



MORAL GRANDEUR & SPIRITUAL AUDACITY

Conference in honor of Abraham Joshua Heschel

MAY 3-4, 2015

CONFERENCE CONVENED BY

Susannah Heschel (Dartmouth) & **Kenneth Reinhard** (UCLA)

Sponsored by the

UCLA Center for Jewish Studies
Natalie Limonick Program on Jewish Civilization
in Memory of Miriam Nisell Rose

Cosponsored by the

UCLA Department of English
UCLA Department of History
UCLA Center for the Study of Religion
Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies at UCLA
Hillel at UCLA

A theologian of extraordinary eloquence and poetic vision, Abraham Joshua Heschel (1907-1972) was also a key figure in social justice movements in the United States in the 1960s and early 70s, including the civil rights movement, the movement against the war in Vietnam, and the transformations of the Catholic Church known as Vatican II.

Born into a distinguished Hasidic family in Poland, Heschel received a traditional yeshiva education and studied for his Orthodox rabbinical ordination, before going on to study philosophy and theology in Berlin where he also received a liberal rabbinical ordination at the *Hochschule für die Wissenschaft des Judentums*. He escaped the Nazis and came to America in 1940

with the help of Hebrew Union College, teaching there until 1946, when he accepted a position at the Jewish Theological Seminary. Heschel was close friends with Martin Luther King, Jr., and participated in the 1965 march on Selma, in the front row with King, Ralph Bunche, and Ralph Abernathy.

Heschel's books have had immeasurable impact on both Jewish and non-Jewish thinkers. Hence, this conference will feature talks by key figures in contemporary Jewish thought and practice, as well as Christian scholars and public figures. Panels will discuss Heschel and social justice, Heschel's poetry and spiritual practices, and the continuing urgency of his life and ideas today.



SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2015

Academic panels will take place starting at 12pm, with a keynote address by **Cornel West** at 6:30PM (UCLA Faculty Center)



MONDAY, MAY 4, 2015

Academic panels will take place starting at 10:30am, with a keynote address by **Susannah Heschel** (Dartmouth) at 5PM (UCLA Faculty Center)

Full schedule coming soon: www.cjs.ucla.edu



While the event is free and open to the public, pre-registration is required.
E mail cjsrsvp@humnet.ucla.edu or call (310) 267-5327 to register.