About the Contributors

LISA ANSELL is Associate Director of the Casden Institute for the Study of the Jewish Role in American Life at the University of Southern California. She received her BA in French and Near East Studies from UCLA and her MA in Middle East Studies from Harvard University. She was the Chair of the World Language Department of New Community Jewish High School for five years before coming to USC in August, 2007.

BILL ARON has long been known as a a chronicler of Jewish communities throughout the world, as well as an environmental portrait photographer. His photographs have been exhibited in major museums and galleries throughout the United States and Israel. His work has also appeared in a wide variety of publications, and is found in numerous public and private collections. His first book, From the Corners of the Earth (Philadelphia: JPS, 1987), with an introduction by Chaim Potok, chronicles the Jewish communities of Russia, Cuba, Jerusalem, New York and Los Angeles. A second volume of his work, Shalom Y’all (Chapel Hill: Algonquin, 2002), has an introduction by Alfred Uhry. He has also produced multi-image panoramas of urban scenes in Israel, which have been exhibited in Boston and New York. Bill lives in Los Angeles where he is undoubtedly the only freelance photographer with a PhD in sociology. More at: www.billaron.com.

MATTHEW BAIGELL is Emeritus Professor of Art History at Rutgers University. He has authored, co-authored, edited, and co-edited twenty books on American art, Jewish American art, and contemporary Russian art. His recent books include American Artists, Jewish Images (Syracuse: Syracuse Univ., 2006), Jewish Art in America: An Introduction (Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2007). He co-edited Jewish Dimensions in Modern Visual Culture: Anti-Semitism, Assimilation, Affirmation (Waltham, MA: Brandeis Univ., 2010). His current projects include a study of the importance of religious heritage on left-leaning Jewish American artists between 1880 and 1940 and also the ways contemporary artists explore Jewish themes.

DAVID E. KAUFMAN holds the Florence and Robert Kaufman Chair in Jewish Studies at Hofstra University. He was previously Associate Professor of American Jewish History at the Hebrew Union College in Los Angeles. Dr. Kaufman has published numerous articles on the social, religious, and architectural history of the American synagogue; as well as a major study of early twentieth-century Jewish communal institutions, Shul with a Pool: The “Synagogue-Center” in American Jewish History (Hanover,
NH: Brandeis Univ./UPNE, 1999). His most recent book is a study in American Jewish popular culture—Jewhooing the Sixties: American Celebrity and Jewish Identity (Waltham, MA: Brandeis Univ./UPNE, 2012) surveys Jewish celebrity culture of the early 1960s, highlighting four famous Jews of the time: Sandy Koufax, Lenny Bruce, Bob Dylan and Barbra Streisand.

MARCIE KAUFMAN is an artist, curator and Jewish Art professional. She earned her BA in Art History from the University of Southern California and MFA in Photography and Painting from Claremont Graduate University. Her artwork is exhibited regularly throughout Los Angeles and USC recently acquired nine of her paintings for its new Health Sciences Building. She curated exhibitions and coordinated public programs at the Skirball Cultural Center, produced the Jewish Federation’s Tel Aviv/Los Angeles Partnership’s visual and performing arts exchange, and edited A Gathering of Sparks: The Jewish Artists Initiative 2004–2011 (Los Angeles: Jewish Artists Initiative of Southern California, 2011). Currently, she works at the Foundation for Jewish Culture in New York City.

DANIEL H. MAGILOW is Associate Professor of German at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. He is the author of The Photography of Crisis: The Photo Essays of Weimar Germany (Univ. Park, PA: Penn State Univ., 2012), editor and translator of In Her Father’s Eyes: A Childhood Extinguished by the Holocaust (New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers Univ., 2008) and co-editor of Nazisploitation!: The Nazi Image in Low-Brow Cinema and Culture (New York: Continuum, 2011). He has also published numerous articles and book chapters about various forms of Holocaust representation, including photography from the Warsaw Ghetto, the “paper clip” memorial in Whitwell, Tennessee, and the Holocaust memorial compendia known as yizker books.

RICHARD MCBEE is a painter of Biblical subject matter and writer on Jewish Art. He was Program Director of the Alliance of Figurative Artists in the 1980’s and member of the Biblical Painters Group. In 1991 he helped found the American Guild of Judaic Art. Since 2000 he has written a column on the Jewish Arts for the Jewish Press and continues to exhibit paintings and curate Jewish art exhibitions. In 2008 he was a founding member of the Jewish Art Salon and has been cited in Matthew Baigell’s Jewish Art in America (2006).

RUTH WEISBERG, artist, Professor and former Dean of the Roski School, USC, received the Foundation for Jewish Culture’s 50th Anniversary Cultural Achievement Award 2011, the Art Leadership Award, National Council of Art Administrators and the Women’s Caucus for Art Lifetime Achievement Award, 2009, Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa, Hebrew Union College, 2001, College Art Association Distinguished Teaching of Art Award 1999, Visiting Artist, American Academy in Rome 2011, 1995,
1994, and 1992. Weisberg has had over eighty solo and 185 group exhibitions, including major exhibitions at the Norton Simon Museum, Pasadena and a retrospective at the Skirball Museum, Los Angeles. Her work is included in sixty major Museum collections including The Art Institute of Chicago; The Bibliothèque Nationale of France, Paris; Istituto Nationale per la Grafica, Rome; The Los Angeles County Museum of Art; The Metropolitan Museum of Art; the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; and the National Gallery, Washington, DC.

**BRUCE ZUCKERMAN** is the Myron and Marian Casden Director of the Casden Institute and a Professor of Religion at USC, where he teaches courses in the Hebrew Bible, the Bible in western literature, the ancient Near East, and archaeology. A specialist in photographing and reconstructing ancient texts, he is involved in numerous projects related to the Dead Sea Scrolls. On ancient topics, his major publications are *Job the Silent: A Study in Biblical Counterpoint* (New York: Oxford Univ., 1991) and *The Leningrad Codex: A Facsimile Edition* (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans; Leiden: Brill, 1998), for which he and his brother Kenneth did the principal photography. Zuckerman also has a continuing interest in modern Jewish thought, often looking at modern issues from an ancient perspective. He most recently co-authored *Double Takes: Thinking and Rethinking Issues of Modern Judaism in Ancient Contexts* (Lanham: MD: Univ. Press of America) with Zev Garber and contributed a chapter to Garber’s book, *Mel Gibson’s Passion: The Film, the Controversy, and Its Implications* (West Lafayette, IN: Purdue Univ., 2006).