



The Department of Russian and Slavic Studies (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)  
invites you to the guest lecture

## The 1943 Trial in Krasnodar and the Execution of a Shoah Poem

(I. Selvinsky, A. Tolstoy, K. Simonov and the Literary Debates about Capital Punishment)

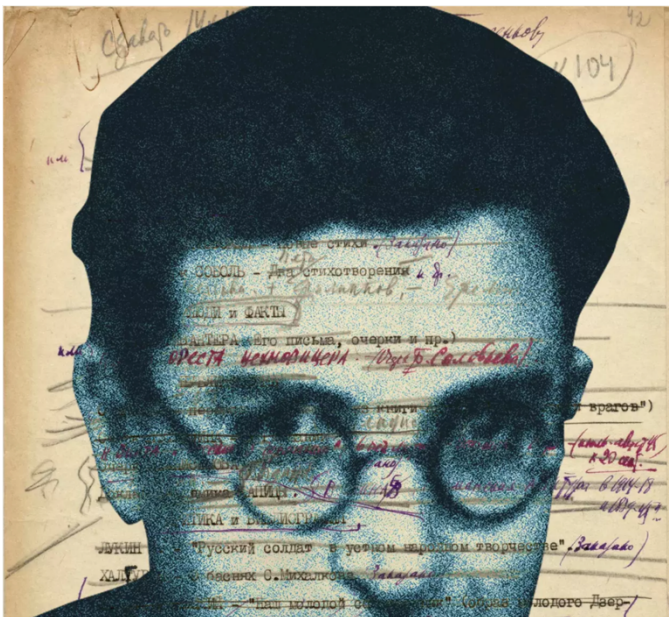
by

**Maxim D. Shrayer**  
(Boston College)

(the lecture will be given in English)

**Monday, May 27, 14:30-16:00**

**Mt. Scopus, Media 32**



In his lecture, scholar and author Maxim D. Shrayer explores the legacy of the first trial of Nazi collaborators to take place in 1943 in then the recently liberated city of Krasnodar in southern Russia. Based on previously unknown archival materials, Shrayer's presentation seeks to accomplish three main goals: 1. to reconstruct the controversial history of the July 1943 Krasnodar trial, including its "script," closely overseen by Stalin and his henchmen; 2. to examine the coverage of the trial by Soviet and foreign journalists, some of whom were poets and novelists, both Jewish and not Jewish, serving as frontline reporters; 3. to zoom in on the fascinating story of the Jewish poet, frontline officer, and Shoah witness Ilya

Selvinsky, who attended the trial, wrote a long report in verse, "Sud v Krasnodare" ("The Trial at Krasnodar)," and got in major trouble with Stalin's regime. Additionally, Shrayer presentation investigates how the earliest Soviet trials of Nazi collaborators stirred up a literary debate about capital punishment and, specifically, about public hangings.

**Maxim D. Shrayer** is Professor of Russian, English, and Jewish Studies at Boston College. He is the author of over twenty-five books of criticism, biography, fiction, nonfiction, and poetry and the recipient of a National Jewish Book Award and a Guggenheim Fellowship. Shrayer's recent books include the memoir *Immigrant Baggage* and the poetry collections *Stikhi iz aipada* (Poems from the iPad) and *Kinship*. His works have been translated into eleven languages. The Hebrew translation of Shrayer's book *I SAW IT: Ilya Selvinsky and the Legacy of Bearing Witness to the Shoah* was recently published by Yad Vashem.

