



*Eugeen Van Mieghem, On the Scheldt Terrace, 1900, Antwerp, Municipal Print Room*

In collaboration with the Honorary Belgian consul for Western Pennsylvania, *One Foot in America: The Jewish Emigrants of the Red Star Line and Eugeen Van Mieghem* is on display at the American Jewish Museum.

Resulting from a remarkable convergence of entrepreneurship, widespread social upheaval, and shifts in artistic practice, *One Foot in America* explores the compelling narratives of Jewish immigrants during the late 19th and early 20th century rendered by Belgian artist Eugeen Van Mieghem (1875-1930) as they embarked on the journey from Antwerp to the United States on board the Red Star Line.

Many of those gathered in the port were Eastern European and Russian Jews, including Albert Einstein, Golda Meir, and Irving Berlin, escaping devastating systemic oppression. For Van Mieghem, who aspired to express human plight in artistic terms, the profound human spectacle unfolding in this condensed locale was abundantly fertile.

It was the Red Star Line that facilitated Van Mieghem's aspirations and enabled so many beleaguered individuals to escape poverty and oppression. A staggering 2.7 million people left for the U.S. aboard the Line between 1871 and 1934. The Friends of the Red Star Lines organization estimates that 30% to 40% of Jewish Americans have ancestors who sailed on its vessels.

# One Foot in America: The Jewish Emigrants of the Red Star Line and Eugeen Van Mieghem

January 10–February 29, 2012

American Jewish Museum  
JCC of Greater Pittsburgh  
5738 Darlington Road

Opening Reception

Monday, January 23 • 7-9 PM

Presentation by

Ambassador Herman Portocarero,  
Consul General of Belgium

This is the final American venue for the exhibition before it returns to Belgium. *One Foot in America: The Jewish Emigrants of the Red Star Line and Eugeen Van Mieghem* was organized by Friends of the Red Star Lines and the Van Mieghem Museum.

Berger Gallery, 5738 Darlington Road

Monday-Thursday: 7:30 AM-10 PM, Friday: 7:30 AM-6 PM,  
Saturday: 1-6 PM, Sunday: 8 AM-6 PM

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