The problem of Jewish identity appears with regularity in the narrative reflection of Primo Levi, but does not hold a priority place in his work. Coupled with this, however, there exists another identity problem, that of Levi’s “piemontesità”, or his belonging to the Region of Piedmont. What does it mean to be a native of Piedmont in Levi’s Italy? What is his sense of his own Jewish identity and feeling Jewish? And what does it mean to belong to the Jewish community in Piedmont with its ancient Jewish traditions? Or his belonging to the Region of Piedmont in Italy?

Images of Levi’s Turin as the seedbed of the Jewish community and a reading by an English actor of several passages of the short story “Argon” in *The Periodic Table* (1975) will accompany the lecture.

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