"Likrat:" Towards a New Poetics and Politics of "The Statehood Generation."

Chana Kronfeld
UC Berkeley

The paper will examine the manifestoes, poetic texts and historiographic context of the "Likrat" group of the early 50s as a self-conscious proleptic prototype for what was to become known as the "Statehood Generation" poetry of the 1950s and 60s (Zach, Amichai, Ravikovitch, Avidan); I will also explore the unacknowledged role of H. Binyamin (Hrushovski-Harhsay)in the group's poetics (the group's journal was "published" on his typewriter!) as well as the equally unacknowledged role of the Yiddish modernist sensibilities which he subversively interjected into this first Israeli poetic trend.