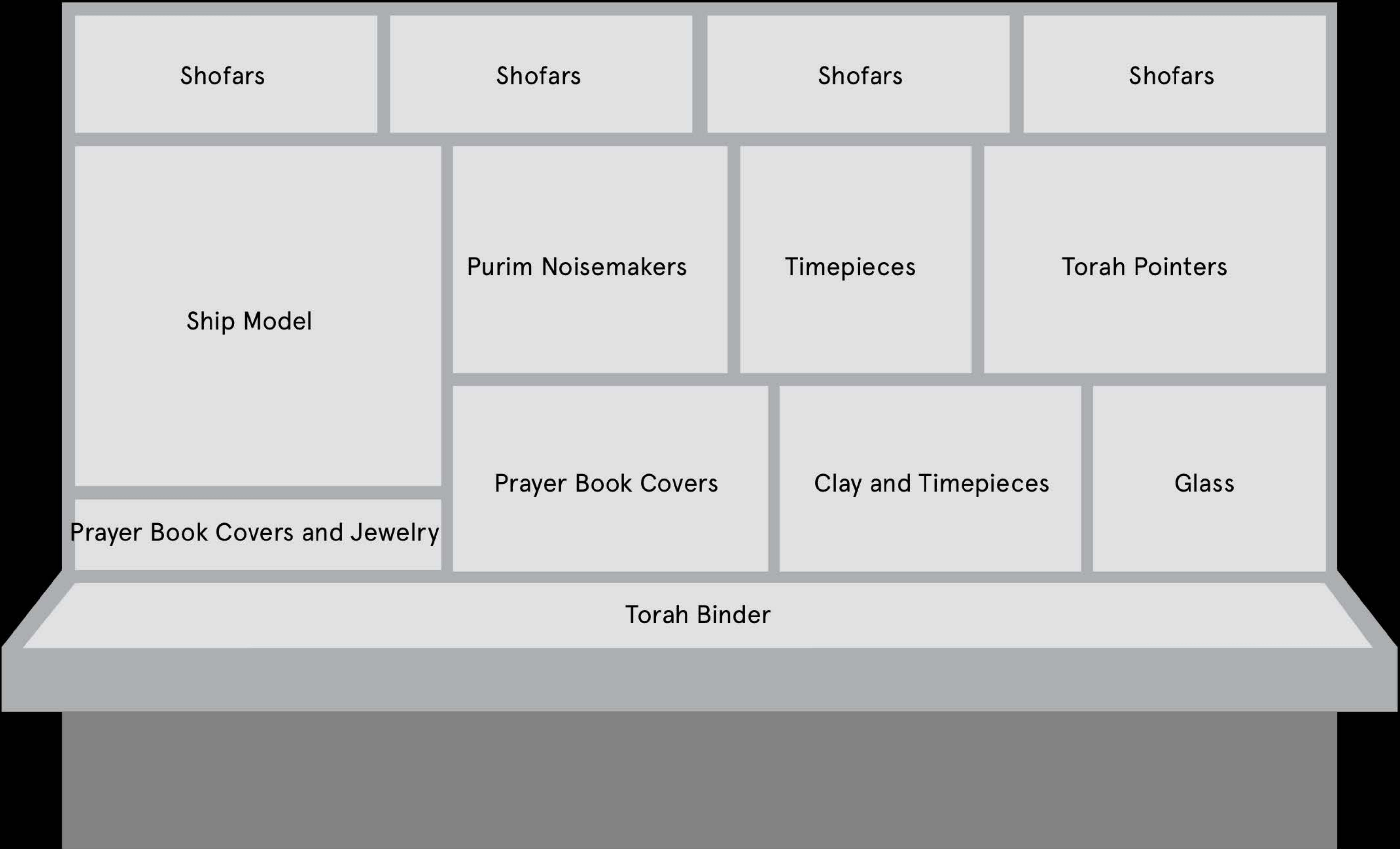


Select a theme to learn more



Shofars

Going back to ancient times, musical instruments made from animal horns were blown to announce the onset of important events such as the Jubilee year and the Jewish New Year. Today, the shofar is used primarily during the new year holy days of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, when it is blown one hundred times during services.



WORK

Shofar

DATE

Eighteenth or nineteenth century?

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Europe or Asia?

MEDIUM

Ram’s horn

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 5496



WORK

Shofar

DATE

Nineteenth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Europe?

MEDIUM

Ram's horn

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Judge Mayer Sulzberger, S 506



WORK

Shofar

DATE

1743–44

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Germany?

MEDIUM

Engraved ram’s horn

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 471



WORK

Shofar

DATE

Nineteenth or early twentieth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Europe

MEDIUM

Ram's horn

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 4807



Shofars

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< Home < Shofars

WORK

Shofar

DATE

1781–82

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Dieburg, Germany

MEDIUM

Engraved ram’s horn

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Carrie Bachrach Abraham, JM 2-49



< Home < Shofars

WORK

Shofar

DATE

Nineteenth or early twentieth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

North Africa, Yemen, or India

MEDIUM

Engraved and pierced kudu horn

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 5315



[← Home](#) [← Shofars](#)

WORK

Shofar

DATE _____

Eighteenth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Germany?

MEDIUM

Engraved ram's horn

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 502



Shofars

Going back to ancient times, musical instruments made from animal horns were blown to announce the onset of important events such as the Jubilee year and the Jewish New Year. Today, the shofar is used primarily during the new year holy days of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, when it is blown one hundred times during services.



WORK

Shofar

DATE

Twentieth century?

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Probably India

MEDIUM

Kudu horn

CREDIT LINE

Gift of the International Synagogue, 2016-22



WORK

Shofar

DATE

Eighteenth or nineteenth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Europe

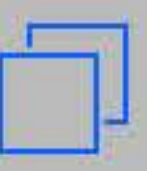
MEDIUM

Engraved ram's horn

CREDIT LINE

Gift of the Danzig Jewish Community, D 119



[← Home](#)[Select an image to learn more](#)

Shofars

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WORK

Shofar

DATE

Eighteenth or nineteenth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Europe

MEDIUM

Ram’s horn

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 4169



WORK

Shofar

DATE

Between the nineteenth and mid-twentieth century?

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Egypt?

MEDIUM

Ram's horn

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 4978



WORK

Shofar

DATE

Eighteenth or nineteenth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Germany?

MEDIUM

Carved ram's horn

CREDIT LINE

Gift of the Danzig Jewish Community, D 120



Ship Model

Traditional cabinets of wonders often feature beautifully made objects, cunningly made, often of precious materials. Like many institutions with a broad mission—focusing on art, but with strong attention to culture and history—the Jewish Museum has acquired an eclectic range of objects. The two model ships in this room were commissioned for exhibitions on the antiquities of Israel. Long since detached from that purpose, they remain works of fine craftsmanship, resonant with a sense of the distant past—both that of the Mideast and that of the museum.





[← Home](#) [← Ship Model](#)

WORK

Judaean merchantman ship model

DATE

1972, after a wall engraving of the third century CE at Beit She'arim, Israel

ARTIST

Maker: Yosef Krupnik; designer: M. Pliner

PLACE MADE

Haifa

MEDIUM

Painted wood, cord, and cloth

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Richard Scheuer, JM 13-73



[← Home](#)[Select an image to learn more](#)

Purim Noisemakers

During the holiday of Purim, the book of Esther is read aloud in synagogue. Every time Haman, the villain of the story, is mentioned, the entire congregation uses noisemakers to drown out his name, as well as stamping on the floor. Noisemakers, sometimes called groggers, come in various forms, usually with ratchets or clappers.



WORK

Purim noisemaker

DATE

Late nineteenth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Volochysk, Ukraine

MEDIUM

Painted wood

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Allen Erlbamm in memory of his grandfather George Golkin, JM 2-69



WORK

Purim noisemaker

DATE

Nineteenth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Poland

MEDIUM

Carved and infilled wood

CREDIT LINE

The Rose and Benjamin Mintz Collection, M 465



WORK

Purim noisemaker

DATE

Late nineteenth century?

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Poland?

MEDIUM

Tin-plated and die-stamped iron and wood

CREDIT LINE

X10



◀ Purim Noisemakers

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 2607



WORK

Shoe Grogger (The Noisemaker)

DATE

2002

ARTIST

András Böröcz; American, born in Hungary in 1956

PLACE MADE

New York

MEDIUM

Carved walnut

CREDIT LINE

Purchase: Contemporary Judaica Acquisitions Committee Fund, 2003-8

The contemporary artist András Böröcz has created a series of wood sculptures related to the festival of Purim. He became fascinated with the grogger, a hand-held noisemaker used in the synagogue during the reading of the Book of Esther to blot out the name of the villain, Haman. In some Jewish communities, people write Haman's name on the soles of their shoes in order to





[Home](#) [Purim Noisemakers](#)

ARTIST

András Böröcz; American, born in Hungary in 1956

PLACE MADE

New York

MEDIUM

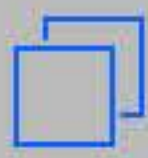
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[Home](#)

Select an image to learn more

Timepieces

Clocks and watches with Hebrew dials became popular in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, probably as an overt expression of Jewish identity. Some of the clocks may have been inspired by the founding of the Zionist movement at the end of the nineteenth century, since they bear Jewish stars with the word *Zion* in the center or images of Theodor Herzl, the movement's founder. Other clocks have music boxes in their bases. An unusual timekeeper is a small perpetual calendar in Hebrew, made as a button to be sewn onto clothing.



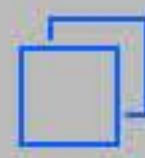
< Home

Select an image to learn more

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[← Home](#) [← Timepieces](#)

WORK

Pocket watch

DATE

Late nineteenth or early twentieth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

France

MEDIUM

Silver, glass, and gilt metal

CREDIT LINE

U 7304





[← Home](#) [← Timepieces](#)

WORK

Pocket watch

DATE

c. 1900

ARTIST

Made by the firm of Léon Lévy Frères Pierce, founded in 1883, closed in the early 1980s, reopened in 2005

PLACE MADE

Biel/Bienne, Switzerland

MEDIUM

Silver-plated, cast, engraved, gilded, and painted copper alloy

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry D. Friedman, F 965



< Home < Timepieces

WORK

Pocket watch

DATE

Early twentieth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Switzerland

MEDIUM

Silver, niello, and enamel

CREDIT LINE

U 8023





[Home](#) [Timepieces](#)

WORK

Perpetual calendar button

DATE

c. 1877

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Paris

MEDIUM

Silver-plated and cast copper alloy and ink on parchment

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 3808



WORK

Clock

DATE

Mid-nineteenth century

ARTIST

Anton List; Austrian, born in 1799, died in 1876

PLACE MADE

Vienna

MEDIUM

Wood, copper alloy, enamel, and engraved bone

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 2714





[← Home](#) [← Timepieces](#)

WORK

Clock

DATE

End of the nineteenth or early twentieth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Europe

MEDIUM

Cast, punched, and chased copper alloy

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Norman F. Goetz through Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 2555



WORK

Clock

DATE

Mid-nineteenth century

ARTIST

Charles Aimé Sandoz; Swiss, born in 1819

PLACE MADE

Vienna or Geneva

MEDIUM

Elephant ivory and engraved tortoiseshell

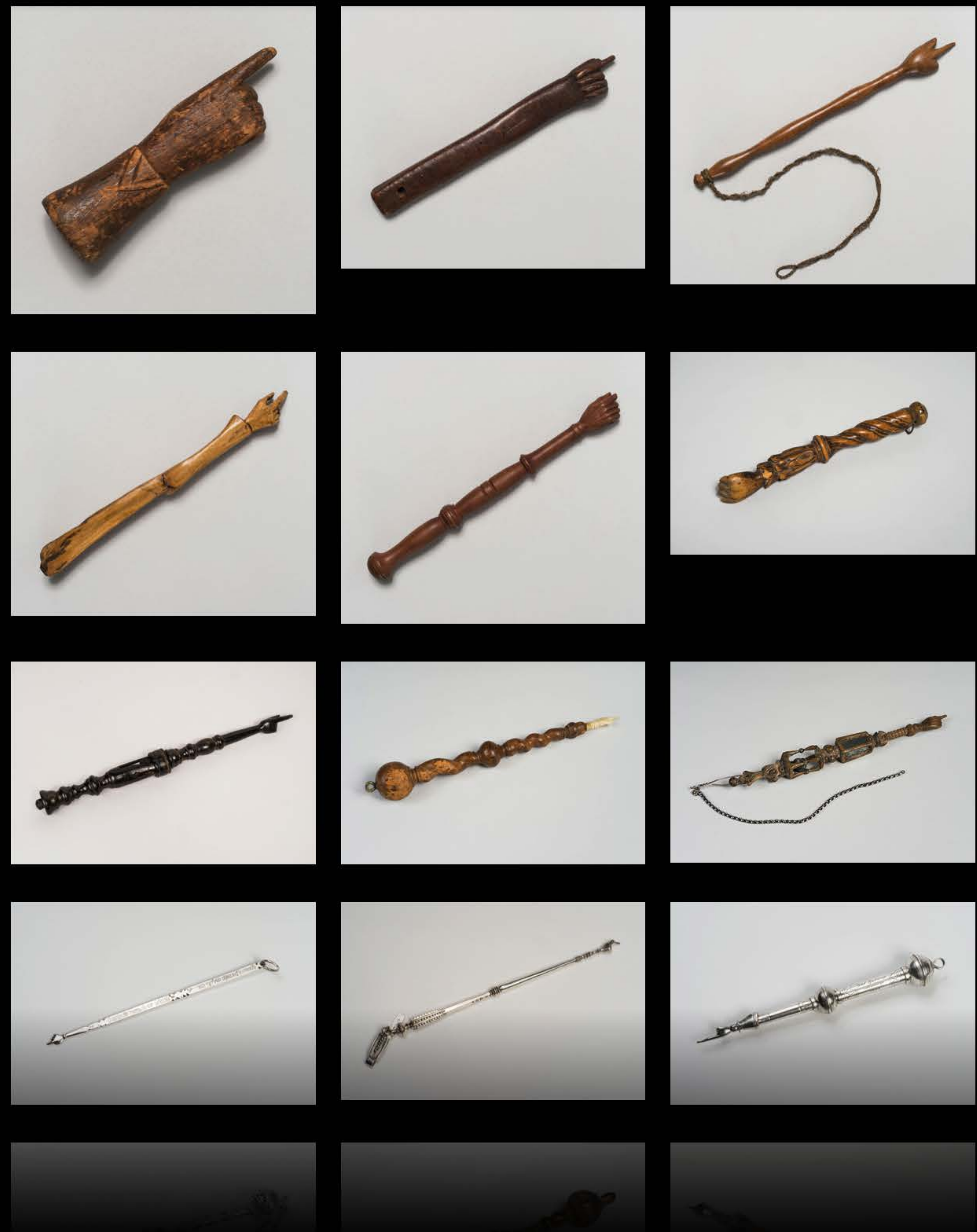
CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 2715



Torah Pointers

The sanctity of the Torah scroll is so great that those reading it to the congregation in synagogue should not touch the text. Since it is crucial that the reader not lose his or her place, a rod is used, often with a little hand at one end, guiding finger extended.



[Home](#)

Select an image to learn more

Torah Pointers

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WORK

Torah pointer

DATE

Twentieth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Europe or the United States?

MEDIUM

Carved wood

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 2609



< Home

< Torah Pointers

WORK

Torah pointer

DATE

Nineteenth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Europe or the United States?

MEDIUM

Carved wood

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 829



WORK

Torah pointer

DATE

Nineteenth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Central Europe

MEDIUM

Carved wood and rope

CREDIT LINE

Gift of the Danzig Jewish Community, D 48



WORK

Torah pointer

DATE

Nineteenth or twentieth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Europe or the United States?

MEDIUM

Carved wood

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 2569



WORK

Torah pointer

DATE

Early twentieth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Europe

MEDIUM

Carved and turned wood

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 317



WORK

Torah pointer

DATE

Eighteenth or nineteenth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Germany

MEDIUM

Carved wood

CREDIT LINE

Gift of the Jewish Cultural Reconstruction organization, JM
14-52



[< Home](#) [< Torah Pointers](#)

WORK

Torah pointer

DATE

Nineteenth century?

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Europe or the United States?

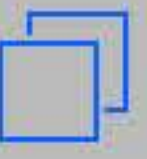
MEDIUM

Carved, turned, and pierced horn and wood?

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 5028





[← Home](#) [← Torah Pointers](#)

WORK

Torah pointer

DATE

Nineteenth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Poland or Germany

MEDIUM

Carved, gessoed, and painted wood, and glass; silver chain

CREDIT LINE

The Benjamin and Rose Mintz Collection, M 426



WORK

Torah pointer

DATE

Twentieth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Egypt

MEDIUM

Cast, engraved, and traced silver

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 5403



WORK

Torah pointer

DATE

1817–18

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Amsterdam

MEDIUM

Cast silver and diamond

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Rupert L. Joseph, JM 6-53



WORK

Torah pointer

DATE

Mid-nineteenth century?

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Privigye?, Hungary

MEDIUM

Cast, traced, and engraved silver

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 4509



< Home

< Torah Pointers

WORK

Torah pointer

DATE

Late eighteenth or early nineteenth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Northern Germany

MEDIUM

Cast, pierced, and chased silver

CREDIT LINE

1976-24



WORK

Torah pointer

DATE

Early twentieth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Jerusalem

MEDIUM

Turned, carved, and pierced wood, bone inlay, carved mother-of-pearl, brass, iron, and cord

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 4205



WORK

Torah pointer

DATE

Between 1872 and 1922

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Vienna

MEDIUM

Silver, coral, and semiprecious stones

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 934





[← Home](#) [← Torah Pointers](#)

WORK

Torah pointer

DATE

Late nineteenth or early twentieth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Eastern Europe

MEDIUM

Carved and inlaid bone, horn, and cast silver

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 4603





[← Home](#) [← Torah Pointers](#)

WORK

Torah pointer

DATE

Late eighteenth or early nineteenth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Galicia? (now in Poland and Ukraine)

MEDIUM

Cast, chased, and engraved silver

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 2590



WORK

Torah pointer

DATE

Nineteenth century?

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Europe?

MEDIUM

Carved ivory

CREDIT LINE

Gift of M. Vaxer, S 1193



WORK

Torah pointer

DATE

1950s

ARTIST

Moshe Smilovici; Israeli, born in Romania, 1912, died in 1962

PLACE MADE

Israel

MEDIUM

Die-stamped and chased silver, carved ivory?, and semiprecious stones

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 4185c



[← Home](#)[Select an image to learn more](#)

Prayer Book Covers and Jewelry

Prayer books and Bibles have often been given as gifts, sometimes between affianced couples. Finely crafted book bindings made of precious materials signal both the status of the owner and the great value of the book. At the other extreme, the invention of celluloid in the second half of the nineteenth century soon led to its use for book covers, providing an inexpensive, durable imitation of ivory. Novelty items such as miniature Hebrew Bibles became popular in the late nineteenth century, after the invention of microphotography.

Since antiquity jewelry has played a social role beyond mere adornment. Gold and gems convey economic status, whether in the ancient Mideast or today. In Ottoman Iraq, a bride-to-be received a diamond pin from her fiancé, while in the twentieth century women proudly wore gold-plated pins signaling that they had raised funds for Israel Bonds after the formation of that state.



[← Home](#)[Select an image to learn more](#)

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[← Home](#) [← Prayer Book Covers and Jewelry](#)

WORK

Prayer book cover

DATE

1894–95

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Vienna

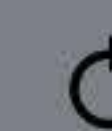
MEDIUM

Pierced and engraved silver

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 5129a-b





[← Home](#) [← Prayer Book Covers and Jewelry](#)

WORK

Prayer book cover

DATE

c. 1924

ARTIST

**Unknown; Bezalel School of Arts and Crafts,
founded in Jerusalem in 1906**

PLACE MADE

Jerusalem

MEDIUM

Acid-etched silver and silver filigree

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Mrs. Henry J. Bernheim, JM 141-47a-b





[← Home](#) [← Prayer Book Covers and Jewelry](#)

WORK

Prayer book cover

DATE

Between 1880 and 1900

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Vienna?

MEDIUM

Celluloid, bone, and cast and gilded copper alloy

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dorothy Pearlstein, JM 2-72





[Home](#) [Prayer Book Covers and Jewelry](#)

WORK

Prayer book cover

DATE

1900

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

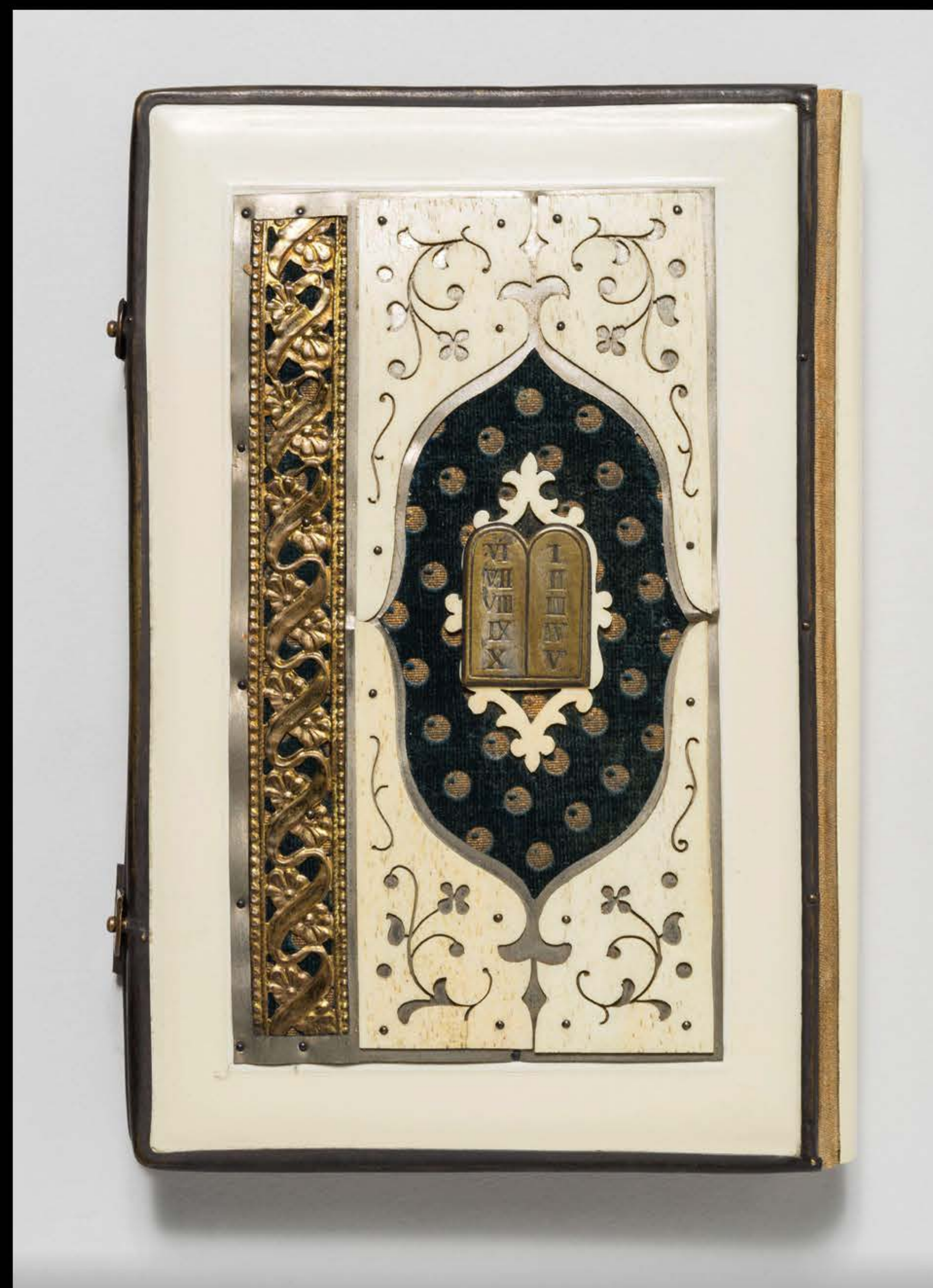
Vienna

MEDIUM

Bone, cast white metal, copper alloy, velvet,
and celluloid

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 4938





[Home](#) [Prayer Book Covers and Jewelry](#)

WORK

Engagement pin

DATE

c. 1912

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Baghdad

MEDIUM

Gold and diamonds

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Helene and David Simon in memory of their mothers,
Amouma Simon and Louise Zilkha, 1993-34

This brooch was worn by Amouma Bashi Simon, who lived and married in Baghdad. She received it among other gifts customarily sent by a bridegroom to his fiancée.





[Home](#) [Prayer Book Covers and Jewelry](#)

WORK

Engagement pin

DATE

c. 1912

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Baghdad

MEDIUM

Gold and diamonds

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Francine and Abdallah Simon in memory of his mother, Amouma Simon, 1993-33

This brooch was worn by Amouma Bashi Simon of Baghdad on her wedding day. She received it among other gifts customarily sent by a bridegroom to his fiancée.





[Home](#) [Prayer Book Covers and Jewelry](#)

WORK

Gates of Freedom Israel Bond sponsor pin

DATE

1973

ARTIST

Chaim Gross; American, born in Austria in 1904, died in 1991

PLACE MADE

United States

MEDIUM

Cast electroplated metal and coral

CREDIT LINE

Gift of the Women's Division of State of Israel Bonds, 1985-73



[← Home](#)[Select an image to learn more](#)

Prayer Book Covers

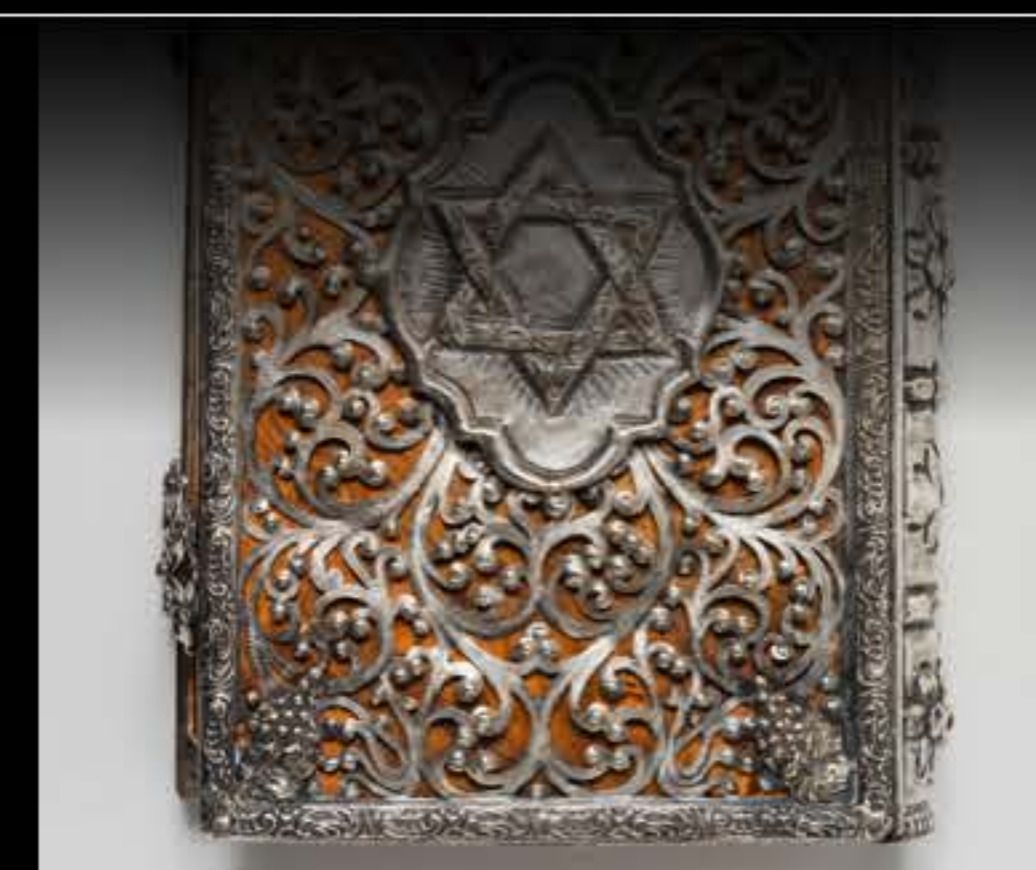
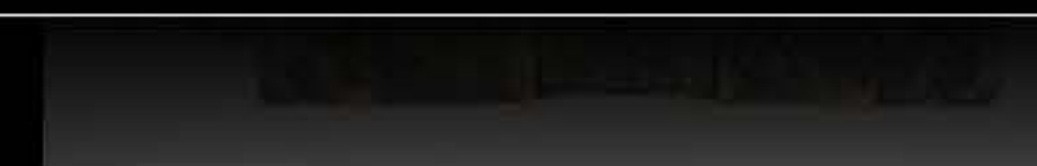
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[← Home](#)[Select an image to learn more](#)

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WORK

Prayer book cover

DATE

Early twentieth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

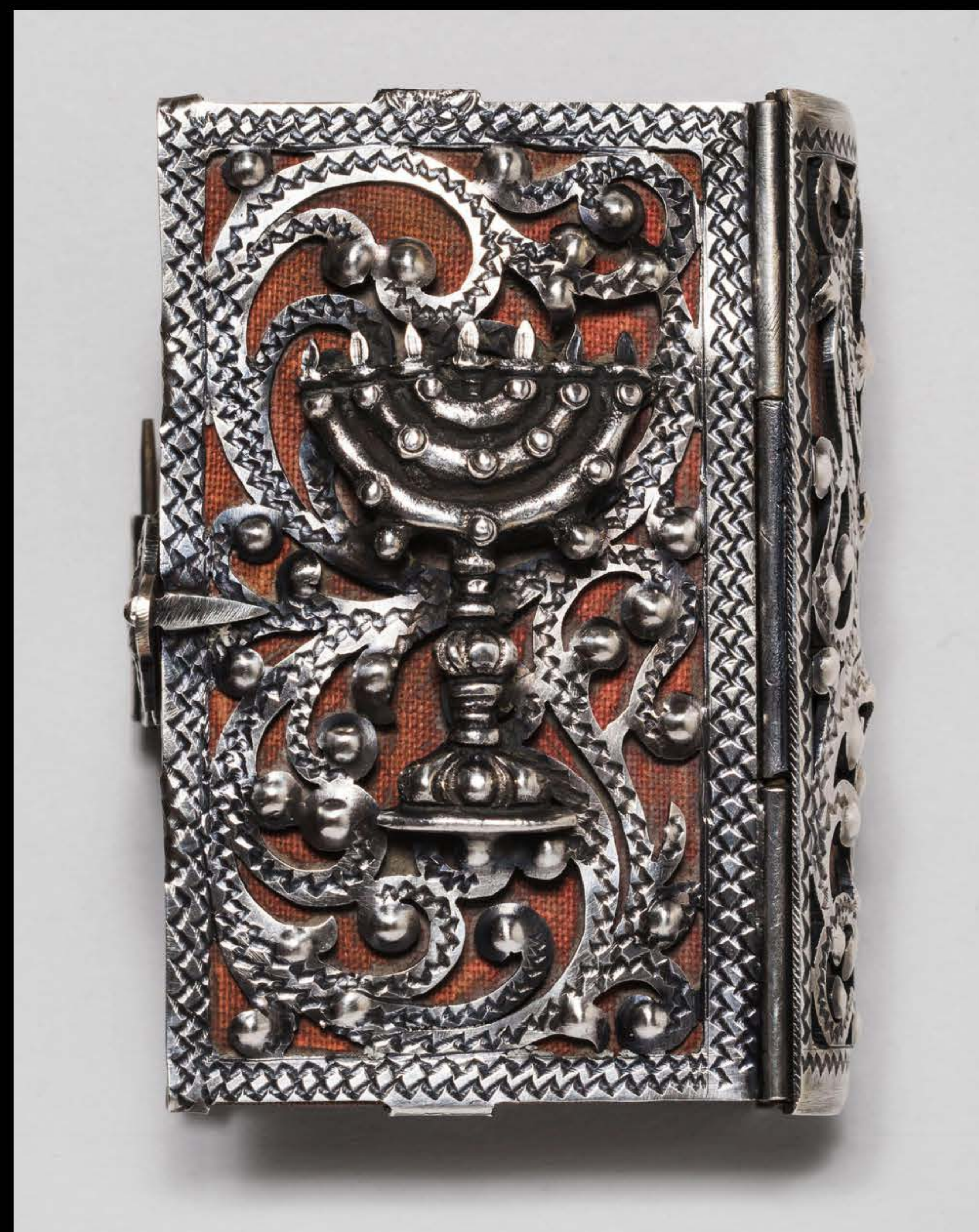
Italy

MEDIUM

Pierced, engraved, repoussé, and cast silver

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 4422a-b





[Home](#) [Prayer Book Covers](#)

WORK

Prayer book cover

DATE

1891

ARTIST

Unknown, stamped with maker's initials I M

PLACE MADE

Eastern Europe

MEDIUM

Repoussé, chased, and cast silver

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Henry G. Friedman, F 3286a-b





[← Home](#) [← Prayer Book Covers](#)

WORK

Prayer book cover

DATE

1897

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Budapest

MEDIUM

Leather and mother-of-pearl

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Mrs. Billie Rubin, 1980-49





[← Home](#) [← Prayer Book Covers](#)

WORK

Prayer book cover

DATE

Eighteenth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Amsterdam

MEDIUM

Tortoiseshell and cast silver

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Pauline Koner and Shaya, 1986-166





[← Home](#) [← Prayer Book Covers](#)

WORK

Prayer book cover

DATE

Second half of the eighteenth century

ARTIST

Trotro

PLACE MADE

Italy

MEDIUM

Cast, repoussé, and punched silver

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 3070





[Home](#) [Prayer Book Covers](#)

WORK

Prayer book cover

DATE

First half of the twentieth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

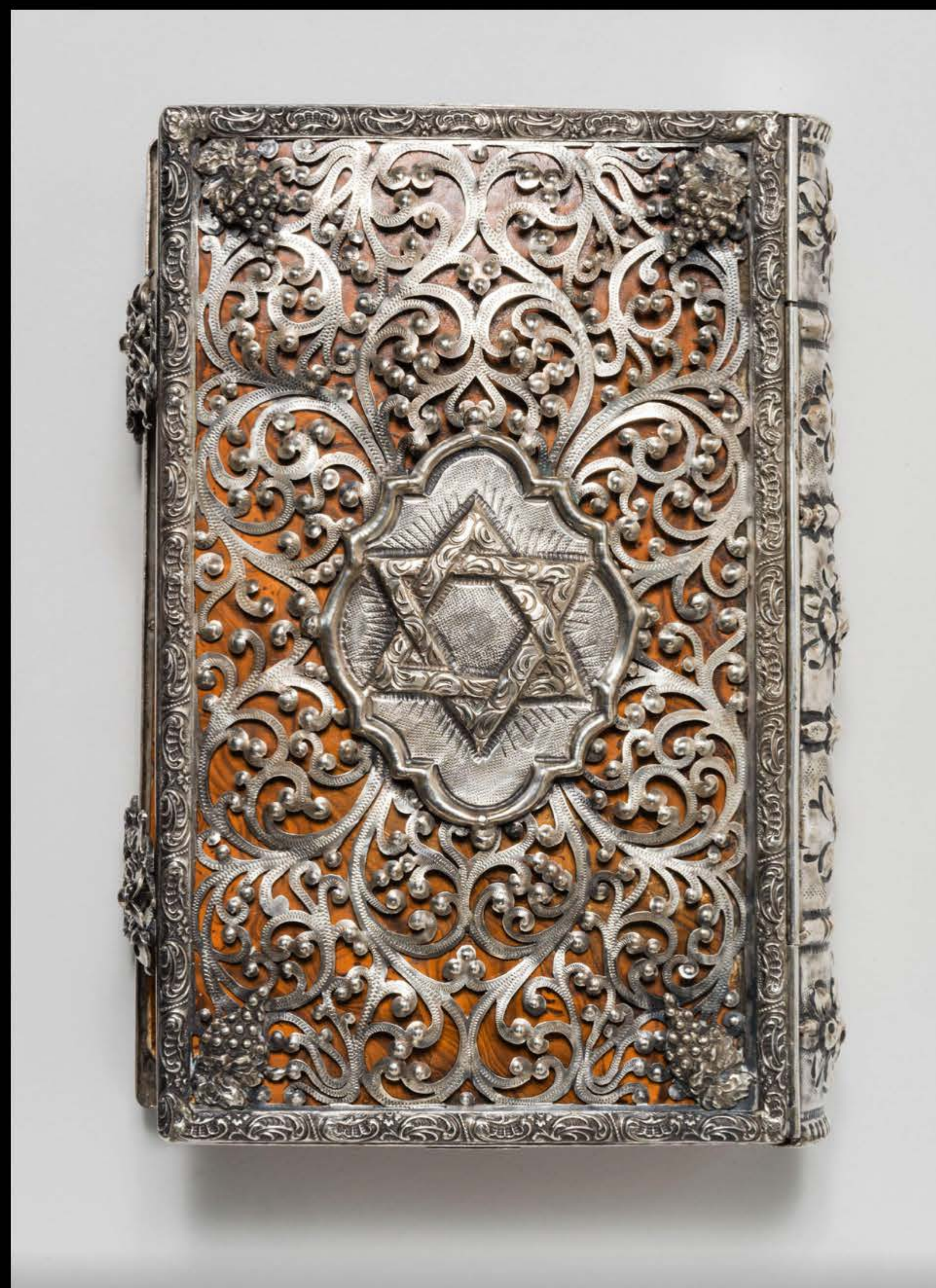
Italy

MEDIUM

Pierced, repoussé, traced, engraved, and cast silver

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 2092a-b





[Home](#) [Prayer Book Covers](#)

WORK

Prayer book cover

DATE

Late nineteenth or early twentieth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Germany

MEDIUM

Repoussé silver

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 4982a-b





[← Home](#) [← Prayer Book Covers](#)

WORK

Praying figure

DATE

Late nineteenth or early twentieth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

United States

MEDIUM

Painted iron

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Sylvia Zenia Rosen Wiener, 2012-28

A spring at the bottom enables this figure to rock back and forth, simulating the traditional motion of Jewish prayer. It may have been inspired by nineteenth-century secular balancing toys and Jewish figures in popular prints. Its purpose is enigmatic—whether it was intended for a Jewish or a non-Jewish audience is unknown.





[Home](#) [Prayer Book Covers](#)

WORK

Prayer book cover

DATE

Late eighteenth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Netherlands or Italy

MEDIUM

Repoussé, traced, and punched silver

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 2091a-b





[← Home](#) [← Prayer Book Covers](#)

WORK

Miniature Hebrew Bible and case

DATE

1890s

ARTIST

Printer: Menahem M. Scholtz

PLACE MADE

Warsaw

MEDIUM

Die-stamped copper alloy, glass, and ink on paper

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Judge Joseph E. Newburger, S 731



Clay and Timepieces

Clay was the earliest plastic material fashioned by humans into vessels and figures. When fired, it can last for millennia, and is the most ubiquitous object material found by archaeologists as well as the most useful for dating sites. A series of oil lamps shown here demonstrates the technological progression in form and size from the large open bowl-shaped examples to smaller mold-made lamps with small fill and wick holes to prevent oil spillage.

Clocks and watches with Hebrew dials became popular in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, probably as an overt expression of Jewish identity. Some of the clocks may have been inspired by the founding of the Zionist movement at the end of the nineteenth century, since they bear Jewish stars with the word *Zion* in the center or images of Theodor Herzl, the movement's founder. Other clocks have music boxes in their bases. An unusual timekeeper is a small perpetual calendar in Hebrew, made as a button to be sewn onto clothing.



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WORK

Lamp

DATE

Between 2400 and 2000 BCE

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Israel

MEDIUM

Hand-formed fired clay

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Miriam Schaar Schloessinger, JM 6-61



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WORK

Lamp

DATE

Between 800 and 700 BCE

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Israel

MEDIUM

Wheel-formed fired clay

CREDIT LINE

Purchase: Archaeology Acquisition Fund, JM 12-73.49



WORK

Female votive head

DATE

Early fifth century BCE

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Cyprus?

MEDIUM

Carved and painted limestone

CREDIT LINE

Gift of the Betty and Max Ratner Collection, 1981-129



WORK

Bull figurine

DATE

Between 2000 and 1750 BCE

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Syria

MEDIUM

Hand-formed, pierced, slipped, and fired clay

CREDIT LINE

Gift of the Betty and Max Ratner Collection, 1981-156



WORK

Lamp

DATE

Between the second and first century BCE

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Israel

MEDIUM

Wheel-turned, folded, and fired clay

CREDIT LINE

Gift of the Betty and Max Ratner Collection, 1981-134



WORK

Lamp

DATE

First or second century CE

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Probably Israel

MEDIUM

Wheel-turned, slipped, and fired clay

CREDIT LINE

T 11



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WORK

Oil lamp with an image of gladiators

DATE

Fourth century CE

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Italy

MEDIUM

Mold-formed, slipped, and fired clay

CREDIT LINE

Gift of the Betty and Max Ratner Collection, 1981-91





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WORK

Clock and music box

DATE

Early twentieth century

ARTIST

Possibly Alfred Hamburger

PLACE MADE

Vienna

MEDIUM

Cast and silver-plated copper alloy, velvet, and glass

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Cyrily Abel Weinstein in memory of her father Simon Abels, JM 10-51





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WORK

Clock

DATE

Late nineteenth or early twentieth century

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Europe?

MEDIUM

Cast and parcel-gilt copper alloy

CREDIT LINE

Gift of the Children of Samuel Wilner, S 869





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WORK

Clock

DATE

End of the nineteenth or early twentieth century

ARTIST

Jacob Striscner

PLACE MADE

Europe

MEDIUM

Cast and chased copper alloy

CREDIT LINE

S 1452





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WORK

Clock

DATE

Nineteenth century?

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Europe

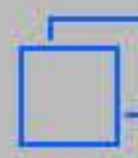
MEDIUM

Cast silver and enamel

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 2825



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Glass

The Levantine coast from Syria to Israel was a major center of glassmaking in the first millennium. The earliest evidence of blown glass, as opposed to molten glass formed around a core or pressed into a mold, dates to the first century BCE in Israel. Clear, colorless glass was at first difficult to produce and was prized, but by the first century CE it had become common.



[← Home](#)[Select an image to learn more](#)

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WORK

Cup

DATE

First century CE

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Eastern Mediterranean

MEDIUM

Free-blown, hand-tooled, and wheel-ground glass

CREDIT LINE

Museum purchase, S 1205





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WORK

Goblet

DATE

Fifth or sixth century CE

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Eastern Mediterranean

MEDIUM

Free-blown and tooled glass

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Elaine and Harvey Rothenberg, JM 114-79





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WORK

Amphoriskos

DATE

First century CE

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Eastern Mediterranean

MEDIUM

Free-blown and hand-tooled glass

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Elaine and Harvey Rothenberg, JM 116-79



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WORK

Jar

DATE _____

Second century CE

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Eastern Mediterranean

MEDIUM

Free-blown, tooled, wheel-ground, and polished glass

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Elaine and Harvey Rothenberg, JM 115-79





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WORK

Dropper flask

DATE

Third or fourth century CE

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Eastern Mediterranean

MEDIUM

Free-blown and tooled glass

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Theresa Goell, JM 29-55



WORK

Double-headed flask

DATE

Between the mid-first and fourth century CE

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Eastern Mediterranean

MEDIUM

Mold-blown glass

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Judith Riklis, 1981-256





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WORK

Bottle

DATE

Second or third century CE

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Eastern Mediterranean

MEDIUM

Free-blown glass

CREDIT LINE

Gift of the Betty and Max Ratner Collection, 1981-79





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WORK

Unguentarium

DATE

Second or third century CE

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Eastern Mediterranean

MEDIUM

Free-blown and tooled glass

CREDIT LINE

Gift of the Betty and Max Ratner Collection, 1981-81



WORK

Bottle

DATE

First century CE

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Eastern Mediterranean

MEDIUM

Free-blown glass

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Judith Riklis, 1981-273



WORK

Bottle

DATE

First century CE

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Eastern Mediterranean

MEDIUM

Free-blown and wheel-incised glass

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Judith Riklis, 1981-269





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WORK

Jar

DATE

Third or fourth century CE

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Syria, Lebanon, or Israel

MEDIUM

Free-blown and tooled glass

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Elaine and Harvey Rothenberg, JM 109-79



Torah Binder

A Torah binder keeps the Torah closed when it is not in use. Different traditions of its form and decoration have arisen in various communities. For example, in Germanic (Ashkenazi) lands the swaddling cloth for the circumcision ceremony of a male child was used, decorated with words and images that wish him well, In Italy women embroidered floral patterns and sometimes inscriptions on a length of cloth, expressing hopes and thanks for important events. Often, the insides of letters are executed in exuberant patterns and vibrant colors, and the binders are ornamented with imagery related to the child.



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WORK

Torah binder

DATE

1762

ARTIST

Unknown

PLACE MADE

Schmalkalden, Germany

MEDIUM

Linen with silk-thread embroidery

CREDIT LINE

Gift of Dr. Harry G. Friedman, F 5096

Torah binders in Germanic (Ashkenazi) tradition are inscribed with a child's name and date of birth, along with a phrase from the circumcision ceremony that wishes he will grow up to the Torah, the marriage canopy, and good deeds. This binder was made for David, known as Tevle, son of Shmaya, from the town of Schmalkalden in Germany. Three other, similar binders are known to have been made for sons of Shmaya, presumably David's brothers. They were recorded in a publication before





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