

The University of Manchester

# HeSMaC Catalogue of the manuscripts in Hebrew scripts of the John Rylands University Library

Dr Renate Smithuis Dr Stefania Silvestri

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# BACKGROUND

## PROJECT:

- The aim of the project is to create an online catalogue of all the objects in Hebrew scripts from the collection of the John Rylands Library
- The project is funded by an anonymous Jewish European Foundation between 1 April 2015 and 1 March 2018 (£120,000)

## STAFF:

- Dr Renate Smithuis (Principal Investigator)
- Dr Stefania Silvestri (Research Associate)

## **CURATORIUM MEMBERS:**

- Elizabeth Gow (Manuscript Curator)
- Heritage Imaging Team
- Collection Care Team
- Staff and Members from the JRRI & JRUL
- Professor Philip Alexander (Advisor)

### **GROUNDWORK:**

- Draft catalogue by Professor Alexander Samely (1990s)



# **CHALLENGES**

- Complexity of collection
- Learning TEI-XML
- Using TEI-XML for non-codex or non-fragment objects
- Obtaining additional funding for conservation and digitisation

# **COLLECTION**

- 175 original codices
- 20 photographic reproductions
- 40 albums with fragments
- 48 scrolls
- 31 ketubbot
- 100 amulets
- 123 copies

# **MILESTONES**

- Conservation project on ketubbot
- 12,000 images (¼ of the collection)
- TEI-XML files testing on platform

Cataloguing purpose LUNA:

**DIGITISATION** 

http://luna.manchester.ac.uk/luna

# WORKFLOW

# **CATALOGUING**

TEI-XML P5 Schema from Cambridge Digital Library

# **CONSERVATION**

Limited aims
Support digitisation
Facilitate storage

# DIGITAL PLATFORM

iLibrary project Preservica

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