Lessons and Legacies XIII

The Holocaust after 70 Years: New Perspectives on Persecution, Resistance, and Survival

October 30–November 2, 2014

Florida Atlantic University
Boca Raton

Presented by
Holocaust Educational Foundation of Northwestern University
Founded by Theodore Zev and Alice R. Weiss
Thursday, October 30

4–6 p.m.

**Plenary**

PLENARY 1

“New Directions in Holocaust Studies: The Next Generation”

Doris Bergen, University of Toronto, chair
Natalie Belsky, University of Chicago
Danielle Christmas, University of Illinois at Chicago
Tomasz Frydel, University of Toronto
Golan Moskowitz, Brandeis University
Liz Strauss, Mount St. Mary’s University

7 p.m.

**Dinner and Keynote Address**

“Jewish Religious Thought through the Holocaust: Between History and Metahistory”

Gershon Greenberg, American University and Hebrew University of Jerusalem

*Hosted by Florida Atlantic University at the Live Oak Pavilion. Transportation from the Wyndham provided.*
Friday, October 31

8:30–10:30 a.m.

Panel Discussions

Panel 1

“Language in the Holocaust and the Language of Holocaust Scholarship: Writing Histories of the Nazi Genocide of European Jewry beyond the ‘Linguistic Turn’”

Geoffrey Giles, University of Florida, Gainesville, chair


Dan Michman, Y ad Vashem and Bar-Ilan University, “What Is the Core—The ‘Final Solution’ or ‘Entfernung der Juden überhaupt’? ‘The Holocaust’ as a Tightly Defined or Open Event and Some Weaknesses of Mainstream Historiography”


Panel 2

“Jewish Survival Strategies in Rural Poland, 1942–45”

Jan Grabowski, University of Ottawa, chair/commentator

Barbara Engelking, Polish Center for Holocaust Research and Polish Academy of Sciences, “Jewish Partisans in the Bielsk Podlaski Area”

Dariusz Libionka, Majdanek State Museum and Polish Academy of Sciences, “Polish Underground and the Jews in the Miechow Area, 1942–45”


Jean-Charles Szurek, Institut des Sciences sociales du Politique (ISP), CNRS, and Université Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense, “The Portrait of Survivors: The Case of Lukow County”

Panel 3

“Popular Opinion and the European Jews during the Second World War”

Tatjana Lichtenstein, University of Texas at Austin, chair/commentator

Paul Corner, University of Siena, “Popular Opinion in Italy in the Face of the Racial Laws, 1938–45”


Jan Láníček, University of New South Wales, “Popular Opinion in the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia and the Jews, 1939–45”

Panel 4

“Perpetrator, Victim, Bystander, and Survivor: In Their Own Words through Diary and Testimony”

Alan Rosen, Jerusalem, Israel, chair/commentator

Amy Simon, Indiana University, “We Have Struck the Enemy a Hard Blow: Ghetto Diarists’ Perceptions of Allied Rescue”

Rachel Feldhay Brenner, University of Wisconsin–Madison, “The Ethics of Witnessing the Holocaust: Polish Diaries from Occupied Warsaw, 1939–45”

Uta Larkey, Goucher College, “Collecting Memory: Early Post-WWII Testimonies in Jewish DP Camps in the US Zone”

Waitman Beorn, University of Nebraska at Omaha, “‘Hostile Witnesses’: Are German Postwar Judicial Statements ‘Testimony?’”
Friday, October 31

10:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

**Panel Discussions**

**PANEL 5**

"Culture and Memory: Music, Painting, Poetry"

Anna Holian, Arizona State University, chair

Catherine Greer, University of Tennessee at Knoxville, "Brundibär and Spiritual Resistance: Redeeming the Past through Consoling Stories"

Perla Sneh, Universidad Nacional de Tres de Febrero Center for Genocide Studies, "Yiddish, Umbadingt Yiddish … —Words in Combat"

Christian Fuhrmeister, Zentralinstitut für Kunstgeschichte, "Forced Sale, Emigration, and Forced Complicity: Jewish Art Experts and Dealers in Germany and Occupied Europe, 1933–44"

**PANEL 6**

"In the Wake of the Holocaust: Hostilities and Violence towards the Survivors in Europe"

Jan Tomasz Gross, Princeton University, chair/commentator

Łukasz Krzyzanowski, University of Warsaw, "An Uncertain Reality: Anti-Jewish Violence in the Polish Town of Radom Immediately after the Holocaust"

Jean-Marc Dreyfus, University of Manchester, "Restitution and Prejudice: Antisemitism in France in 1945"

Kierra Crago-Schneider, Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany, "Continued Violence: Jewish Responses to Antisemitism in Postwar Germany"

**PANEL 7**

"Beyond the Racial State"

Lauren Faulkner Rossi, University of Notre Dame, chair

Richard F. Wetzell, German Historical Institute Washington, DC, "Eugenics and 'Racial Science' under the Nazi Regime: A Critique of the ‘Racial State’ Paradigm"

Devin Pendas, Boston College, "Racial States in Comparative Perspective"

Mark Roseman, Indiana University, "Jews, Race, and Volk in Nazi Germany"

**PANEL 8**

"The International Tracing Service Digital Collections: First Research Results"

Rebecca Boehling, International Tracing Service and University of Maryland, Baltimore County, chair/commentator

Suzanne Brown-Fleming, US Holocaust Memorial Museum, "Imagining the Refugee in ITS"

Christine Schmidt, Wiener Library for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide, "Women behind Barbed Wire: Hungarian Jewish Women Slave Laborers in the Nazi Camps"

Elizabeth Anthony, US Holocaust Memorial Museum, "Representations of Sexual Violence in ITS Documentation"

12:30–2 p.m.

**Lunch**
1:30–1:55 p.m.

**Special Presentation**

“The Challenge of Replacing the Irreplaceable—National Jewish Theater Foundation Holocaust Theater International Initiative”

Arnold Mittelman, NJTF president, leader

2–3:45 p.m.

**Panel Discussions**

**PANEL 9**

“Definitions of Defiance: New Research on Resistance in the Camps and Ghettos”

David Meier, Dickinson State University, chair

Svenja Bethke, Institute for the History of the German Jews, “Resistance as a Criminal Offense in the Ghetto? Definitions of ‘Crime’ as Formulated by the Jewish Councils in Lodz and Vilna”


Avinoam Patt, University of Hartford, “Three Lines in History: Writing about Resistance in the Immediate Aftermath of the Holocaust”

**PANEL 10**

“Gendering Survival Strategies: Jewish Women during and after the Holocaust”

Dalia Ofer, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, chair/commentator

Natalia Aleksiun, Touro College, “Gender and Hidden Jews in Eastern Galicia”


Robin Judd, Ohio State University, “Those Other Girls: European Jewish War Brides and Displaced Persons, 1945–50”

**PANEL 11**

“Moral Implications and Moral Claims in Postwar US Responses to the Holocaust”

Sander Lee, Keene State College, chair/commentator


Brian Crim, Lynchburg College, “Conscientious Objectors: The State Department’s Opposition to Operation Paperclip”

Simone Gigliotti, Victoria University of Wellington, “Home-Seeking: Cinematic Geographies of Displacement in Meyer Levin’s The Illegals”

**PANEL 12**

“Traversing the Gray Zone: Perpetration and Victimization in Holocaust Literature and Film”

Alan Berger, Florida Atlantic University, chair/commentator

Gary Weissman, University of Cincinnati, “Binary Thinking in the Gray Zone of Moral Judgment”

Jonathan Druker, Illinois State University, “Complicity and Insight in Borowski’s This Way for the Gas”

Friday, October 31

4–6 p.m.  Plenary

PLENARY 2
“The Impact of Feminism and Gender Studies on Holocaust Studies”

Wendy Lower, Claremont McKenna College, chair
Federica Clementi, University of South Carolina
Dorota Glowacka, University of King’s College
Atina Grossmann, Cooper Union
Bjorn Krondorfer, Northern Arizona University
John Roth, Claremont McKenna College

7:30 p.m.  Dinner and Awards Ceremony
Saturday, November 1

8:30–10:15 a.m.

Panel Discussions

**Panel 13**
“Haunted Pasts: Mediating Women’s Memories of the Holocaust in Music, Film, and Poetry”

Jeffry Diefendorf, University of New Hampshire, chair
Phyllis Lassner, Northwestern University, commentator
Amy Wlodarski, Dickinson College, “Situating the Off-Stage Self: Chaya Czernowin’s *Pnima... ins Innere*”
Brad Prager, University of Missouri, “Filmed Testimony at the Crime Scene: On Seeing *Kitty: Return to Auschwitz*”
Sandra Alfers, Western Washington University, “Poetry as Testimony, Testimony as Poetry? Else Dormitzer’s *Theresienstädter Bilder* (1945)”

**Panel 14**
“A Misplaced History of Emotion? The Kindertransport in History, Commemoration, and Literature”

Atina Grossmann, Cooper Union, chair
Rose Holmes, University of Sussex, “Appropriating Group Memory: Voluntarism and the Kindertransport”
Elizabeth Heineman, University of Iowa, “On Losing Your Children Twice: Surviving Parents and Kindertransport Children”
Andrea Hammel, Aberystwyth University, “The Kindertransport in Fiction: Accessible Experience of Trauma and Emotion?”

**Panel 15**
“Jewish Honor Courts in Postwar Europe”

Steven T. Katz, Boston University, chair
Gabriel Finder, University of Virginia, “Not All Jewish Councils Are Cut from the Same Cloth: Jewish Council Members Stand Trial in the Jewish Honor Court in Postwar Poland, 1946–50”
Laura Jockusch, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, “Rehabilitating the Past? Nazi Collaborators’ Trials at the Berlin Jewish Honor Court, 1945–51”
Ido de Haan, Utrecht University, “An Unresolved Controversy: The Jewish Honor Court in the Netherlands, 1946–50”

**Panel 16**
“Responding to Social Exclusion: German Jews, 1933–45”

Wendy Lower, Claremont McKenna College, chair
Dana Smith, Queen Mary University of London, “Cultural Reactions: The Jewish Kulturbund in Bavaria, 1934–38”
Maximilian Strnad, University of Munich, “The Jewish Stigma: Intermarriage and Family Life in Nazi Germany”
Susanna Schrafstetter, University of Vermont, “Flight Underground: Jews in Hiding in Munich and Upper Bavaria”
Saturday, November 1

10:30 a.m.–noon  
**Workshops**

**WORKSHOP 1**
“To Look Away: Holocaust Photography in Research, Teaching, and Public Discourse”
Valerie Hébert, Lakehead University
Orillia, “Regarding Atrocity: Ethical and Methodological Dilemmas in Holocaust Photography”
Hilary Earl, Nipissing University,
“The Trophies of Babi Yar: Clandestine Photographs of Murder on the Eastern Front and What That Tells Us about the Perpetrators of Genocide”
Tanja Kinzel, Freie Universität Berlin,
“Photographic Discoveries—The Different Perspectives of Photographers in the Lodz Ghetto”

**WORKSHOP 2**
“Teaching the Holocaust Digitally: A Source-Study Approach”
Emil Kerenji and Leah Wolfson, US Holocaust Memorial Museum Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies

**WORKSHOP 3**
“Transmitting Knowledge of the Holocaust in the Classroom and Memoir Writing by the Second Generation”
Sylvia Flescher, Mount Sinai Medical Center, coconvener
Leslie Morris, University of Minnesota, coconvener
Kevin Simpson, John Brown University, coconvener
Alan Berger, Florida Atlantic University, cofacilitator
Judith Greenberg, New York University Gallatin School of Individualized Study, cofacilitator
Joan Liebermann, George Washington University Medical Center, cofacilitator

**WORKSHOP 4**
“On McGill’s Living Testimonies Project: An Audiovisual Retrospective on the Successes and Failures of a Small Archive of Survivor Narratives”
Mark Olyan, McGill University
Noah Shenker, Monash University

12–1:30 p.m.  
**Lunch**
1:30–3:30 p.m.

Panel Discussions

PANEL 17
“Beyond Neighbors: Microhistories of Violence in Hitler’s Europe”
Thomas Kühne, Clark University, chair
Jeff Wallen, Hampshire College, “Towards a Microhistory of Christianstadt”
Mirna Zakic, Ohio University, “The Holocaust in the Serbian Banat: A Microhistory”
Ari Joskowicz, Vanderbilt University, “Archives of Parallel Suffering: Jews and Roma in Labor Camp Belzec”
Sura Levine, Hampshire College, “Unlike Any Other Night: The Attack on the 20th Convoy and Resistance in Belgium”

PANEL 18
“Spain and the Holocaust: Bystander or Savior?”
Gina Herrmann, University of Oregon, cochair
Alejandro Baer, University of Minnesota Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, cochair, “Spanish Diplomats during the Holocaust: Facts, Myths, and Memory Politics”
Marta Simó, Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona, “The Spanish Blue Division: A Connection to the Holocaust”

PANEL 19
“New Cultural Approaches to the Holocaust”
Patrick Bernhard, Trinity College, “Origins of a Fascist Interpol”
Pedro Correa, London School of Economics, “Franco, Savior of the Jews? Tracing the Genealogy of the Myth and Assessing Its Persistence in Recent Historiography”
Alon Confino, University of Virginia, “A World with and without Jews: Reflections on the History and Memory of the Holocaust”
Jonathan Petropoulos, Claremont McKenna College, “Culture and Barbarism among the Modernists: ‘Solicitations of Authoritarian Rule and Cruelty’ or ‘Mere Opportunism’?”
Gavriel Rosenfeld, Fairfield University, “Probing the Limits of Speculation: Counterfactualism and the Holocaust”

PANEL 20
“Nuns, Nannies, and Relief Workers: The Rescue of Jewish Children in East Central Europe”
Jacques Kornberg, University of Toronto, chair/commentator
Joanna Sliwa, Clark University, “I kindly report that during the German occupation, the nuns had sheltered Jewish girls’—The Rescue of Jewish Children in Krakow’s Convents”
Jennifer Marlow, Michigan State University, “The Hardest Decisions: Sending Children from the Ghettos with Their Prewar Caregivers”
Laura Brade, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, “Give Them ‘Visas Not Chocolate’: The Emigration of Jewish Children from the Bohemian Lands, 1938–39”
Saturday, November 1

3:45–5:15 p.m.

**Special Sessions**

**SPECIAL SESSION 1—BOOK DISCUSSION**

“*Authors/Editors Meet Critics: Geographies of the Holocaust: Place, Space, Digital Humanities, and the Holocaust*”

Tim Cole, Bristol University, chair
Anne Kelly Knowles, Middlebury College
Alberto Giordano, Texas State University
Christopher Browning, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, commentator
Debórah Dwork, Clark University, commentator
Wolf Gruner, University of Southern California, commentator

**SPECIAL SESSION 2—BOOK DISCUSSION:**

“*Bringing the Dark Past to Light: The Reception of the Holocaust in Postcommunist Europe*”

Omer Bartov, Brown University, chair/commentator
Joanna Michlic, Bristol University and Brandeis University
Vladimir Solonari, University of Central Florida
John-Paul Himka, University of Alberta

**SPECIAL SESSION 3—PERFORMANCE**

“*Etty—A One-Woman Play Based on the Writings of Etty Hillesum*”

Susan Stein, playwright and performer
Leslie Morris, University of Minnesota, postperformance discussant

7 p.m.

**Dinner and Keynote Address**

“*Jewish Refugees in Portugal: Voices of Exasperation*”

Marion Kaplan, New York University
Sunday, November 2

8:30–10:15 a.m.

Panel Discussions

PANEL 21
“Rethinking Collaboration and Perpetration”
David Cesarani, Royal Holloway, University of London, chair
Richard Lutjens, Loyola University Maryland, “The Role of ‘Ordinary’ Criminals in the Persecution of German Jews, 1933–45”
Lissa Skitolsky, Susquehanna University, “At What Cost Survival? The Problem of the Prisoner-Functionary”
Stefan Ionescu, Chapman University, “The Profiteers of the Romanianization of Real Estate in World War II Bucharest, 1941–44”

PANEL 22
Dawn Skorczewski, Brandeis University, chair
Pim Griffioen, Claims Conference, "Jewish Coping Strategies and Hiding in the Netherlands, 1940–45”
Dienke Hondius, VU University Amsterdam and Anne Frank House, “Going into Hiding and Returning from Hiding: Mapping Hiding Histories”
Bettine Siertsema, VU University Amsterdam, “Hiding in Literary Narratives”

PANEL 23
“Zionism, Anti-Zionism, and Antisemitism in the Middle East during and after the Holocaust”
Patricia Kollander, Florida Atlantic University, chair
Francis R. Nicosia, University of Vermont, “Opposition and Indifference: Zionism and Arab Nationalism in Nazi Policy, 1939–44”
Jeffrey Herf, University of Maryland, “Undeclared War with Israel: Communist East Germany and the West German Radical Left during the Cold War”

Special Session

SPECIAL SESSION 4—SEMINAR
“Difficult Topics in Holocaust History”
Papers for discussion will be circulated in advance.
Dagmar Herzog, City University of New York, chair
Lutz Kaelber, University of Vermont, “Jewish Children as Victims of ‘Euthanasia’ in Nazi Germany”
Alexandra Lohse, US Holocaust Memorial Museum, “Contemplating the Enemy Without and Within: Germans, Jews, and Others in 1943”
Anna Hájková, University of Warwick, “Sexual Barter in Times of Genocide: Negotiating the Sexual Economy of the Theresienstadt Ghetto”
Debórah Dwork, Clark University, discussant
Marion Kaplan, New York University, discussant
Barry Trachtenberg, SUNY University at Albany, discussant