

For Immediate Release

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**Mimi Weinberg's "Monument to A.D. Gordon",
Tribute to Pioneering Zionist,
Debuts at Yeshiva University Museum Sculpture Garden**
yumuseum.org // yumuseum.tumblr.com

WHAT:	<i>Mimi Weinberg's "Monument to A.D. Gordon"</i>
WHEN:	<i>On view through December 28, 2014</i>
WHERE:	<i>Sculpture Garden, Yeshiva University Museum 15 W. 16 St., near Union Square, Manhattan</i>

New York City, May 12 – One of Israel's pioneers is the subject of a striking artistic tribute now on view in the sculpture garden of Yeshiva University Museum in Manhattan.

"Monument to A.D. Gordon", created for the museum by acclaimed New York sculptor Mimi Weinberg, evokes both the modern agricultural process and the language of ancient structures to pay tribute to Aaron David Gordon, an early and influential Zionist.

Integrating shapes drawn from 20th-century farming equipment with designs based on biblical-era forms, the artist celebrates the longstanding tradition of physical labor within Israeli society.

The work, in wood, vinyl, foam, paper, and paint, consists of two simple pillars with intricate engravings that reveal Hebrew letters on closer inspection. The pillars rest on a base of interlocking hexagons.

Aaron David Gordon (1856 - 1922), an early and influential Zionist, was one of the founders of Hapoel Hatzair (The Young Worker), a group active in Palestine in the first decades of the 20th century.

A passage from Gordon's essay on "People and Labor" is represented in relief on the taller of the two pillars: "Culture is whatever life creates for living purposes. Farming, building, and roadmaking – and work, any craft, any productive activity – is part of culture and is indeed the foundation and stuff of culture." A phrase from the folk song "Shibolet B'Sadeh" is represented around the base of the second, shorter pillar.

"We're excited to present a fresh artistic perspective on an influential but less-recognized figure in Jewish history," said Dr. Jacob Wisse, director of Yeshiva University Museum. "Mimi's use of historical elements to create something relevant and thought-provoking echoes our mission to explore and re-interpret Jewish history and culture through stimulating artistic work."

Mimi Weinberg is an artist and writer. Her artwork grows from a history of hands-on digging and research on archeological, biblical and historical sites. In 1999 Weinberg received a Fellowship from the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation and in 2003 a grant from the Hadassah-Brandeis Research Institute. Weinberg's artwork has been shown nationally and internationally, most recently in Newark and London.

ABOUT YESHIVA UNIVERSITY MUSEUM

Yeshiva University Museum is dedicated to the presentation and interpretation of the artistic and cultural achievements of Jewish life. The Museum, founded in 1973, is distinguished by its wide-ranging and intellectually rigorous exhibitions and, as the cultural arm of Yeshiva University, by its strong educational mission. As a partner in the thriving Center for Jewish History and a participant in New York's lively downtown cultural scene, Yeshiva University Museum makes a distinctive and important contribution to Jewish life and to the world of culture and the arts. The Museum's rich and diverse collections preserve Jewish artifacts, art, texts and material culture for posterity, making objects accessible through exhibitions, educational programs, and research and conservational initiatives.