

The Mayrent Institute for Yiddish Culture &
the Max Kade Institute for German American Studies present

Language and Place

Poetry in Yiddish and Pennsylvania Dutch



Poetry reading and conversation with Josh Brown (UW–Eau Claire),
Matthew Johnson (UW–Madison), Mark Loudon (UW–Madison),
and Sunny Yudkoff (UW–Madison).

TUESDAY FEB, 3	TIME 4:00PM	Memorial Union 800 Langdon St Madison, WI
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Background
image:
“Aunt Betsy”
diamond
patterned
tablecloth,
handwoven by
Josh Brown

HESSE DHAL.

0, WASRSCHT du nie im Hessedhal,
Im dunkle Wald, dohaus?
Wan net, dan kumm zu mir, e'mol,
Dan geh ich mit d'r naus.

Es isch en wilter, rauher Blatz,
Umringt mit Berg un' Bäm,
Wu Nachts en alte wile Katz
Ihr Junge lockert Heem.

Wie oft war ich dort bei der Nacht,
In meine junge Dag!
Mit alt Comrade, uf d'r Jagt—
Bassuf! was ich d'r sag.



Photo:
Malka Heifetz
Tussman,
1896–1987
(Kalman
Marmor
Papers, YIVO
Archives,
photo dated
1927)

Yiddish and Pennsylvania Dutch are among a small number of minority languages in North America that are thriving. In addition to being vibrant vernaculars, both languages serve as vehicles for multiple literary and dramatic genres, including poetry. This event will showcase poetic works in Yiddish and Pennsylvania Dutch that deal with the concept of place. Josh Brown (UW–Eau Claire), Matthew Johnson (UW–Madison), Mark Loudon (UW–Madison), and Sunny Yudkoff (UW–Madison) will read selected poems and provide translations and commentary. No knowledge of Yiddish or Pennsylvania Dutch is required!