

The Lester and Sally Entin Faculty of Humanities
The Zvi Yavetz School of Historical Studies

## Contextualizing the Self: Creating and Recreating the First Person

An Interdisciplinary Workshop 2017 – 2018

Tuesday, November 28, 2017

12:15 - 15:00

Jaglom Auditorium, Senate Building

## Between Ourselves: A Conversation between Nicole Krauss and Aviad Kleinberg

Nicole Krauss is "One of America's most important novelists" (*New York Times*). She is best known for her four novels *Man Walks Into a Room* (2002), *The History of Love* (2005), and *Great House* (2010). Her books and short stories have been translated into more than thirty-five languages.

Her new novel *Forest Dark* (2017) tell the story of Jules Epstein, a man whose drive, avidity, and outsized personality have, for sixty-eight years, been a force to be reckoned with, is undergoing a metamorphosis. In the wake of his parents' deaths, his divorce from his wife of more than thirty years, and his retirement from the New York legal firm where he was a partner, he's felt an irresistible need to give away his possessions, alarming his children and perplexing the executor of his estate. With the last of his wealth, he travels to Israel, with a nebulous plan to do something to honor his parents. In Tel Aviv, he is sidetracked by a charismatic American rabbi planning a reunion for the descendants of King David who insists that Epstein is part of that storied dynastic line. He also meets the rabbi's beautiful daughter who convinces Epstein to become involved in her own project—a film about the life of David being shot in the desert—with life-changing consequences. Bursting with life and humor, *Forest Dark* is a profound, mesmerizing novel of metamorphosis and self-realization—of looking beyond all that is visible towards the infinite.

Forest Dark will soon be published in Hebrew.