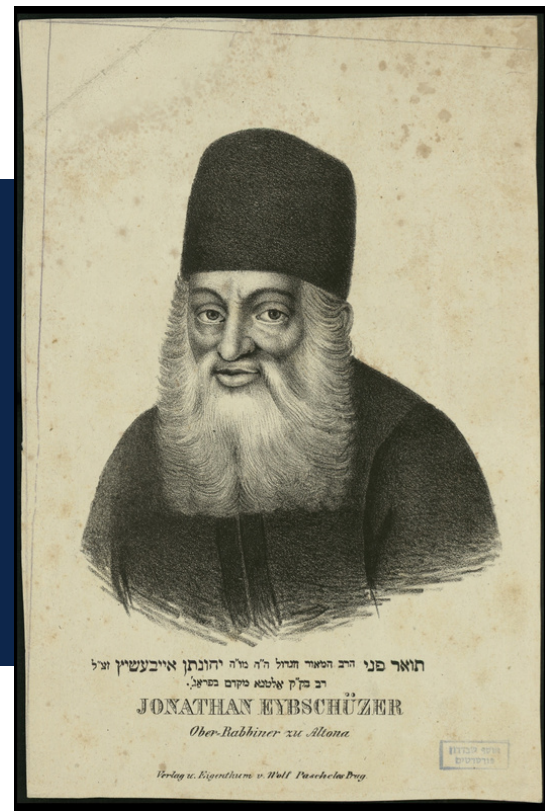


# 2024 EMANUEL RINGELBLUM LECTURE

## HERETICS AND CRYPTO-CHRISTIANS: THE CONTROVERSIES OF RABBI JONATHAN EIBESCHÜTZ

The controversy around Jonathan Eibeschütz, one of the most celebrated rabbinic authorities of the 18th century, has been termed “the most contentious Jewish debate of the past three hundred years.” It has been deemed the pivotal moment in Jewish history, and even, if perhaps somewhat exaggeratedly, the “Jewish French Revolution.” As it is well-known, the controversy erupted in early 1751, when Eibeschütz was accused that the amulets he had been dispensing for the past twenty years contained references to the discredited messiah-claimant, Sabbatai Tsevi. What is less known is the fact that his detractors supplemented this initial charge also with other accusations. This talk will concentrate on the claim that Eibeschütz was in fact a crypto-Christian collaborating with Christians in spreading their religion among the Jews.



### AT A GLANCE

**Andrews Room**

(2203 Social Science  
and Humanities)

**Thursday, May 2**

**12 - 1:30 PM**



## PROFESSOR PAWEŁ MACIEJKO

Leonard and Helen R. Stuhlman  
Chair in Classical Jewish Religion,  
Thought, and Culture at Johns  
Hopkins University