; 1945).
- **Deleanu, Liviu** (Lipa Cligman; 1911–1967), poet and translator. After an early debut in avant- garde reviews, Deleanu published three books of poetry: *Oglinzi fermecate* (Charmed Mirrors; 1930), *Ceasul de veghe* (The Watch Hour; 1937), and *Glod alb* (White

- Mud; 1940), which were well received by the critics. In 1940 he fled to Moscow and then settled in Chişinău (Kishinev), where he pursued his literary work in Romanian. He published translations of lacob Groper and Itsik Manger.
- Dominic, A. (Avram Reichman; 1889–1942), poet. In Dominic's two volumes of expressionist poetry with prophetic accents—Revolte şi răstigniri (Rebellions and Crucifixions; 1920) and Clopote peste adâncuri (Bells over the Deep; 1927)—the tragic motif of Diaspora Jewry is recurrent. The play Sonata umbrelor (The Sonata of Shadows; 1921) was well received by critics in Romania and Germany.
- **Duda, Virgil** (Rubin Leibovici; 1939–), novelist. A writer from the generation that made its mark in the 1960s, Duda was noticed for his gift for psychological analysis, as evident in his *Catedrala* (The Cathedral; 1969), *Anchetatorul apatic* (The Apathetic Investigator; 1971), and *Măştile* (The Masks; 1979). Autobiographical elements became more obvious in his subsequent novels: *Războiul amintirilor* (The War of Memories; 1981), *Hărțuiala* (The Harassment; 1984), and *Oglinda salvată* (The Rescued Mirror; 1986). After he settled in Israel (1988), Jewish themes, including the Holocaust, acquired a special significance in his work, as in *Alvis și destinul* (Alvis and Fate; 1993), *A trăi în păcat* (Living in Sin; 1996), and *Viața cu efect întârziat* (Life with Delayed Effect; 1998). After writing a novel focusing on the intellectual environment of the Communist period (*Şase femei* [Six Women]; 2002), he returned to Jewish issues in his book of essays *Evreul ca simbol* (The Jew As a Symbol; 2004) and the novel *Despărțirea de Ierusalim* (Farewell to Jerusalem; 2006).
- Elvin, B. (Bernstein; 1927–), novelist and essayist. In 1969, Elvin became the literary secretary of the National Theater of Bucharest. He made his debut with substantial essays on theater and playwrights (Chekhov, Ion Luca Caragiale, Camil Petrescu, Mihail Sebastian), and after 1970 was acknowledged as a novelist, one of Mihail Sebastian's successors, a fine analyst of character. Elvin's works include *Hotarul imaginar* (The Imaginary Borderline; 1980), *In continuare* (Next; 1982), and *Colţurile cercului* (The Circle's Corners; 1985). He edited the Romanian issue of the *Lettre Internationale* review.
- **Feraru, Leon** (Otto Enselberg; 1887–1961), poet and literary historian. Feraru immigrated to the United States in 1913. He collected his poems on social topics written in Romania in the book *Maghernița veche și alte versuri din anii tineri* (The Old Hovel and Other Verses from the Early Years; 1926), and continued to write in exile on Romanian literature: *The Development of Rumanian Poetry* (1929).
- Furtună, Enric (Henric Peckelman; 1881–1965), poet. Furtună wrote elegies and meditations dominated by humanistic romantic tendencies, such as the motif of the wanderer Ahasver: *De pe stâncă* (From the Rock; 1922), *Privelişti şi impresii* (Views and Impressions; 1926), and *Poemele resemnării* (The Poems of Resignation; 1940).
- **lacobescu, D.** (Armand lacobson; 1893–1913), poet. The posthumous book *Quasi* (1930) revealed an original symbolist poet who died of tuberculosis.
- lanoşi, lon (Janos Steinberger; 1928–), theorist. Having studied Marxism, lanoşi went through a militant ideological phase relatively quickly and published substantial studies on the Russian philosophy and literature, on Thomas Mann and a history of Romanian

- philosophy. Ianoşi's memoirs, Secolul nostru cel de toate zilele (Our Everyday Century; 1980), Opţiuni (Choices; 1989), as well as his essays collected in Prejudecăţi şi judecăţi (Prejudgments and Judgments; 2002) reveal a growing preoccupation with Jewish identity and its confrontation with antisemitism.
- Larian, Sonia (Ariane Lewenstein; 1931–), children's writer and novelist. After becoming well known as a writer of children's books, Larian published an extremely original animal fantasy and parable, *Biblioteca fantastică* (The Fantastic Library; 1976), followed 10 years later by *Bietele corpuri* (The Unfortunate Bodies; 1986), one of the most powerful Romanian novels on suffering and death. She has been in Paris since 1988.
- Luca, Gherasim (Salman Locker; 1913–1994), writer and editor. Luca made his debut in the avant-garde review *Alge* (1930), followed by the prose volumes *Roman de dragoste* (Romance Novel; 1933) and *Fata Morgana* (1937). In 1952, Luca moved to France, where he was an outstanding figure in the French surrealist movement.
- Manea, Norman (1936–), novelist and short-story writer. Manea is noted for his subtle analyses of the degradation of human relations in a totalitarian society. His titles include the novels *Zilele şi jocul* (The Days and the Game; 1977), *Atrium* (1974), and *Plicul negru* (The Black Envelope; 1986). In his stories and short stories *Octombrie ora opt* (October, 8 O'Clock; 1981), the memories of Manea's childhood in Transnistria are given exceptional expression. Themes relating to the Holocaust and the ravages of antisemitism returned in his books of memoirs *Casa melcului* (The Snail's House; 1999), in essays (*On Clowns: The Dictator and the Artist;* 1992), and in his memoir *A Hooligan's Return* (2003). After he moved to the United States in 1988, his works, translated into English and many other languages, enjoyed international acknowledgement.
- Marcian, Marcel (Moritz Marcus; 1914–2007), short-story writer. Marcian wrote lively stories depicting Jewish market towns in Moldavia. His titles include *Povestindu-vă* (Telling You Stories; 1977), and *Şi cum vă spuneam . . .* (And as I Was Telling You . . . ; 1980).
- Mircu, Marius (Marcus; 1909–2008), journalist and novelist. One of the first journalists to
  write about the pogroms of Iaşi, Bucovina, and Transnistria, Mircu published numerous
  books on the history of the Jews in Romania. He also completed the autobiographical
  novels Croitorul din Back (The Tailor from Back; 1979), and M-am născut reporter (I Was
  Born a Reporter; 1981).
- Mirodan, Alexandru (Saltman; 1927–2010), playwright. Mirodan was a successful playwright in the 1950s and 1960s; his plays include *Ziariştii* (The Journalists; 1956), *Celebrul 702* (The Famous 702; 1962), and *Şeful sectorului suflete* (The Head of the Soul Department; 1965). The performance of his parable about antisemitism, *Contract special de închiriat oameni* (Special Contract for Renting People; 1971 [published in Tel Aviv in 1983]) was banned. After moving to Israel in 1977, Mirodan edited the Romanian monthly *Minimum* and published *Dicționar neonvențional al scriitorilor evrei de limba română (A–F)* (The Unconventional Dictionary of Jewish Writers in Romanian [A–F]; 1986, 1997).
- Nemţeanu, Barbu (Beniamin Deutsch; 1887–1919), poet and translator. Writing at the crossroad between romanticism and modernism, Nemţeanu combined lyricism with

- Heine's subtle irony, from whose work he also translated *Hebrew Melodies* (1919). Critics acknowledged Nemţeanu for his book *Stropi de soare* (Sun Drops; 1915).
- Pană, Saşa (Alexandru Binder; 1902–1981), poet, and one of the main promoters and theoreticians of surrealism in Romania. Pană edited the avant-garde review *unu* (one; 1928–1932) and published many volumes of poetry, as well as *Antologia literaturii române de avangardă* (The Anthology of Romanian Avant-Garde Literature; 1969). In his memoirs, *Născut în '02* (Born in '02; 1973), he describes his involvement of several decades in the Romanian and European avant-garde.
- **Păun, Paul** (1916–1994), poet. Păun was part of the surrealist poets' group that debuted in the *Alge* review (1930), and he published poems in *unu* (one). After issuing two books of poetry, *Plămânul sălbatec* (The Wild Lung; 1939), and *Marea palidă* (The Pale Sea; 1945), Păun pursued his literary work in French, with the same surrealist orientation.
- Raicu, Lucian (Bernard Leibovici; 1934–2006), literary critic. As one of the most original and prominent contemporary Romanian literary critics, Raicu published comprehensive essays on outstanding Romanian writers (Liviu Rebreanu, George Bacovia, Mihail Sadoveanu), and on Eugène Ionesco. Raicu also wrote an innovative study on Gogol, Gogol sau fantasticul banalității (Gogol or the Fantastic of the Ordinary; 1974, also published in France, 1992), and essays on the nature of art and on the creative spirit. He lived in France from 1986 until his death.
- Relgis, Eugen (Sigler; 1895–1987), editor, poet, and essayist. As a promoter of the European humanist movement (in the vein of Romain Rolland and Stefan Zweig), Relgis edited the reviews *Umanitatea* (The Humanity; 1920) and *Umanitarismul* (Humanitarianism; 1930). He published several books of poetry and prose on social themes, and essays on Judaism and the biblical spirit: *Eseuri despre judaism* (Essays on Judaism; 1936). He settled in Uruguay in 1947 and translated many of his essays into Spanish.
- Rudich, Maier (1913–1991), poet and journalist. Rudich worked for the Jewish publications *Hasmonaea*, *Adam*, and *Renaşterea noastră*. Accused of Zionist activity, he was imprisoned from 1951 to 1955. His book *La braţ cu moartea* (Arm in Arm with Death; 1945) includes stories on Transnistria. From 1959, Rudich pursued his literary work in Israel.
- Rusu, Victor (1922—), editor and essayist. Before moving to Israel in 1978, Rusu was the editor of *Revista cultului mozaic*. He also published several books of essays, among which *Alef-Bet* (1976), *Iţic şi lumea lui* (Iţic and His World; 2000), and *Ultimii evrei* (The Last Jews; 2004) included depictions of Jewish market towns from his native Moldavia.
- Sanielevici, Henric (1875–1951), literary critic and theorist. After Constantin Dobrogeanu-Gherea, Sanielevici was one of the first Jewish intellectuals to make his mark in Romanian literary criticism and sociology. His original aesthetic theories combined anthropology with a social approach to literary trends; his works include *Incercări critice* (Literary Attempts; 1903), *Cercetări critice şi filosofice* (Critical and Philosophical Research; 1916), and *Studii critice* (Critical Studies; 1927).
- **Sever, Alexandru** (Solomon Zilberman; 1921–2010), novelist, playwright, and essayist. Sever's novels include vast epics with multiple social and philosophical implications:

Cezar Dragoman (1957); Uciderea pruncilor (Killing of the Infants; 1966); and Impostorul (The Imposter; 1977). The novels he published after moving to Israel, Cartea morților (Book of the Dead; 1995); Insomniacii (The Insomniacs; 2000); and Cronica unui sfârșit amânat (The Chronicle of a Postponed End; 2006) had a more obvious focus on Jewish topics. Some of his plays are included in the collection Don Juan apocalipticul (Don Juan the Apocalyptic; 1984).

- **Steuerman-Rodion, Avram** (1872–1918), poet and journalist, an active presence in the socialist press. Under Heine's strong influence, Steuerman-Rodion was among the first to express Jewish writers' torments, divided between faithfulness to the Jewish tradition and attraction to a Romanian literary career. His works include *Sărăcie* (Poverty; 1997), *Lirice* (Lyrical; 1898), and *Spini* (Thorns; 1915). He committed suicide upon his return from World War I, where he had served as a physician.
- Toma, Alexandru (Solomon Moscovici; 1875–1954), poet. Attached to the socialist and eventually Communist circles and periodicals, Toma was oriented toward poetry of social militancy that became in the Stalinist period a proletarian rhetoric very much appreciated by those in power. His publications include *Poezii* (Poems; 1926) and *Poezii* alese (Selected Poems; 1952).
- **Trivale, Ion** (Iosif Netzler; 1889–1917), literary critic and essayist. Trivale made a brilliant debut with his book of *Cronici literare* (Literary Chronicles; 1914) and intensive journalistic activity. His death at the front in World War I prematurely ended an extraordinary promising critical career.
- Avigdor Arikha, painter
- Victor Brauner, painter and photographer
- Sorel Etrog, sculptor
- André François, painter and graphic artist
- Idel Ianchelevici, sculptor
- Marcel lancu, architect and painter
- losif lser, painter
- Isidore Isou, Letterist
- Alex Leon, painter
- Moissaye Marans, sculptor
- Max Herman Maxy, painter
- Constantin Daniel Rosenthal, painter
- Reuven Rubin, painter
- Herman Sachs, muralist
- Arthur Segal, painter
- Hedda Sterne, painter, sculptor and graphic artist
- Nicolae Vermont, painter and graphic artist
- Jean Weinberg, photographer
- Medi Dinu, painter
- Israil Bercovici, playwright
- Lucian Bratu, director/film producer

- Christian Calson, director/writer
- Saul Steinberg, cartoonist
- I.A.L. Diamond, screenwriter
- Abraham Goldfaden, founder of Yiddish-language theater
- Marin Karmitz, director, producer
- Elina Löwensohn, actress
- Sigmund Mogulesko
- Maia Morgenstern (1962 ) film and stage actress
- Bernard Natan, film producer
- Ovitz family, circus actors and traveling musicians
- Dumitru Solomon, playwright
- Jacob Sternberg, director
- Dana International, Israeli singer and musician
- Shlomo Artzi, musician now living in Israel
- Dan Bittman, singer
- Alexander Uriah Boskovich, composer
- Dumitru Bughici composer, pianist
- Sergiu Comissiona, conductor, violinist
- Alma Gluck, soprano
- Sarah Gorby singer
- Clara Haskil, pianist
- Philip Herschkowitz, music theorist and composer
- Gabriel Iranyi, composer
- Mindru Katz, pianist
- Max Leibowitz violinist and bandleader
- Sammy Lerner, composer
- Yoel Levi, conductor
- Sergiu Luca, violinist
- Radu Lupu, pianist
- Silvia Marcovici, violinist
- Ion Marin, conductor
- Abraham Moskowitz, singer and theatre actor
- Joseph Moskowitz, klezmer musician
- Simon Paskal singer, cantor and theatre actor
- Mendi Rodan, conductor, composer and violinist.
- Moses Gaster, rabbi, philologist, community leader, early Zionist
- Iuliu Barasch, physician and writer
- Zelig Bardichever, poet and songwriter
- Max Blecher, writer
- Srul Bronshtein, poet
- Paul Celan, poet
- Andrei Codrescu, poet and essayist

- Vladimir Colin, short story writer and novelist
- Benjamin Fondane, poet, playwright, and literary critic
- Abraham Goldfaden, poet and playwright
- Zeydl Shmuel-Yehuda Helman, songwriter, journalist and actor
- **D. lacobescu**, poet
- Irving Layton, poet
- Cilibi Moise, storyteller and humorist
- Florin Mugur, author (poetry, prose, essays)
- Saşa Pană, poet and short story writer
- Maurice Samuel, novelist
- Elias Schwarzfeld, historian and novelist
- Mihail Sebastian, playwright
- Alexandru Toma, poet
- Tristan Tzara, poet and essayist, founder of Dadaism
- Ilarie Voronca, poet and essayist
- Elie Wiesel, writer
- Haralamb Zincă (Harry Isac Zilberman), writer
- Gellu Naum, poet, dramatist, novelist, children's writer, and translator

## Avram Goldfaden:



## Bibliography:

Author	Title	Year Published	Language
Dr. E Schwarzfeld	The Jews of Romania	1901	English
D. M. Hermalin	The Romanian Jews in America	1901	English
Radu D. Rosetti	Romania and the Jews	1904	English
Emil Dorian	The Quality of Witness	1982	English
Amelia Pavel	Jewish Painters in Romania 1846-1948	1996	English & Romanian
Harry Kuller	Presa Evreiasca Bucurestiana 1857-1994	1996	Romanian
Carol lancu	Jews in Romania 1866 - 1919: from Exclusion to Emancipation	1996	English
Carol Inacu	Les Juifs en Roumanie 1919 - 1938: De l'Emancipation a la Marginalisation	1996	French
Harry Carasso	Les Juifs en Roumanie	1997	French
Mihail Sebastian	Journal 1935-1944	2000	English
Romanian Jewish Genealogy	Rom-Sig News Winter 2000	2000	English
Jennifer Mundy	Surrealism - Desire Unbound	2001	English
Robert Levy	Ana Pauker, the Rise and Fall of A Jewish Communist	2001	English
Douglas Frantz & Catherine Collins	Death on the Black Sea	2003	English
Leah Dickman	Dada	2006	English
Tom Sandquist	Dada East	2006	English
Boris Marian	Dupa 4000 de Ani	2008	Romanian
Andrei Oisteanu	Inventing the Jew	2009	English
Matatias Carp	Le Livre Noir de la Destruction des Juifs de Roumanie 1940-1944	2009	French
Anca Ciuciu	Martori Tacuti. Strazi, Sinagogi si Magazine din Bucuresti	2010	Romanian
Adrian Majuru	The Khazar Jews. Romanian History and Ethnography	2010	English
Radu Stern & Edward von Voolen	From Dada to Surrealism	2011	English & Dutch
Andrei Oisteanu	Imaginea Evreului in Cultura Romana	2012	Romanian
Adrian Grauenfels	Bucurestiul Evreiesc Disparut	2013	Romanian

Marius Hentea	The Real Life and Celestial Adventures of Tristan Tzara	2014	English
Andreea Apostu	Pe Urmele lui Marcel Iancu prin Cartierul Evreiesc	2015	Romanian
Mihail Sebastian	For Two Thousand Years	2017	English
Albert Londres	Wandering Jew Has Arrived	2017	English
Musee D'Art Moderne de Paris	Victor Brauner - Je suis le Reve, je suis l'Inspiration	2020	French
Radu Ioanid	The Ransom of the Jews	2021	English
Andrew Hussey	Speaking East - The Strange and Enchanted Life of Isidore Isou	2021	English
Alexander Avram	Historical Implications of Jewish Surnames in the Old Kingdom of Romania	2021	English
Ovidiu Morar	The Romanian Surrealism before the War	2021	English
Tatiana Niculescu	Singur - Viata lui Mihail Sebastian	2022	Romanian
Camille Morando	Victor Brauner - Inventions and Magic	2023	English & Romanian
Irina-Teodora Nemteanu	Constructing Jewish Spaces. Exploring Traces in the 19th Century Moldova	2023	English