



Holocaust Educational Foundation of Northwestern University

FOUNDED BY THEODORE ZEV AND ALICE R. WEISS

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DIRECTOR'S LETTER



February 2021

Dear Friends and Colleagues;

I recall writing to you this time last year, looking ahead at 2020 with hope and optimism. The motto of graduating classes around the world was clarity – seeing with 2020 vision. Instead 2020 offered a harsh reminder that no one knows what the future holds.

The greatest shock to the HEFNU community was the passing of HEF founder Theodore “Zev” Weiss in November. Zev had an enormous impact on individual Holocaust scholars and the field of Holocaust Studies. He was a pioneer in advocating for university-level Holocaust education. He also had the vision to establish the Lessons and Legacies Conference and the Summer Institute on the Holocaust and Jewish Civilization. The former remains the most important conference in the field; the latter is one of the few Summer Institutes specifically for college faculty who want to teach a Holocaust course. We miss Zev's energy and persistence and wish his family solace in this time of sadness. Please read Dagmar Herzog and Edward Westermann's moving [tribute to Zev and his work](#).

The greatest shock to us all was the Covid-19 pandemic. It hit everyone, but it hit different communities and individuals with varying degrees of intensity and deadliness. Those differences highlighted and exacerbated racial and economic inequities in the US and abroad, bolstering claims for social justice and energizing movements in that direction. Sadly, conspiracy theories and reactionary movements thrived as well, resulting in disastrous responses to the pandemic and a violent attack on the US Congress, among other threats to democracy the world over.

2021 begins with equal parts optimism and skepticism, but also with a clear understanding that democracy is fragile. It requires the involvement and care of citizens and elected officials alike. This is, of course, a perspective that many Holocaust scholars have held for a long time. We know that Holocaust education and scholarship remain necessary and our work moves forward even as old challenges continue and new ones arise. Among these challenges are attacks on our colleagues in several places, particularly in Poland. While Holocaust scholars are not infallible, legal attacks on them and laws that support such attacks stifle open inquiry, an essential element of democracy and scholarship.

Another major challenge was the need to conduct programs remotely. HEFNU postponed the Summer



DIRECTOR'S LETTER

Institute, Regional Institutes, and the Lessons and Legacies Conference to later dates. Because HEFNU is small and nimble, we were able to pivot quickly and develop remote programs to serve the needs of our community. Two innovative projects that we aim to continue beyond the pandemic are a Virtual Speakers Bureau and a Remote Mentoring Program. The first offers classroom professors around the world the opportunity to bring experts in the field of Holocaust Studies to their classes for specialized lectures and lessons. The latter offers early career Holocaust scholars a chance to meet with established scholars to discuss a variety of topics related to career and research.

To bridge the gap caused by postponing Lessons and Legacies, we developed a preview webpage for the conference program so participants and attendees may see the range of topics and scholars who will present their work. We also offered a series of syllabus workshops for our Summer Institute participants whose session was postponed until next year. Teaching and Research grant competitions went forward as usual. HEFNU received many excellent applications for both grant competitions.

In the year ahead, we very much hope that we will return to some in-person programming. It seems unlikely for the majority of the year, but we hope nonetheless. We are planning for a full return to in-person programs in 2022, which will see the return of Regional Institutes to our list of offerings.

We welcome your financial support as well. Donations go toward general operations and programs.

We hope to see you via Zoom and most especially face-to-face very soon and wish you all the best in your research and teaching about the Holocaust in the year ahead.

With best regards,

Sarah M. Cushman
Director



PROFILE: DEBÓRAH DWORK



Debórah Dwork is the Founding Director of the Center for the Study of the Holocaust, Genocide, and Crimes Against Humanity at the Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies, The Graduate Center – CUNY. She has been a Guggenheim Fellow, a Fellow at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, and a Fellow of the American Council of Learned Societies. Dwork's *Children With A Star: Jewish Youth in Nazi Europe* (1991) was the first scholarly work to center children as historical subjects and actors in any field. She also helped establish oral history as a method and source. Anchored in the standpoint of child victims and survivors, Dwork's multi-perspectival scholarship braids bystanders, perpetrators, aid workers, and others into histories of the Holocaust. She co-authored three books with Robert Jan van Pelt, *Auschwitz, 1270 to the Present* (1996), *Holocaust: A History* (2002), and *Flight from the Reich: Refugee Jews, 1993-1946* (2009); edited an anthology (2002); produced scholarly editions (2008, 2011); and numerous book chapters and articles. Dwork has attended Lessons and Legacies conferences for at least the past two decades. There she has served in several capacities including panel chair, discussant, and mentor in the graduate student lightning round. She contributed a chapter to *Lessons and Legacies of the Holocaust III: Memory, Memorialization, Denial* (1999). She will soon become a member of the Summer Institute faculty. Dwork's scholarship has been translated into multiple languages, integrated into public school curricula in North America and Europe, and made into documentaries and children's programming. As Founding Director of the Strassler Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Clark University, Dwork pioneered the first doctoral program in Holocaust and Genocide Studies and has mentored outstanding graduate students. In 2020 she received the International Network of Genocide Scholars Lifetime Achievement Award.

Dwork's career is even more remarkable in light of the fact that there was not a single course on the history of the Holocaust when she joined "the first real class of women" at Princeton University in 1975. "There was no route to study it and, indeed, I didn't think of any such [route] to study it—not as an undergraduate student or doctoral student." Historians considered the Holocaust too recent to qualify as history. Meanwhile an "aura" had formed around it, which threatened to permanently disqualify it as a legitimate topic of inquiry.

The nascence of Dwork's child-centered and adult child-survivor oral history began at home, in private moments shared with her aunt, who told her "stories," or "bits of oral history" about the war. "I remembered her telling me how she belonged to a Jewish youth group," which for a breath of time received "permission from the Germans to farm some land in the suburb." "She told about singing Zionist songs and dreaming the Zionist dream and she certainly believed that having access to the fresh vegetables from farming during that short short period when she was allowed to be there... helped her to survive because she got vitally important vitamins." Dwork later rehearsed these themes in her first book, *War is Good for Babies and Other Young Children: A History of the Infant and Child*



Welfare Movement in England, 1898-1918 (1987).

After that first book, Dwork “moved from an interest in the construction of childhood—in what adults think and adults do for children—to how children see and perceive the world as an interior and exterior daily reality.” She also returned to her aunt’s stories. Reviewing the burgeoning literature in the field, Dwork remembers, “in no literature about the large ghetto did I read about any such initiative, so I thought maybe she just dreamed it. Maybe it was a fantasy that helped her survive.” Researching the book that would become *Children With A Star* (1991), Dwork discovered “it was all true. Everything she had said was true.”

By then, the Holocaust Educational Foundation had been expanding opportunities to study the Holocaust for over ten years and was recording survivor testimony now archived at Yale University. *Children With A Star* (1991) demonstrated the value of adult child-survivor oral history for writing history. Dwork’s treatment of adult child-survivor oral history, not only as adult reconstructions of childhood experiences, but as archives for writing child-centered history was highly controversial. Not everyone was prepared to accept that *children* could be subjects of history. “That was just considered laughable. There was an enormous resistance. I can’t even call it a resistance. It was like, I didn’t exist.” Thankfully, Dwork’s work garnered notice of the eminent child psychiatrist, Donald Cohen, then director of the Yale Child Study Center. Cohen recognized the contribution child-centered Holocaust scholarship could make in the development of international standards of care for children experiencing violence and trauma. “It wasn’t the history department. It was actually part of the medical school, but you know, it was a perch... So there was actually a structure that I could join but it was just my luck that the director took a shine to it.” Dwork’s modesty notwithstanding, her “perch” was a boon, not a replicable strategy for success. This experience continues to inform her energetic dedication to graduate mentorship and institution building.

Seven years after finding a home at the Yale Child Study Center, Dwork was invited to establish a center for Holocaust Studies at Clark University in Worcester, MA. There, she embraced the opportunity to enlarge the Strassler Center’s mission to Holocaust and Genocide Studies. “I have always seen the Holocaust as within the rubric of genocide,” Dwork says. If we treat the Holocaust as an utterly singular event in human history for which we have no model or concept, “then it has nothing to tell us about anything, and why should we even bother studying it? We should just accept that it was and move on. But it wasn’t just a ‘one-off’ and it does have all too much to tell us about other events elsewhere.” It is “incumbent upon us as scholars to strip away that veil of ‘night and fog’ and look critically and analytically at the underlying structures that gave rise to murder, and to the varying responses of surrounding populations and of the victims themselves.”

When asked how she does the spiritual work of staying in this work, Dwork reflects, “I feel myself to be enormously privileged to have the opportunity to work on the history of the Holocaust and I recognize that every day.” Reflecting on her experience recording the oral histories of adult “child survivors,” Dwork shares, “Sometimes the people whose histories I recorded would say, ‘You really know.’ And they meant it generously. And I would say to myself, but of course not out loud, ‘No, I don’t.’ I’ll never even know—and I’m glad—but I will never even know what it smelled like. The pain was not about me. The pain was about them. The other part of it is that if I told you I didn’t feel pain, I would be lying. There are times when I’m writing and weeping at the same moment... But I also say, I also know, and I believe... that the moment I stopped feeling that [pain] I should cease to work on this subject. That’s the price you pay to do this work. And how fortunate, am I, to have been born... years after the war, in the United States, completely safe—by time and space? How lucky am I... to have the opportunity to work on this and mentor students to work on it?”



PROFILE: DWORK

Looking back to the beginning of her career, Dwork reflects that she came of age in an era of extraordinary, productive agitation in the academy. “A number of different communities claimed their voice during this time” and radically transformed the intellectual landscape. Like other organizations and fields formed in service to marginalized standpoints in the academy, HEF has been stretched and grown increasingly welcoming, interdisciplinary, and intersectional over time.

Today, the greatest challenge to Holocaust Studies is enduring in its “widening vision” in the face of a paradigm shift impacting the humanities as a whole: decreased funding, support, and appreciation for liberal arts scholarship in higher education. The mission of the liberal arts is increasingly undertaken by a “plethora of Holocaust museums and educational centers,” which are also “sites of liberal arts education.” The development of public programming reflects the enduring commitment of the HEF community to produce critical scholarship in the public interest and public history has opened new opportunities for students and educators alike. This is an area which Dwork anticipates will grow in the decades ahead. Because the public humanities depend on rigorously trained scholars to fulfill their public mission, the development of public programming is a sign of the academy’s success—not its redundancy or obsolescence. This symbiotic relationship between different sites of liberal arts education is reflected in the HEF community. “Everyone in the field is involved in HEF.”

Profile by Eda Uca.

Eda Uca is a graduate student in the department of Religious Studies at Northwestern University, concentrating in American religious history and Orientalism, with secondary concentrations in religion and media, popular culture, and digital humanities. She is currently serving as a graduate assistant for the Holocaust Educational Foundation, developing a course on the anti-Semitic/Orientalist alt-right Pepe meme, and finalizing a dissertation prospectus attentive to the entanglements of Western Christian epistemology, Orientalism, and anti-Semitism in the United States. Her advisor is Robert Orsi.



PROFILE: EDWARD B. WESTERMANN



Once I started studying the Holocaust, I knew that was always going to be a part of shaping my identity and what I thought about the U.S., our role in the world, a military's role in the world. When you study the Holocaust, it never leaves you." Edward B. Westermann received his doctorate from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill and is Texas A&M Regents Professor of History at San Antonio. His areas of expertise include modern European history, the Holocaust, and war and society. He is the recipient of numerous research grants, fellowships, and teaching awards. Westermann has been a Fulbright Fellow, US Holocaust Memorial Museum Fellow, three-time fellow of the German Academic Exchange Service, Clements Center Fellow of the DeGolyer Library at SMU, and Fellow of Keene State College's Genocide Studies and Prevention Program. He was a J.B. and Maurice C. Shapiro Fellow at the US Holocaust Memorial Museum for AY 2018-2019. Westermann has published extensively on the Holocaust and military history, authoring *Hitler's Ostkrieg and the Indian Wars: Comparing Genocide and Conquest* (Oklahoma, 2016), *Hitler's Police Battalions: Enforcing Racial War in the East* (Kansas, 2005), *Flak: German Anti-aircraft Defenses, 1914-1945* (Kansas, 2001) and co-editing *Expeditionary Police Advising and Militarization: Building Security in a Fractured World* (Helion, 2018) and *Air Force Advising and Assistance: Developing Airpower in Client States* (Helion, 2018). His newest book, *Drunk on Genocide: Alcohol and Mass Murder in Nazi Germany*, is forthcoming from Cornell UP in 2021. Westermann was inducted into Texas A&M University-System Chancellor's Academy of Teacher Educators in 2018 and appointed by the Lieutenant Governor's Office as a Commissioner on the Texas Holocaust and Genocide Commission in January 2019. This fall, he was named a Texas A&M University System Regents Professor. The Regents Professor designation is the Texas University System's highest award for faculty in recognition of exemplary service within and beyond the university.

Service in the United States Air Force and the Holocaust Educational Foundation have been twin pillars in Westermann's scholarship. Westermann graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy, where he was a gifted student in history, and was flying on exchange for the German Air Force when he received a military scholarship to pursue a master's degree in history under Alan Steinweis at Florida State. Westermann then co-taught the first course on Holocaust Studies for the Air Force Academy, which was developed with the Holocaust Educational Foundation. A travel seminar to Eastern Europe helped cement the relationship. Since joining the HEF community, Westermann has presented a number of papers for the biannual conference and contributed chapters to *Lessons and Legacies VII: The Holocaust in International Perspective* (2006) and *Lessons and Legacies XII: New Directions in Holocaust Research and Education* (2017). He has also worked closely with HEF founder Theodore Z. Weiss to support Weiss's mission to expand Holocaust Education in the US and offered moral support to both Directors since HEF's merger into Northwestern. Westermann shares, the most "critical part of my involvement with HEF was Zev Weiss and his family. He is the one who brought me into the HEF



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family, along with his wife Alice. I was absolutely influenced by his passion for the topic.”

Westermann’s own passion for Holocaust Studies has been nourished by an equally profound commitment to a second community. As a Colonel in the U.S. Air Force (now retired) Westermann is concerned with the ways organizational culture and values in military units and policing shapes perpetrator motivation and behavior. Most recently, Westermann explored this problem in *Drunk on Genocide: Alcohol and Mass Murder in Nazi Germany* (2021). Though frequently referenced in the literature, alcohol use among perpetrators has never been the focus of a study until now. “The traditional narrative of alcohol use is that it was used for coping” which is to say, “they couldn’t have done it if they didn’t drink.” Westermann’s experience growing up on military bases and as a pilot, keyed him into more complicated entanglements of masculinity, alcohol, and the organizational culture of a military unit. Ultimately, Westermann found that Holocaust perpetrators used alcohol, not to cope with the stress of genocide but to celebrate it: “camaraderie, masculinity, physical and sexual violence” all folded seamlessly into “that feeling of power over others that alcohol provided,” “the intoxication of that mindset that comes with Nazi ideology,” and “also colonial or imperial power over others.” Westermann cautions that alcohol use was “neither necessary nor sufficient for the Holocaust” to have occurred. Nevertheless, Westermann’s study “gives us real insight into the mentality of the perpetrators.”

“It’s not an easy book to read—it was not an easy book to write. This exposes some of the worst aspects of human behavior that you can imagine.” It also demonstrates the value of continuing to bring new voices and perspectives into the field. To that end, Westermann’s scholarship in this area has been among the most generative for connecting with Latinx and Native students in his capacity as a Commissioner on the Texas Holocaust and Genocide Commission. The purpose of the Commission is to reach into underrepresented communities across this state, places that do not have the resources to develop or host the kind of programming the Commission is uniquely positioned to provide. Surprisingly, “one of the silver linings in the Covid cloud has been an increased focus on digital resources which allows us to get into some of those communities.” A presentation at a community college in south Texas was attended by 350 student participants!

To a degree, student enthusiasm for *Drunk on Genocide* aligns with Westermann’s broader experience teaching at Texas A&M, San Antonio, a ‘majority/minority’ institution where 70 percent of students are Latinx, 67 percent are women, and many are Dreamers. These students’ “goals and ambitions” and their solidarity with others “encapsulate what’s fundamentally best about the country,” Westermann says. They are “very sensitized” and “very receptive to understanding” prejudice, bias, and exclusion in the classroom, whether their focus is learning about the Holocaust or the Civil War. However, the topic of alcohol, violence, and toxic masculinity is acutely relevant for many students, eager for an opportunity to bring the “real world” to bear on the interpretation of history in an academic context. That Westermann drew on his own lived experience for this project makes this exchange all the more gratifying: “You may through the way you approach a topic be able to reach people in a very profound way that is beyond the academy, that makes a difference in the way they see the world, and the way they see their relationship to it. Book awards are great, articles and publications are great, but in the end, that’s probably going to be the ‘award’ that you’re going to want the most.”

Asked about the greatest challenge to the field today, Westermann shares, “I used to be able to have survivors come out to our university every year. I, like others, wonder what the loss of the voice of survivors is going to mean for us” and how it will “impact broader interest in the field.” These



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reflections are especially poignant now, as HEF mourns the passing of founder Theodore Weiss. (Westermann and Dagmar Herzog have written an In Memoriam, which is available [online](#).)

Connecting new students to Holocaust Studies remains urgent, as surveys show that a staggering two-thirds of millennials do not know the most basic facts about the Holocaust. That “underlines the importance of what we’re doing” as educators, as scholars; “but I think it also underlines the importance of [reaching] beyond the scholarly community and into the broader public mainstream. Part of our charter as Holocaust scholars is to continue to try to bring out the topic beyond our own community into the mainstream of public discourse.” In light of these challenges, HEF “continues to be the leading organization that focuses on Holocaust education and Holocaust scholarship in providing—whether it’s Lessons and Legacies, the summer institute, or regional teaching institutes—resources to support Holocaust education in the United States that would otherwise not be possible.”

Profile by Eda Uca.





In summer 2004, I felt I had read every Holocaust memoir centering on hiding and camps in Europe. I went to Amazon, at that time simply an online bookstore, not the behemoth it is today, hoping to find something new. Amazon suggested Ursula Bacon's *Shanghai Diary: A Young Girl's Journey from Hitler's Hate to War-Torn China*. I bought the book and started to read. Bacon's gripping narrative pulled me into stories of surviving the Holocaust outside of Europe. I wanted to learn more about Asia's place in that history. I skimmed through First Year Seminar offerings at Smith College, where I soon would enroll. One course, "Kyoto through the Ages," caught my eye; it was not Shanghai, but it was that part of the world and it offered a two-week study trip to Kyoto. On that trip, I enjoyed many intellectual and cultural experiences; it was my first opportunity to use my passport. The following summer, I interned at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) and my supervisor encouraged me to explore the Museum's resources, including the library. Immediately, I pulled all the books out about Jews in China. As I read the literature, I realized I would need to learn Chinese. The books, the course, and the trip laid the foundation for my research in East Asia. Little did I imagine that I would write a dissertation about Jewish refugees in Shanghai during the Second World War and the Chinese Civil War, for which I received a Sharon Abramson Research Grant from HEFNU.

This research grant, along with numerous others, provided a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to transverse the globe following the many paths that Jewish refugees took after leaving Shanghai between 1946 and 1951. Highlights from each segment of my research trip illustrate the global reach of the Shanghai story, and by extension, the Holocaust. Ultimately, I did not need to learn Chinese nor all of the dozens of languages of Holocaust survivors.

Paris France: Archives Nationales held the entire collection of the International Refugee Organization (IRO, a United Nations refugee agency (1946-1951)). This collection contained minimal duplicates, thus I built on what I already had learned in the USHMM's "selected records" from this archive. I also traveled to the Drancy memorial. Its location in what is now a Muslim North African neighborhood gave me fruit for thought for classroom discussion about North Africa during the Holocaust, as well as Holocaust memorials and their present environs.

Bremen and Heidelberg, Germany: the Bremen State Archive's 106 case files revealed surprising demographics about the returnees of 1950. The Jewish refugees were not as old or as sick as I hypothesized. Instead, families and single men came back for a variety of reasons including: a son's criminal record; Japanese wives, who were banned from U.S. immigration until 1955; and interfaith marriages - non-Jewish spouses were ineligible for immigration to Israel. I discovered similar cases in Heidelberg's Zentralarchiv zur Erforschung der Geschichte der Juden in Deutschland.



Jerusalem, Israel: at Yad Vashem, I listened to oral history interviews of some of the nearly 3,000 refugees, who in 1949 immigrated to Israel from Shanghai. Most were not avid Zionists, but rather had nowhere else to go. Chinese Communists were poised to capture Shanghai. Although they differed ideologically and otherwise from their counterparts in East Germany, most refugees saw the two strains of communism as equally distasteful. They would not stay in Shanghai nor would they return to Germany. The interviews illustrated the refugees' arduous voyage to and the challenging process of resettlement in Israel, where they were reluctant to learn the language or work in agriculture, where most employment opportunities lay.

Shanghai, China: I visited the Hongkou district, where many Jewish refugees had lived, and where the "ghetto" was found (1943-1945). Hongkou retained European-style buildings, conjuring its earlier colonial period. Hongkou also encompassed the biggest camps, a synagogue, and a restored café that Jewish refugees frequented. Being in Shanghai helped me visualize refugees' lives, as well as the work of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, whose former building was identified with a plaque.

Canberra, Sydney, and Melbourne, Australia: Australia accepted roughly 1,500 Jewish refugees from Shanghai, the third largest site of resettlement after the U.S. and Israel. After plumbing the National Archives of Australia and National Library of Australia in Canberra, I networked with Sydney and Melbourne's Jewish communities, which brought introductions to Shanghai refugees and their families, as well as to additional materials. One 90-year-old refugee in Melbourne gathered her Shanghai acquaintances for an afternoon of Viennese-style lunch!

I returned to the U.S. a different person and a better historian. I have become deeply committed to writing and teaching history from a global perspective. I have reframed my dissertation to situate Shanghai's Jewish refugees in a global history of transition from the Second World War to its aftermath. The dissertation now explores the phases of war's end: liberation, relief and rehabilitation, and emigration. In teaching, it is my hope to pull together a set of courses that will allow students to engage with the Holocaust from a global perspective, a necessity in today's increasingly interconnected world. By exposing students to the unfamiliar while allowing them to deal with the familiar (Europe/U.S.), they will become more comfortable venturing into the unknown with curiosity.

Featured Report by Sara Halpern.

Sara Halpern completed her PhD in Modern Jewish and European History at the Ohio State University in December 2020. She received her MA in Judaic Studies from the University of Michigan. Dr. Halpern is currently a Lecturer in the Department of History at Ohio State. Her dissertation, *Saving the Unwanted: The International Response to Shanghai's Jewish Refugees, 1943-1949*, is a global microhistory of 15,000 Central European Jewish refugees in the aftermath of the Second World War, the Holocaust, and the Second Sino-Japanese War. Her article, "The Integration of Shanghai's Jewish Refugees in Post-World War II San Francisco," appeared in *American Jewish History* (2020). She has received numerous fellowships and grants in addition to the Sharon Abramson Research Grant. Among them are the Association for Jewish Studies Dissertation Completion Fellowship, the Ben and Zelda Cohen Fellowship at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, the Leo Baeck Fellowship from Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes, and Social Sciences Research Council.





In March 1941, the criminal police of Vienna ordered forty-three-year-old Friederike B. to appear at their offices. She was single, Jewish, a saleswoman by profession, and a native of Vienna. The summons to appear for questioning must have terrified her. Jews in the Greater German Reich were often accused of crimes, and such accusations could lead to internment in concentration camps. Under questioning, Friederike B. admitted to police that she had been friends with Charlotte C., an “Aryan,” and that they had vacationed together. They always slept in separate beds, however, and now that Nazi Germany had absorbed Austria, and Jews and “Aryans” were discouraged from socializing, they had broken off their friendship. Friederike B. was wise to deny having had lesbian sex. It was a crime under Austria’s penal code, and though Germany only criminalized male homosexuality, Austria’s law remained in effect in Vienna. Her denials worked. The police let her go, though they later charged her friend Charlotte C. with having had sex with another woman.

This brief, harrowing incident in Friederike B.’s life troubles much of what scholars think was true of the Nazi persecution of homosexuals. The consensus is that police went after gay men, not lesbians. In addition, though when one reads the existing histories of the persecution of homosexuals, one occasionally comes across the stories of Jews accused of homosexuality, few have thought systematically about how racism impacted their cases.

One might guess that police would treat Jews suspected of homosexuality harshly. Nazi ideology blamed Jews for homosexuality and Nazi propaganda ranted against Magnus Hirschfeld, the left-wing, German Jewish sex expert who called for the repeal of Germany’s law against gay sex, calling his campaigns on behalf of homosexuals a Jewish plot to undermine the “Aryan” race. Yet, it was Friederike B.’s friend Charlotte C., not Friederike herself, who got into hot water with the Vienna police. She was arrested, jailed, questioned several times, and charged with the “crime” of having had lesbian sex. She was not convicted. Had she been convicted, a typical sentence would have been three to six months. Yet when the Nazi regime surrendered to the Allies in May of 1945, Charlotte C. was probably still alive and living in Vienna, while Friederike B. was probably not. Friederike B. had by then either fled into exile, or had shared the fate of the fifty thousand Austrian Jews whom the fascists deported and murdered.

A Sharon Abramson Research Grant through the Holocaust Educational Foundation of Northwestern University supported my work on a new history of the Nazi persecutions of gay men, lesbians, and transgender people, history that foregrounds racism and the experiences of Jews such as Friederike B.. When I received the grant my plan was to travel to Germany and Austria to gather more police files of people accused of homosexuality and cross-dressing. The SARS-CoV-2 pandemic made travel impossible. However, I was able to continue my research in the pandemic, thanks to the HEFNU grant. I used the funds to purchase digital scans of files from archives. I also hired a talented young



historian who has just finished an undergraduate honors degree in history, Charles Coffland, to help me scan through the digital files seeking the cases of Jews, which are relatively rare – Jewish Germans were only about 1% of the population of Germany; in Austria, the percentage is higher but is only about 9%. During the pandemic, and through the civil unrest in the United States in 2019, we worked remotely, meeting on Zoom and reading digital files that we kept in a remote drive so we could both access them. Digital work made it possible for us to keep going despite the pandemic. We have now located a number of what I think are very significant cases, and I am drafting an article on preliminary findings. This work would not have been possible without the Sharon Abramson Grant and I am very grateful to the funders and to the Holocaust Educational Foundation of Northwestern University.

Featured Report by Laurie Marhoefer.

Laurie Marhoefer is Jon Bridgman Endowed Professor of History at University of Washington in Seattle, WA. A historian of queer and trans politics, Marhoefer reexamines the world's first gay and trans rights movement in *Sex and the Weimar Republic: German Homosexual Emancipation and the Rise of the Nazis* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2015). Marhoefer's current project, tentatively titled *Crimes Against Nature and Crimes Against Humanity*, is a history of queer and/or transgender people in Nazi Germany and Austria and Nazi-occupied Europe. Marhoefer considers women *and* men, trans *and* cis people, while centering racism as a vector of persecution. A third project on the intersections of queer politics and racism, empire, antisemitism, anti-colonialism, as told through the story of the world journey of Li Shiu Tong and Magnus Hirschfeld, is also in the works. Marhoefer co-teaches a class on the global history of AIDS with Prof. Lynn M. Thomas and has developed a class on the digital histories of the First and Second World Wars with Taylor Soja, supported by a digital humanities grant from the Simpson Center for the Humanities at the University of Washington.



EVENTS

Annual HEFNU/CCHS Fall Lecture

The Holocaust Educational Foundation of Northwestern University (HEFNU), in partnership with the Nicholas D. Chabreja Center for Historical Studies presented "Claude Lanzmann's *Shoah* and Its Outtakes: The Ethics of Perpetrator Representation" by Erin McGlothlin (Washington University) on November 19, 2020. The audience for this virtual event included 250 participants from over 30 countries! In "Claude Lanzmann's *Shoah* and Its Outtakes," McGlothlin offered new insights into Lanzmann's monumental film



Shoah (1985) through her examination of part of the hundreds of hours of outtakes restored and digitized by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and Yad Vashem. Based on her research for the recent volume *The Construction of Testimony: Claude Lanzmann's Shoah and Its Outtakes*, which she edited with Brad Prager and Markus Zisselsberger, McGlothlin focused on one of Lanzmann's most fascinating (and most troubling) interviews in *Shoah*, his dialogue with the former Treblinka guard Franz Suchomel. By carefully comparing the outtakes of the Suchomel interview with the sequences in *Shoah* that feature him, McGlothlin reconstructed in minute detail how Lanzmann shaped the testimony of the apparently unrepentant and even gleeful former perpetrator that we encounter in the finished film. If you missed this stellar event, you can still view it at our new [website](#) or on our [YouTube channel](#).

The Holocaust in the Twenty-First Century Relevance and Challenges in the Digital Age

Edited and with an introduction
by Tim Cole and Simone Gigliotti

LESSONS AND LEGACIES VOLUME XIV

Lessons and Legacies XIV Virtual Book Launch

The Holocaust Educational Foundation of Northwestern University (HEFNU) and NU Press celebrated the publication of the most recent volume in the Lessons and Legacies Series with a [webinar](#) on December 16, 2020. Lessons and Legacies XIV: *The Holocaust in the Twenty-First Century: Relevance and Challenges in the Digital Age* challenges a number of key themes in Holocaust studies. Collected essays reevaluate foundational concepts; use digital methodologies to examine mobility and space and their relationship to hiding, resistance, and emigration; and offer critical reflections on the utility of digital methods in scholarly, pedagogic, and public engagement with the Holocaust. The webinar included co-editors Tim Cole (University of Bristol) and Simone Gigliotti (Royal Holloway, University of London) and volume contributors Anne K. Knowles (University of Maine) and Sharon Oster (University of Redlands); chaired by HEFNU Director Sarah M. Cushman (Northwestern University). Order the paperback edition of *The Holocaust in the Twenty-First Century* at a 25% discount at [NU Press online](#) using the code NUP2020 at checkout!



PERSONAL & PROFESSIONAL NEWS

Lawrence Barron, Professor Emeritus in History at San Diego State University, presented “Kristallnacht on Film: From Reportage to Reenactments, 1938-1988,” at the Holocaust Living History Workshop, University of California, San Diego, November 5, 2020 and Midwest Center for Holocaust Education, Kansas City, November 9, 2020.

Alan L. Berger, Raddock Family Eminent Scholar Chair for Holocaust Studies Professor of Judaic Studies, is now also Director of the Center for the Study of Values and Violence After Auschwitz at Florida Atlantic University.

Rachel Feldhay Brenner, HEFNU is sorry to share, died in early February of esophageal cancer. We will all miss her; she was a wonderful friend, colleague, and a teacher to us all. Several months before her death, Brenner was awarded the Harvey L. Temkin and Barbara Myers Temkin Professorship in Hebrew Language and Literature at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Sheldon S. Brown, North Shore Community College Professor Emeritus, taught at North Shore Community College in Danvers, Massachusetts from 1965 to 2014. When he retired, Brown instituted a Forum on Tolerance series in 1996 for the College community. The Forums have continued to date offering twice yearly programs pertaining to tolerance and respect for others. Topics have included the Holocaust, immigration and civil rights. Thus far, 44 Forums have been presented to large audiences. The last Forum was a 4-day zoom entitled, “Black Lives Matter: The U.S. Journey Towards Justice and Healing,” and the keynote was Dr. Michael Dyson of Georgetown University. On November 19, 2020, Brown was honored virtually with the North Shore Community College 2020 “Champion Award” in recognition of volunteerism and philanthropy. His memoir, *Shelly's Tales: A Memoir of a Mensch* (2017) is available on Amazon.

Suzanne Brown-Fleming, Director of International Academic Programs at USHMM announces that the documentary film *Holy Silence* (2019, Steven Pressman) featuring multiple HEFNU alumni, made its television premier on PBS on November 3, 2020.

Christopher Browning, Frank Porter Graham Professor Emeritus, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, was Visiting Professor at the University of Washington, where he taught History of the Holocaust during the Winter Quarter 2020. He also presented conference papers including, “The Holocaust in History Revisited,” Refugees, Genocide and Trials in the 20th Century: A Tribute to Michael R. Marrus, Van Leer Jerusalem Institute, Jerusalem, July 1-2, 2019 and “*Ordinary Men* Revisited,” Facing Police and the Holocaust: A Generation after Christopher Browning’s *Ordinary Men*—Perspectives of New Police Perpetrator Research and Holocaust Education, Geschichtsort Villa Ten Hompel, Münster, October 29-31, 2019.

Beth B. Cohen, Lecturer of Religious Studies and Jewish Studies at California State University, Northridge, gave a lecture in May 2020 for the Center for Jewish History titled, “War Orphans Find Home: Child Survivors and U.S. Adoptions” sponsored by Hear Their Cry: Understanding the Jewish Orphan Experience. A Scholars Working Group, CJH. Cohen was featured in “Conversation on Holocaust Memory in the Early Postwar Period with Atina Grossman and Beth Cohen” at the Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum in December. Cohen presented “A New Home, Another War: Child Holocaust Survivors and the US Military,” for the Association for Jewish Studies Annual



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Conference 2020, also in December. Cohen anticipates presenting “Forging a Collective Identity: Child Survivors of the Holocaust and Postwar US Networks,” at the Western Jewish Studies Association Annual Conference in March 2021. Cohen also anticipates presenting at Lessons and Legacies Ottawa, postponed from November 2020 to November 2021. A presentation slated for January 2021, at the Beyond Camps and Forced Labour: Current Research in Postwar Survivors of Nazi Persecution Conference in London has been postponed to 2022.

Judith Cohen, performer, ethnomusicologist, and contract faculty in the department of Music at York University gave two presentations in 2019 about the Holocaust: “Sephardic and Ashkenazi Songs of the Holocaust,” lecture-recital for Anne Frank Exhibit at the Lennox & Addington Country Museum, Napanee, Ontario, November 2019 and “‘Siete Dias Enserrados’: Music among Sephardim and Ashkenazim in the Holocaust,” at the Terras de Sefarad Conference, Braganza, Portugal. June 2019.

Marc Hermann Cohen, Haifa and Hamburg PhD Fellow, has completed the Joint PhD at the University of Haifa, Israel and Hamburg, Germany. Cohen’s dissertation is titled, “The Elephant in the Room—The Holocaust and Conceptions of Germany among Israeli Learners of German as a Foreign Language.”

Astrid M Eckert, Associate Professor of History at Emory University, announces that her new book *West Gemany and the Iron Curtain: Environment, Economy, and Culture in the Borderlands* (Oxford University Press, 2019) was honored with the DAAD/GSA Book Prize 2020 for the Best Book in History or Social Sciences and the 2020 Smith Award by the European History Section of the Southern Historical Association for the best book published in European history by a faculty member of a Southern College or University.

Benjamin Frommer, Associate Professor of History at Northwestern University, delivered the keynote at the September 2020 conference, “Persecution at Home: Eviction and Resettlement of Jews within the City Space, 1938-1942,” hosted by the Documentation Centre of Austrian Resistance (Dokumentationsarchiv des österreichischen Widerstandes - DÖW) in Vienna. This superbly organized and fascinating conference (kudos to the organizers and participants alike) was a rare opportunity during the times of Covid-19 to learn in-person from exceptional colleagues.

Henry Greenspan, Lecturer Emeritus, Social Theory and Practice, Faculty Scholar Integrative Medicine, and Faculty Fellow, Mellon Faculty Institute on Arts Academic Integration at University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, announces that his article, “The Humanities of Contingency: Interviewing and Teaching Beyond ‘Testimony’ with Holocaust Survivors,” published in the Fall issue of the *Oral History Review*, received the 2020 annual article award from the Oral History Association. Greenspan’s new play, “Death / Play, or the ‘Mad Jester’ of the Warsaw Ghetto,” has enjoyed multiple public readings.

Sara Halpern, Ohio State University, has completed the PhD in Modern Jewish and European History at the Ohio State University. Halpern’s dissertation is titled, “Saving the Unwanted: The International Response to Shanghai’s Jewish Refugees, 1943-1949.” On October 22, 2020, Halpern gave a Zoom lecture, “The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) to the Rescue in Shanghai, 1941-1951,” with sponsorship of the Center for Jewish History, the Leo Baeck Institute, and the JDC Archives.



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Valerie Hébert, Associate Professor of History and Interdisciplinary Studies Lakehead University Orillia, won a Social Science and Humanities Research Council Insight Grant (\$51,473) for the monograph project, *Five Shots from Sdolbunow: Photographs of the Holocaust by Bullets, 1942*.

Steve Hochstadt, Professor of History Emeritus at Illinois College, has published a collection of op-eds written over the past 15 years: *Freedom of the Press in Small-Town America: My Opinions*, available on Amazon. It is not about the Holocaust, but is about American life and politics from the perspective of a Holocaust historian.

Stefan Cristian Ionescu, Theodore Zev and Alice R Weiss Holocaust Educational Foundation Visiting Associate Professor in Holocaust Studies, designed “Repairing Historical Injustices,” a fall quarter 2020 first-year seminar to advance and strengthen diversity, equity, and inclusion for the students of Northwestern University and to contribute to the current national conversation on racial and social justice.

Paul Jaskot, Professor of Art History at Duke University, is the Ina Levine Invitational Scholar at the Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies, US Holocaust Memorial Museum this academic year. While the fellowship is so far virtual, Jaskot has been glad to be part of the Mandel Center community again and to work more on architecture, construction, and the experience of perpetrator and victim space in occupied Krakow.

Kristina Jorgic-Stepanovic, historian and PhD candidate at University of Novi Sad, Association of Centres for Interdisciplinary and Multidisciplinary Studies and Research, Novi Sad, Serbia, gave a public lecture at “October in Kragujevac Memorial Park” about the Roma population executed in Kragujevac in 1941. “October in Kragujevac Memorial Park” was established in 1953 to remember the victims of the Kragujevac massacre (October 21, 1941). Nearly three thousand men and boys of Kragujevac, Serbia, - Serbs, Jews, and Roma between the ages of twelve and sixty-five – were shot by German Wehrmacht troops. Jorgic-Stepanovic published results of her research in 2018 and introduced participants to this important topic. Her lecture was held in front of the Monument Crystal Flower, which is dedicated to Roma boys who were executed because of the colour of their skin. The Roma community was especially interested in this topic and many participated in this event.

Eva Kalousová, Lecturer and Coordinator of Relations with Israel at Palacký University in Olomouc Czech Republic is coordinating relations with Israeli partners of the university, teaching courses in the Jewish Studies Department, including a course on the Holocaust of Czech Jews during fall semester, and writing a PhD dissertation on the transfer of Holocaust trauma to the second and third generations of survivors. Covid-19 related interruptions include cancellations of all travels to Israel for the university’s students and staff and cancellations of Kalousová’s travel plans to European countries and Israel with the aim of carrying out interviews with second generation survivors for her PhD dissertation.

Marion Kaplan, Skirball Professor of Modern Jewish History at New York University, relates that her new book, *Hitler’s Jewish Refugees: Hope and Anxiety in Portugal, 1940-1945* (Yale University Press, 2020) was the subject of a panel discussion, “Jewish and Other Refugees: Between the 1930s and the Present,” a Kristallnacht Memorial Event hosted by the Institute of Holocaust, Genocide, and Memorial



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Studies at UMass, Amherst. Debórah Dwork was a panelist, with David Hernández and Joel Wolfe. Additionally, Kaplan presented “Hitler's Jewish Refugees: Hope and Anxiety in Portugal 1940-1945,” at Kean University on December 3, 2020 for the Association for Jewish Studies Distinguished Lectureship Program.

Susan Landau-Chark is Associate Director of The Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies (ZC) at Carleton University. ZC is home to the Centre for Holocaust Education and Scholarship (CHES) which is led by a team of volunteers including survivors, second generation and interested members of the community. The ZC and CHES annually organize programs, lectures, and educational activities for Holocaust Education Month (HEM) which runs November 1 - November 30. This year, all events have been online and have been successful in both increasing the numbers of participants and extending the conversation beyond our local Ottawa community to welcome speakers and audience from around the world. On November 8, Holocaust Education Month (HEM) was launched with the premiere screening of *Voices for the Past, Present and Future*, a video of CHES activities since its inception in 2015. The film was followed by a discussion about teaching the Holocaust in the 21st Century with Professor Irwin Cotler (Emeritus Professor of Law, and Founder and Chair of the Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights; he was a Member of Parliament from 1999 to 2015, and he served as the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada from 2003 to 2006), and Dr. Avinoam Patt (Doris and Simon Konover Chair of Judaic Studies and Director, Center for Judaic Studies and Contemporary Jewish Life at the University of Connecticut). On November 15, the ZC and CHES launched the Holocaust Virtual Museum. Two years ago, during HEM, November 3rd & 4th, Temple Israel (Ottawa) was the scene of a Pop-Up Museum with a display of Holocaust artifacts submitted by Holocaust survivors and their family members. Building on the success of the pop-up museum, the decision was made to host a Holocaust Virtual Museum. The collection of artifacts in the Virtual Museum belong to Ottawa-area Holocaust survivors and their families. The launch included a discussion on the importance of artifacts to research of the Holocaust. Panelists were Sara Shor, Manager of the Artifacts Collection, Yad Vashem Museum, who spoke on “The importance of objects to the study and research of the Holocaust” using examples from the Yad Vashem collection, and Dr. Robert Ehrenreich, Director, National Academic Programs, USHMM who spoke on “Viewing the Holocaust through sets of objects” using examples from the USHMM. There were also three survivors/children of survivors who displayed the artifacts kept by them or their family and shared the stories behind the artifacts. On November 18, CHES and The ZC partnered with VERED (University of Ottawa’s Jewish Canadian Studies Program), the Montreal Jewish Public Library and the Montreal Holocaust Museum to present “Relations, Resistance, Resilience,” a workshop presentation of rare books and Holocaust-era artifacts from three centuries of Christian-Jewish relations. These historic artifacts chronicle over 350 years of the complex connections and disconnections between the Jewish and Christian communities of Europe. On November 19, Professor Adara Goldberg spoke on “Making Present the Past: The M.S. St. Louis Apology and Canadian Jewry’s Pursuit of Refugee Justice.” In the new year, Professor Rohee Gupta will be speaking on “Cosmopolitics and Holocaust Education” as part of the events (not yet fully planned) for International Holocaust Remembrance Day (January 27). Each year during HEM, CHES hosts an annual Teacher’s Workshop (for high school teachers). The workshop is designed to provide teachers with tools to teach the Holocaust legacy in their classrooms. In the interim, Dr. Deidre Butler is working on developing online resources for secondary school teachers. The project focuses on religious responses to the Holocaust during and after the war. Throughout the year, the CHES Speakers Bureau of Holocaust Survivors and children of survivors visit high schools and other



educational institutions. Due to COVID this has not been taking place. Usually in the spring, CHES works with the Canadian Society of Yad Vashem to promote the Ambassadors of Change program to Ottawa schools. We do not yet know if any part of this program can be done virtually.

Phyllis Lassner, Professor Emerita in The Crown Center for Jewish and Israel Studies, Gender Studies, and Writing Program at Northwestern University, co-organized and presented discussions of four recent Holocaust films ("Run Boy Run," "Aftermath," "Remembrance," and "1945") on behalf of the Jewish American and Holocaust Literature Society and The Betsy Jewish Cultural Foundation during the month of October, 2020.

Joanna Beata Michlic, Honorary Senior Research Associate at the UCL Institute for Advanced Studies, announces that her most recent book, *Jewish Family 1939–Present: History, Representation, and Memory* (Brandeis University Press/NEUP, January 2017) made the Ethical Inquiry list of the best books published in 2017 at Brandeis University. In October, Michlic gave a talk about the early postwar history of child Holocaust survivors to a group of Polish teachers participating in a Yad Vashem educational programme.

Goldie Morgentaler has been awarded the J. I. Segal Prize for Translation for *Confessions of a Yiddish Writer: Collected Essays of Chava Rosenfarb* (McGill-Queens University Press, 2019). Chava Rosenfarb was a Yiddish writer and Holocaust survivor, the author of *The Tree of Life: A Trilogy of Life in the Lodz Ghetto*, which is based on her own experiences of the Lodz ghetto. *Confessions of a Yiddish Writer* contains several personal memoirs by Rosenfarb of her experiences during the Holocaust, including her Bergen-Belsen Diary. The award ceremony was held on November 12. Morgentaler spoke about Chava Rosenfarb's archive at the University of Toronto library on Thursday, November 5.

Solomon Nagler, Associate Professor of Media Arts (film) NSCAD University, with (fellow) Canadian artist Angela Henderson and Zapomniane Foundation researchers Aleksandra Janus and Aleksander Schwarz, is presenting *Speculative Cartographies, Mapping Five Mass Graves in the Forests of Poland*. Speculative Cartographies is an exhibition of studio research undertaken in five identified sites of mass graves of Jewish victims of the Holocaust that have been identified by the Zapomniane Foundation. Present in the exhibition are archival materials and experimental cartographic methodologies undertaken in forests where there has been confirmation of data that indicates the location of mass graves. Direct excavation is prohibited by Jewish Halacha (religious law), therefore all data about these sites are collected using non-invasive technologies such as LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging), GPR (Ground Penetrating Radar), along with archival research and assembling oral histories. Speculative Cartographies extracts material traces of violence recorded in landscape, simultaneously revealing the connection between human conflicts and transformations of the natural environment, and uncovering knowledge archived in landscape. This physical and virtual exhibition that can be accessed [online](#).

Monika Rice, Director of Holocaust and Genocide Studies Programs and Assistant Professor in the Holocaust and Genocide Studies Programs at Gratz College, has co-organized the seminar, "[Neighbors, Twenty Years Later](#)," with Antony Polonsky for XVI Lessons & Legacies Conference, Ottawa, Canada, November 6-9, 2021.



PERSONAL & PROFESSIONAL NEWS

Avraham Alan Rosen, independent scholar, announces that his book, *The Holocaust's Jewish Calendars: Keeping Time Sacred, Making Time Holy* (Indiana University Press, 2019) has been named as a recipient of The 2020 Yad Vashem International Book Prize for Holocaust Research.

Melanie Carina Schmoll, PhD is research fellow at the Finkler Institute of Holocaust Research, Bar Ilan University, Israel and independent author. She is a Political Scientist and Historian. Dr. Schmoll received her doctorate from the University of Hamburg, Germany. She holds a MA and BA degree in the fields of Political Science, History and Philosophy. Her main research focuses on Israel, specifically security issues and Holocaust Education. Dr. Schmoll speaks frequently in the US, Canada and Israel. She recently finished studies on Holocaust Education in Israel, Canada and Germany. One current project is called "Wiederholt sich Geschichte? Eine weitere deutsche Demokratie stirbt" (working title, in German). Another current study analyses the use of religion in Israel regarding security measures and is called: "All security? Israeli society between securitization and security dispositif." Also, she writes for German schoolbooks and teaching materials in the field of German History, social studies and legal education. In December, Schmoll presented, "Holocaust Education in Israel and Germany: What Israel and Germany might learn from each other. First results of a comparative study," at the Leo Baeck Institute - New York/ Berlin, conference, Shared History: 1700 years of Jewish Life in German-speaking Lands. A presentation of the same title at the Association for Israel Studies, Annual Conference in New Orleans has been postponed to 2021. Also postponed to 2021 is a presentation of "Holocaust Education in Canada and Germany or Does Canada do a better job than the country of perpetrators? A comparative pilot study project" at the World History Association, Annual Conference, Utah.

David Shneer, HEFNU's longtime colleague and occasional Summer Institute faculty member passed away in November. We and the broader Jewish Studies community will miss him tremendously. We wish his family solace.

Arthur Benett Shostak, Emeritus Professor of Sociology was pleased on November 19th to receive his first "Shout Out" honor in a Zoom webinar. A Yad Vashem staffer, Sheryl Ochayon, as part of her excellent hour-long discussion of "Acts of Spiritual Resistance during the Holocaust," saluted his concept—"Stealth Altruism"—and drew on it in a PowerPoint slide. (The webinar can be seen at the Yad Vashem website). Shostak took advantage of the opportunity to recommend several hundred viewers see his own relevant website, www.stealthaltruism.com. Shostak continues to make progress writing a follow-up to *Stealth Altruism: Forbidden Care as Jewish Resistance in the Holocaust* (New York: Routledge, 2017).

Kevin Simpson, Professor of Psychology at John Brown University, created a museum exhibition with Michal Vanek (Deputy Director) hosted by the Slovak National Museum, Museum of Jewish Culture, in Bratislava, Slovakia titled, *Football Under the Swastika: The Story of Leopold 'Jim' Šťastný*. The exhibition features photographs and descriptive text from Simpson's recently revised book, *Soccer under the Swastika: Defiance and Survival in the Nazi Camps and Ghettos* (Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2020). From September 8, 2020 through February 28, 2021.

Therkel Straede, Professor of Contemporary History, beginning in Summer 2020, is leading the *Stutthof Maritime Evacuations Project*, an international research project conducted by the University



of Southern Denmark (Odense) in cooperation with the Neuengamme Memorial Museum (Hamburg) and other institutions. The project is investigating and mapping the loss-full evacuation transports of Stutthof concentration camp inmates to German and Danish ports in the Western part of the Baltic Sea during April-May 1945 as well as the experience of Stutthof evacuees during the Cap Arcona disaster, using administrative records, court and criminal investigation records as well as written and oral testimonies. A first scholarly report is planned to be ready in early 2021. The project is partly funded by an IHRA (International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance) grant.

Lidia Zessin-Jurek is now a Fellow at the ERC funded project "Unlikely refuge? Refugees and citizens in East-Central Europe in the 20th century" (2019-2024) hosted by the Czech Academy of Sciences in Prague. She explores the refugeedom of Polish Jews during their escape from the Nazis in the autumn of 1939. The expected outcome will be her book which will address, among other things, what type of asylum Polish lands provided the Jews when they were still only wartime refugees and not yet deemed a deadly peril for ghetto fugitives.

Victoria Grace Walden, Senior Lecturer University of Sussex (UK), created the website www.digitalholocaustmemory.com in April 2020. The site hosts a blog, following her research into this subject, and an online discussion series featuring professionals from Holocaust museums and archives, academic researchers, and media producers. Recordings from events are available to watch in the blog section of the website. In its first 8 months, the website has attracted almost 6,000 unique visitors and 10,000 views. The website welcomes guest bloggers and future participants for online discussions. Those interested in contributing may contact: v.walden@sussex.ac.uk with the email header: RE: Digital Holocaust Memory Proposal.

Gerhard L. Weinberg, William Rand Kenan Jr. Professor of History Emeritus at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, gave the keynote address at an international conference on the Holocaust in Akko, Israel, in March 2020. Weinberg also gave the keynote address at an international conference on December 1941 in Cambridge, England, in October 2020.

Edward Westermann, was named Texas A&M University System Regents Professor in November 2020. The Regents Professor designation is the University System's highest academic award for faculty members.

Amy Lynn Wlodarski, Professor of Music at Dickinson College, announces that her book, *George Rochberg, American Composer: Personal Trauma and Artistic Creativity* (University of Rochester Press, 2019) was awarded the annual book prize from the Jewish Studies and Music Group of the American Musicological Society.



Eliyana R. Adler announces the publication of *Survival on the Margins: Polish Jewish Refugees in the Wartime Soviet Union* (Harvard University Press, 2020), the forgotten story of 200,000 Polish Jews who escaped the Holocaust as refugees stranded in remote corners of the USSR. Between 1940 and 1946, about 200,000 Jewish refugees from Poland lived and toiled in the harsh Soviet interior. They endured hard labor, bitter cold, and extreme deprivation. But out of reach of the Nazis, they escaped the fate of millions of their coreligionists in the Holocaust. *Survival on the Margins* is the first comprehensive account in English of their experiences. The refugees fled Poland after the German invasion in 1939 and settled in the Soviet territories newly annexed under the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact. Facing hardship, and trusting little in Stalin, most spurned the offer of Soviet citizenship and were deported to labor camps in unoccupied areas of the east. They were on their own in a forbidding wilderness thousands of miles from home. But they inadvertently escaped Hitler's 1941 advance into the Soviet Union. While war raged and Europe's Jews faced genocide, the refugees were permitted to leave their settlements after the Soviet government agreed to an amnesty. Most spent the remainder of the war coping with hunger and disease in Soviet Central Asia. When they were finally allowed to return to Poland in 1946, they encountered the devastation of the Holocaust, and many stopped talking about their own ordeals, their stories eventually subsumed within the central Holocaust narrative. Drawing on untapped memoirs and testimonies of the survivors, Eliyana Adler rescues these important stories of determination and suffering on behalf of new generations.

Franco Ambrosio published *Wir Sind So Weit...: The Story of a Jewish Family in Nazi Europe - Memories and Thoughts 1939–1945* by Menachem Mendel Selinger.

Lawrence Barron published "Screening White Nationalists, Persecuted Victims, and Populist Enablers," in *AJS Perspectives*, Spring 2020, 32-34.

Michael Becker and Dennis Bock co-edited "Rethinking the Muselmann: Narratives, Concepts, and Social Realities," a special issue of *The Journal of Holocaust Research* vol 34: 3 (2020). This issue developed from a panel the editors organized with Imke Hansen at Lessons and Legacies XIV in Claremont. "Rethinking the Muselmann" challenges the hegemonic image and narrative of the Muselmann as a mute, passive, dehumanized prisoner fated to die and unable to testify. Michael Becker, Dennis Bock, Imke Hansen, Sharon Oster, Bożena Shallcross, Markus Streb, and Ole Frahm contributed articles to this special issue.

Alan L Berger has published "Elie Wiesel: Writer as Witness to and in Exile" in *Exile in Global Literature and Culture: Homes Found and Lost* edited by Asher Z. Milbauer and James Sutton (Routledge, 2020) and "Elie Wiesel's Quarrel with God," in *The Palgrave Handbook of Holocaust Literature and Culture* edited by Victoria Aarons and Phyllis Lassner (Palgrave, 2020).

Dominika Bopp, Sascha Feuchert, Andrea Löw, Jörg Rieche, Markus Roth and Elizabeth Turvold have edited *Enzyklopädie des Gettos Lodz/Litzmannstadt* (Göttingen: Wallstein, 2020) with the collaboration of Nicole Widera and Martin Wiesche, translations from Polish by Dominika Bopp and translations from Yiddish by Felix Tsapir and Sophie Lichtenstein. With this edition one of the most important sources on ghetto history now available in German for the very first time. In 1943/44, in addition to their work on the ghetto chronicle, employees of the ghetto-archive compiled an encyclopaedia of the ghetto. They wanted to make life in the ghetto more understandable for future



generation by putting together a lexicon that defines the central terms of the ghetto language – a new mix of German, Yiddish and Polish – and also explains administrative institutions, important personalities and events. This edition includes all entries in their original languages with German translations and linguistic, literary, and historical contextualization.

Sara J. Brenneis and Gina Herrmann co-edited *Spain, the Second World War, and the Holocaust: History and Representation* (University of Toronto Press, 2020). Spain has for too long been considered peripheral to the human catastrophes of World War II and the Holocaust. This volume is the first broadly interdisciplinary, scholarly collection to situate Spain in a position of influence in the history and culture of the Second World War. Featuring essays by international experts in the fields of history, literary studies, cultural studies, political science, sociology, and film studies, this book clarifies historical issues within Spain while also demonstrating the impact of Spain's involvement in the Second World War on historical memory of the Holocaust.

Christopher Browning co-wrote with Peter Hayes and Raul Hilberg, *German Railroads, Jewish Souls: The Reichsbahn, Bureaucracy, and the Final Solution* (Berghahn, 2019). He also wrote several chapters including, "Commentary: Ordinary Men and Beyond. Reflections on an Historiographical Journey," in *Beyond Ordinary Men: Christopher R. Browning and Holocaust Historiography*, 287-305, edited by Thomas Pegelow Kaplan, Jürgen Matthäus, and Mark W. Hornburg (Paderborn: Ferdinand Schöningh, 2019); "Biographie eines Buches. Die drei Ausgaben von The Destruction of the European Jews," and "Wie Arendt mich zu Hilberg brachte Persönliche Erringerungen," in *Raul Hilberg und die Holocaust – Historiographiem*, 37-46, 214-17 (Beiträge zur Geschichte des Nationsozialismus 35) edited by Rene Schlott (Göttingen: Wallstein, 2019); "H. G. Adler's Shoah Trilogy," in *A Modernist in Exile: The International Reception of H. G. Adler (1910-1988)*, 22-24, edited by Lynn L. Wolff (Cambridge: Legenda, 2019). In addition, Browning reviewed "Giving in to Hitler," (review of Tim Bouverie, *Chamberlain, Hitler, Churchill, and the Road to War*, and P. E. Caquet, *The Bell of Treason: The 1938 Munich Agreement in Czechoslovakia*), 44-5, 48-49, in *New York Review of Books* LXVI/14 (September 28, 2019).

Rebecca Clifford announces the publication of *Survivors: Children's Lives After the Holocaust* (Yale UP, 2020). Told for the first time from their perspective, the story of children who survived the chaos and trauma of the Holocaust. In this beautifully written account, Rebecca Clifford follows the lives of one hundred Jewish children out of the ruins of conflict through their adulthood and into old age. Drawing on archives and interviews, Clifford charts the experiences of these child survivors and those who cared for them—as well as those who studied them, such as Anna Freud. *Survivors* explores the aftermath of the Holocaust in the long term, and reveals how these children—often branded "the lucky ones"—had to struggle to be able to call themselves "survivors" at all. Challenging our assumptions about trauma, Clifford's powerful and surprising narrative helps us understand what it was like living after, and living with, childhoods marked by rupture and loss.

Beth B. Cohen has published "War Orphans Find Home: Child Survivors and U.S. Adoptions," in *Starting Anew: The rehabilitation of Child Survivors of the Holocaust in the Early Post War Years*, edited by Sharon Kangisser Cohen and Dalia Ofer (Yad Vashem Publication, 2019) and "Saving Jewish Girls: A Case Study in Liding, Sweden," in *Agency and the Holocaust: Essays in Honor of Deborah Dwork*, edited by Thomas Kuehne and MaryJane Rein (London, Palgrave Macmillan, 2020).



Julia Elsky announces the publication of *Writing Occupation: Jewish Émigré Voices in Wartime France* (Redwood City, CA: Stanford University Press, 2020). Among the Jewish writers who emigrated from Eastern Europe to France in the 1910s and 1920s, a number chose to switch from writing in their languages of origin to writing primarily in French, a language that represented both a literary center and the promises of French universalism. But under the Nazi occupation of France from 1940 to 1944, these Jewish émigré writers—among them Irène Némirovsky, Benjamin Fondane, Romain Gary, Jean Malaquais, and Elsa Triolet—continued to write in their adopted language, even as the Vichy regime and Nazi occupiers denied their French identity through xenophobic and antisemitic laws. In this book, Julia Elsky argues that these writers reexamined both their Jewishness and their place as authors in France through the language in which they wrote. The group of authors Elsky considers depicted key moments in the war from their perspective as Jewish émigrés, including the June 1940 civilian flight from Paris, life in the occupied and southern zones, the roundups and internment camps, and the Resistance in France and in London. Writing in French, they expressed multiple cultural, religious, and linguistic identities, challenging the boundaries between center and periphery, between French and foreign, even when their sense of belonging was being violently denied.

Luca Fenoglio published “Fascist policy towards Jews in south-eastern France, 1942-1943: Some remarks on the events and methodology,” 117-33, in *The “Jewish Question” in the Territories Occupied by Italians* (Rome: Viella, 2019), edited by G. Orsina and A. Ungari; and “What ‘New Order’? Fascist expansionism and the Jews: the case of Southeastern France, 1942-1943,” 149-164, in *A Fascist Decade of War: 1935-1945 in International Perspective* (Routledge, 2020), edited by K. Varley and M.M. Aterrano.

Kiril Feferman announces the publication of *Beyond the Pale: The Holocaust in the North Caucasus*, co-edited with Crispin Brooks (Rochester, NY: University of Rochester Press, 2020). When war between the Soviet Union and Germany broke out in 1941, thousands of refugees - many of whom were Jews - poured from war-stricken Ukraine, Crimea, and other parts of Russia into the North Caucasus. Hoping to find safety, they came to a region the Soviets had struggled to pacify over the preceding 20 years of their rule. The Jewish refugees were in especially unfamiliar territory, as the North Caucasus had been mostly off-limits to Jews before the Soviets arrived, and most local Jewish communities were thus small. The region was not known as a hotbed of traditional antisemitism. Nevertheless, after occupying the North Caucasus in the summer and autumn of 1942, the Germans exterminated all the Jews they found - at least 30,000 - aided by local collaborators. While scholars have focused on local collaboration during the German occupation and on the subsequent Soviet deportations of entire North Caucasian ethnic groups, the region has largely escaped the attention of Holocaust researchers. This volume, the first book-length study devoted exclusively to the Holocaust in the North Caucasus, addresses that gap. Contributors present richly documented essays on such topics as German killing operations, decision-making by Jewish refugees, local collaboration, rescue, and memory, taking care to integrate their findings into the broader contexts of Holocaust, North Caucasian, Russian, and Soviet history.

Gabriel Finder with Dawn Skorczewski and Dan Stone, co-edited “Interrogating Evil: A Special Issue of the Journal of Holocaust Research for Lawrence L. Langer on his ninetieth birthday,” *Journal of Holocaust Research* 34, no. 4 (2004). In addition to this issue's Introduction, which Finder coauthored



with Dawn Skorczewski and Dan Stone, Finder wrote the article “‘A Horrific Impression of Jewish Martyrdom’: Regarding Extermination of Polish Jews: Album of Pictures.”

Benjamin Frommer announces the publication of *Intermarriage from Central Europe to Central Asia: Mixed Families in the Age of Extremes*, which he co-edited and introduced with Adrienne Edgar (Lincoln: Nebraska University Press, 2020). Frommer contributed the chapter “Privileged Victims: Intermarriage between Jews, Czechs and Germans in the Nazi Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia,” 47-82. Additionally, Frommer published “Honorary Czechs and Germans: Petitions for Aryan Status in the Nazi Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia,” in *Petitions Resisting Persecution: Negotiating Self-Determination and Survival of European Jews*, 72-91, edited by Wolf Gruner and Thomas Pegelow Kaplan (New York: Berghahn Books, 2020).

Michael Geheran has published *Comrades Betrayed: Jewish World War I Veterans under Hitler* (Cornell University Press, 2020). At the end of 1941, six weeks after the mass deportations of Jews from Nazi Germany had begun, Gestapo offices across the Reich received an urgent telex from Adolf Eichmann, decreeing that all war-wounded and decorated Jewish veterans of World War I be exempted from upcoming “evacuations.” Why this was so, and how Jewish veterans at least initially were able to avoid the fate of ordinary Jews under the Nazis, is the subject of *Comrades Betrayed*. Michael Geheran deftly illuminates how the same values that compelled Jewish soldiers to demonstrate bravery in the front lines in World War I made it impossible for them to accept passively, let alone comprehend, persecution under Hitler. After all, they upheld the ideal of the German fighting man, embraced the fatherland, and cherished the bonds that had developed in military service. Through their diaries and private letters, as well as interviews with eyewitnesses and surviving family members and records from the police, Gestapo, and military, Michael Geheran presents a major challenge to the prevailing view that Jewish veterans were left isolated, neighborless, and having suffered a social death by 1938. Tracing the path from the trenches of the Great War to the extermination camps of the Third Reich, Geheran exposes a painful dichotomy: while many Jewish former combatants believed that Germany would never betray them, the Holocaust was nonetheless a horrific reality. In chronicling Jewish veterans’ appeal to older, traditional notions of comradeship and national belonging, *Comrades Betrayed* forces reflection on how this group made use of scant opportunities to defy Nazi persecution and, for some, to evade becoming victims of the Final Solution.

Henry Greenspan has written “American ‘Auschwitz’: the Holocaust in Unexpected Places,” due out in *Tablet* in January 2021.

Anna Hajkova, Associate Professor in History at the University of Warwick, has edited a special issue of *German History* entitled “Sexuality, Holocaust, Stigma,” which was available in print in September 2020. The special issue includes articles by Jennifer Evans and Elissa Mailänder, Camille Fauroux, Dorota Glowacka, Katya Gusarov, Anna Hajkova, and Regina Mühlhäuser, addressing topics of sexual violence against men and women, queer and trans history, and sexual barter in the Holocaust. The special issue is intended to be a useful contribution for the field of Holocaust and gender history, and a useful tool for teaching. The introduction to the article can be accessed [online](#).

Valerie Hébert contributed the chapter, “Photographs,” in *Understanding and Teaching the Holocaust*, 275-293, edited by Laura Hilton and Avinoam Patt, (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2020).



Patrick Henry has published “Albert Camus and the Secret of Le Chambon,” in *Tablet* (June 22, 2020) and “Recognizing Jewish Rescuers of Jews during the Holocaust,” also in *Tablet* (October 9, 2020).

Mary Honan announces the publication of *The Literary Representation of WWII Childhood: Interrogating the Concept of Hospitality* (Newcastle upon Tyne, UK: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2017). Focusing on twenty-one primary texts about childhood under Nazism, this book examines how childhood in literature has changed over the years, from the Romantic writers to child slave labour in the Victorian era, the child-soldier and the impact of deportation on both the child victim and their families post-war. The genres covered here range from diaries, letters, comics, allegories, time-travel novels, fairy-tales and novels about the Hitler Youth. Because of its broad focus, the work will be of interest to a broad readership from survivors of World War II and their families to historians, teachers and librarians. It will also benefit those practitioners working in the areas of deportation, trauma, child-soldiering, and human rights and tolerance studies.

Stefan Cristian Ionescu has published several journal articles and chapters in edited volumes on the history of Romanian Jews during the Holocaust and their quest for justice in its aftermath: “Perceptions of Legality during the Antonescu Regime, 1940-1944,” in *Journal of Romanian Studies*, Vol. 2, No. 2 (2020): 53-80; “Debates on the Restitution of Romanianized Property During the Antonescu Regime, 1940-1944,” *Holocaust and Genocide Studies*, Vol. 34, No. 1 (2020): 45-62; “The Restitution of Jewish Jobs in the Aftermath of the Antonescu Regime,” in Thomas Kühne and Mary Jane Rein (eds.), *Agency and the Holocaust: Essays in Honor of Deborah Dwork* (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2020); “Legal Resistance through Petitions During the Holocaust: The Strategies of Romanian Jewish Leader Wilhelm Filderman, 1940-44,” in *Resisting Persecution: Jews and their Petitions during the Holocaust* (New York: Berghahn Books, 2020), edited by Wolf Gruner and Thomas Pegelow Kaplan.

Mark Jantzen has co-edited *European Mennonites and the Holocaust* with John Thiesen (University of Toronto Press, in association with the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, 2020). During the Second World War, Mennonites in the Netherlands, Germany, occupied Poland, and Ukraine lived in communities with Jews and close to various Nazi camps and killing sites. As a result of this proximity, Mennonites were neighbours to and witnessed the destruction of European Jews. In some cases they were beneficiaries or even enablers of the Holocaust. Much of this history was forgotten after the war, as Mennonites sought to rebuild or find new homes as refugees. The result was a myth of Mennonite innocence and ignorance that connected their own suffering during the 1930s and 1940s with earlier centuries of persecution and marginalization. *European Mennonites and the Holocaust* identifies a significant number of Mennonite perpetrators, along with a smaller number of Mennonites who helped Jews survive, examining the context in which they acted. In some cases, theology led them to accept or reject Nazi ideals. In others, Mennonites chose a closer embrace of German identity as a strategy to improve their standing with Germans or for material benefit. A powerful and unflinching examination of a difficult history, *European Mennonites and the Holocaust* uncovers a more complete picture of Mennonite life in these years, underscoring actions that were not always innocent.

Paul B. Jaskot has written “Mind the Gap: Reading Across the Holocaust Testimonial Archive,” with Anne Kelly Knowles, Tim Cole, and Alberto Giordano with assistance from Maël Le Noc, Paul Rayson, and Ian Gregory, in Tim Cole and Simone Gigliotti, eds., *Lessons & Legacies XIV* (Evanston:



Northwestern University Press, 2020); and “Political Economy,” in *Kunst und Politik* 21 (2019): 123-30, Special issue on key terms in Marxist Art History.

Marion Kaplan announces the publication of *Hitler's Jewish Refugees: Hope and Anxiety in Portugal, 1940-1945* (Yale University Press, 2020). *Hitler's Jewish Refugees* depicts the travails of refugees escaping Nazi Europe and awaiting their fate in Portugal. Drawing attention not only to the social and physical upheavals of refugee existence, the book highlights refugees' feelings as they fled their homes and histories while begging strangers for kindness. For the refugees, Lisbon emerged as a site of temporality and transition, a “no-man's-land” between a painful past and a hopeful future.

Phyllis Lassner has written “Rachel Lichtenstein's Narrative Mosaic: The Quest for British Jewish Identity and Culture,” in *HUMANITIES* 9, no. 3 (2020).

Stuart E. Liebman, Professor Emeritus, Department of Media Studies, Queens College and PhD Programs in Art History and Theatre CUNY Graduate Center, wrote “From Propaganda to Truth? Notes on Soviet ‘Atrocity Films’ and their Export to the United States” in Victoria Khiterer and Erin Magee, eds., *Aftermath of the Holocaust and Genocides* (Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2020), pp. 186-218. Liebman also wrote “Claude Lanzmann's *The Four Sisters*: Afterthought, or After (Much) Thought?” (London: Eureka Video, “Masters of Cinema Collection” DVD booklet, No. 202 (2019)). An essay Liebman co-authored with Jan Láníček, “A Closer Look at *The Distant Journey*,” that appeared in *Holocaust and Genocide Studies*, Vol. 30, No. 1 (Spring, 2016): 53-80, was published in French translation by Jennifer Cazenave, as “Nouveau regard sur La Longue Route d'Alfréd Radok,” in *Trafic* (Paris) No. 115 (Fall, 2020): 89-109. Finally, Liebman has reviewed *The Painted Bird* (film) by Vaclav Marhoul, in *Cineaste*, Vol. XLV, No. 4 (Fall, 2020): 48-50 and *The City without Jews* (film) by H.K. Breslauer, in the online edition of *Cineaste*, Vol. XLVI, No. 1 (Winter, 2020).

Chad McDonald, Visiting Fellow University of Southampton, announces that from January to February 2021, the Sir Martin Gilbert Learning Centre will host a virtual short course examining, “Britain and the Refugee Crisis: Then and Now.” Through case studies, the course provides an exploration of British responses to the 1930s and 1940s Refugee Crisis. The course will reveal a neglected history of support for refugees from remarkable people and institutions of all faiths and none. Further details can be found on the course's webpage.

Joanna Beata Michlic announces that her collection of essays on Child Holocaust Survivors was published in Polish by the Jewish Historical Institute in November 2020, *Piętno Zagłady: Wojenna i powojenna historia oraz pamięć żydowskich dzieci ocalałych w Polsce* (Collection of essays on Jewish childhood during and in the aftermath of the Holocaust), Warsaw, Jewish Historical Institute, 2020. Additionally, Michlic's article on antisemitism and memorialization of the Holocaust in Poland, “The return of the image of the Jew as Poland's threatening other: Polish national identity and antisemitism in the third decade after the end of communism in 1989,” was published in Liah Greenfeld and Zeying Wu eds., *Research Handbook on Nationalism* (Oxford, Elgar Edward of Oxford, 2020) 406-27.

Golan Moskowitz announces the publication of *Wild Visionary: Maurice Sendak in Queer Jewish Context* (Stanford University Press, 2020). *Wild Visionary* reconsiders Maurice Sendak's life and work



in the context of his experience as a Jewish gay man. Maurice (Moishe) Bernard Sendak (1928–2012) was a fierce, romantic, and shockingly funny truth seeker who intervened in modern literature and culture. Raising the stakes of children's books, Sendak painted childhood with the dark realism and wild imagination of his own sensitive "inner child," drawing on the queer and Yiddish sensibilities that shaped his singular voice. Interweaving literary biography and cultural history, Golan Y. Moskowitz follows Sendak from his parents' Brooklyn home to spaces of creative growth and artistic vision—from neighborhood movie palaces to Hell's Kitchen, Greenwich Village, Fire Island, and the Connecticut country home he shared with Eugene Glynn, his partner of more than fifty years. Further, he analyzes Sendak's investment in the figure of the endangered child in symbolic relation to collective touchstones that impacted the artist's perspective—the Great Depression, the Holocaust, and the AIDS crisis. Through a deep exploration of Sendak's picture books, interviews, and previously unstudied personal correspondence, *Wild Visionary* offers a sensitive portrait of the most beloved and enchanting picture-book artist of our time.

Richard Middleton-Kaplan has published "Refractions of Holocaust Memory in Stanisław Lem's Science Fiction," in *The Palgrave Handbook of Holocaust Literature and Culture*, 287-304, edited by Victoria Aarons and Phyllis Lassner (Cham, Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan, 2020).

Paul Morrow announces the publication of his first book, *Unconscionable Crimes: How Norms Explain and Constrain Mass Atrocities* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2020). How can we explain—and prevent—such large-scale atrocities as the Holocaust? In *Unconscionable Crimes*, Paul Morrow presents the first general theory of the influence of norms—moral, legal, and social—on genocide and mass atrocity. After offering a clear overview of norms and norm transformation rooted in recent work in moral and political philosophy, Morrow examines numerous twentieth-century cases of mass atrocity, drawing on documentary and testimonial sources to illustrate the influence of norms before, during, and after such crimes. Morrow considers such key explanatory pathways as the erosion of moral norms through brutalization and demoralization, the exploitation of legal norms to legitimize persecution and deny violence, and the enduring influence of gender-based social norms on targets and perpetrators of atrocities. Key constraints on atrocities would include the revision of moral norms that have traditionally guided the conduct of soldiers and humanitarian aid workers, the strengthening of legal prohibitions on large-scale crimes through statutory and institutional reform, and the elimination of social norms prescribing silence about personal experience of atrocities. Throughout, Morrow emphasizes the differences among moral, legal, and social norms, which stand in different relations to real or perceived social practices, and exhibit different patterns of creation, modification, and elimination. Ultimately, he argues, norms of each kind are integral to the explanation and the prevention of mass atrocities.

Dalia Ofer has co-edited *Starting Anew: The Rehabilitation of Child Survivors of the Holocaust in the Early Postwar Years* (Jerusalem: Yad Vashem, 2019) with Sharon Kangisser Cohen. The physical and emotional condition of Jewish child survivors in the postwar period was mostly appalling. Many of the children had suffered recurring trauma throughout the war, as they had witnessed or experienced violence, severe deprivation, hunger, physical abuse, and, moreover, had mourned the loss of parents, other family members, and friends. After the war, these young children faced the grueling task of confronting their losses while attempting to rehabilitate their lives and souls. However, children also demonstrated remarkable resilience and ingenuity in navigating their new reality. In this volume, a



range of scholars examine the process of rehabilitation of child survivors of the Holocaust in the early postwar period in various European countries and in North America. *Starting Anew: The Rehabilitation of Child Survivors of the Holocaust in the Early Postwar Years* offers important lessons for caregivers striving to restore hope and instill resilience in today's innocent victims of war and violence. Ofer also announces the publication of *Her Story, My Story: Writing about Women and the Holocaust*, co-edited with Judy Baumel-Schwartz (Bern, Berlin and New York: Peter Lang, 2020) and *The Diary of Lipman Kunstadt: A Diary from Transnistria*, edited with Sara Rosen (Jerusalem: Yad Vashem, 2020). Ofer contributed "Why women and what that Means to Me as a Historian" to *Her Story, My Story: Writing about Women and the Holocaust*, 163-174. Ofer has also published "Studying the Holocaust in Israel," *Israel Studies: Israel at 70: Vision and Reality*, (Vol. 23/3 Fall 2018): 96-105; "Bella Hazan Yaa'ri: a Member of the Jewish Resistance in Pursuit of a Self and a Future", *Lesson and Legacies, XIV* (2020): 139-161; "The Individual and the Public as a Subject of Research in Holocaust Historiography: The Ghettos of Eastern Europe during the Holocaust," *Moreshet: Journal for the Study of the Holocaust and Antisemitism*, (Vol 100, December 2019): 36-65; and "Narrating Daily Family Life in Ghettos under Nazi Occupation: Concepts and Dilemmas," in *Jewish and Romani Families in the Holocaust and its Aftermath*, 62-84, edited by Eliyana R. Adler and Katerina Capkcowa (New Brunswick: Rutgres University Press, 2020).

Thomas Pegelow Kaplan and Wolf Gruner have co-edited *Resisting Persecution: Jews and their Petitions during the Holocaust* (Berghahn Books, 2020). Since antiquity, European Jewish diaspora communities have made formal appeals to authorities to secure favors or protection. This volume offers the first extensive analysis of petitions authored by Jews in nations ruled by the Nazis and their allies during the Holocaust. Pegelow Kaplan contributed a chapter on "Global Jewish Petitioning and the Reconsideration of Spatial Analysis in Holocaust Historiography: The Case of Rescue in the Philippines." In addition, Pegelow Kaplan, Jürgen Matthäus, and Mark Hornburg co-edited *Beyond Ordinary Men: Christopher R. Browning and Holocaust Historiography* (Verlag Ferdinand Schöningh, 2019). Reflecting on the work of one of the field's most influential scholars, the twenty essays in this book explore the evolution and application of Holocaust historiography, identify key insights into genocidal settings and point to gaps in our knowledge of humanity's most haunting problem: Why do they kill? Pegelow Kaplan contributed a chapter titled "The Universalization of the Holocaust as a Moral Standard."

Devin O. Pendas, Professor of History at Boston College, has published *Democracy, Nazi Trials, and Transitional Justice in Germany, 1945-1950* (Cambridge University Press, 2020). Post-war Germany has been seen as a model of 'transitional justice' in action, where the prosecution of Nazis, most prominently in the Nuremberg Trials, helped promote a transition to democracy. However, this view forgets that Nazis were also prosecuted in what became East Germany, and the story in West Germany is more complicated than has been assumed. Revising received understanding of how transitional justice works, Pendas examines Nazi trials between 1945 and 1950 to challenge assumptions about the political outcomes of prosecuting mass atrocities. In East Germany, where there were more trials and stricter sentences, and where they grasped a broad German complicity in Nazi crimes, the trials also helped to consolidate the emerging Stalinist dictatorship by legitimating a new police state. Meanwhile, opponents of Nazi prosecutions in West Germany embraced the language of fairness and due process, which helped de-radicalise the West German judiciary and promote democracy.



Andrea Pető announces the publication of *The Women of the Arrow Cross Party: Invisible Hungarian Perpetrators in the Second World War* (Palgrave, 2020). In *The Women of the Arrow Cross Party*, Pető analyses the actions, background, connections and the eventual trials of Hungarian female perpetrators in the Second World War through the concept of invisibility: why and how far-right women in general and among them several Second World War perpetrators were made 'invisible' by their fellow Arrow Cross Party members. Ultimately, Pető argues that the legacy of these women remained alive throughout the years of state socialism, and has actively contributed to the recent resurgence of far-right politics in Hungary.

Monika Rice has published, "The Many Hats of Dr. Krystyna Modrzeska," in *Nashim: A Journal of Jewish Women's Studies & Gender Issues*, no. 36 (2020): 177-204, and "Higher reasons for sending people to death? Male Narrativity and Moral Dilemmas in Memoirs and Diaries of Jewish Doctors," 99-127, in *The Holocaust and Masculinities: Critical Inquiries into the Presence and Absence of Men*, edited by Björn Krondorfer and Ovidiu Creangă (Albany, NY: SUNY Press, 2020). Rice has also reviewed *Yellow Star, Red Star: Holocaust Remembrance after Communism* by Jelena Subotić for H-Judaic, H-Net Reviews (June 2020).

Alasdair Richardson announces the forthcoming publication of *The Salesian Martyrs of Auschwitz* (Sharples Park Bolton, UK: Don Bosco Publications, 2021). January has been chosen for publication to mark Holocaust Memorial Day, which falls on anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi death camp, on 27 January 1945. Between 1940 and 1945, about 1.3 million people were deported to Auschwitz by Nazi Germany. Richardson's book tells the stories of the 22 Salesians of Don Bosco priests who were among them.

Stephani Richards-Wilson has published "Digitizing Willi Graf of the White Rose: A Role Model for the Millennials," in *Holocaust Education Revisited: Orte der Vermittlung—Didaktik und Nachhaltigkeit*, 257-268, edited by Markus Gloe and Anja Ballis (Heidelberg and Wiesbaden: Springer VS, 2020).

Carol Rittner and John K. Roth have published *Advancing Holocaust Studies* (New York: Routledge, 2021). This volume assesses what Holocaust studies is for in our troubled and troubling times. The growing field of Holocaust studies confronts a world wracked by antisemitism, immigration and refugee crises, human rights abuses, mass atrocity crimes, threats of nuclear war, the COVID-19 pandemic, and environmental degradation. What does it mean to advance Holocaust studies—what are learning and teaching about the Holocaust for—in such dire straits? Vast resources support study and memorialization of the Holocaust. What assumptions govern that investment? What are its major successes and failures, challenges and prospects? Across thirteen chapters, *Advancing Holocaust Studies* shows how leading scholars grapple with those tough questions. HEF scholars, including Sara Horowitz, Wendy Lower, James Young and Deborah Dwork, are featured in this volume.

Melanie Carina Schmoll has written several publications including, "Holocaust Education in Alberta: How does Canada supports its teachers to fulfill their challenging task to teach the Holocaust?" (under review); "Israel - mehr als Krise und Konflikt, Stuttgart," (German; forthcoming); "History repeats itself? Watching another German democracy dying/Wiederholt sich Geschichte? Eine weitere deutsche Demokratie stirbt" (German working title); and *Holocaust Education curriculum*, an interdisciplinary teachers guide for all age groups, academic assistance, (German, forthcoming).



Leonardo Senkman and Avraham Milgram have co-edited *Cultura, Ideología y Fascismo: Sociedad Civil Iberoamericana y Holocausto* (Iberoamericana Vervuert, 2020), a comparative study of the responses of civil societies in Latin America, Spain, and Portugal during the years of the Holocaust. This interdisciplinary collection includes articles by renowned and emerging scholars addressing the topic through the lenses of social, cultural, ethnic, international, and political history.

Liat Steir-Livny has published "Beyond The Chamber Quintet: Holocaust Humor on Israeli TV in the 2000s," in *Israeli Television: Global Contexts, Local Visions*, 235-246, edited by Miri Talmon and Yael Levi (New York: Routledge, 2020), and "The image of Anne Frank: From Universal Hero to Comic Figure," in *Laughter After: Humor and the Holocaust*, 95-217, edited by David Slucki, Gabriel N. Finder, and Avinoam Patt (Detroit: Wayne University Press, 2020).

Gerhard L. Weinberg has published "75 Years ago: The Second World War in Europe Ends," in *The British Interest*, 11 May 2020.

Leonard B. Weinberg announces the publication of *A History of Right-Wing Violence in the Western World Since World War II* (London: World Scientific, 2020). Right-wing violence is undergoing a revival on both sides of the Atlantic. In Europe, much of this violence has been a backlash against migrants and their offspring carried out by 'lone-wolves' and organized groups. In the United States, race, gender, and religious hatreds have triggered far more than 'normal' levels of violence, including a resurgence of attacks on Jews and other anti-Semitic behavior. Examining the contours of the current violence, this book traces the development of the right-wing in the decades following the end of World War II. Weinberg considers right-wing violence during the postwar era, from the collapse of Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy to the mid-1950s alongside the right-wing sociological and political influences inherited before WWII. This chapter is followed by an overview of the right-wing in North America and Europe from the '60s onwards into the digital age. The book concludes with a timely and balanced assessment of 'the canary in the coal-mine' for liberal democracy. Leonard Weinberg has also edited *Routledge Handbook of Democracy and Security* (London: Routledge, 2020) with co-editors Elizabeth Francis and Eliot Assoudeh.

Agnieszka Zajączkowska-Drożdż announces the publication of *Od dyskryminacji do eksterminacji: Polityka Trzeciej Rzeszy wobec Żydów w Krakowie (1939-1943)* (Kraków: Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Jagiellońskiego, 2020) [*From Discrimination to Extermination: Policy of the Third Reich toward the Jews in Kraków (1939-1943)*].

Mirna Zakic and Christopher A. Molnar have edited *German-Balkan Entangled Histories in the Twentieth Century* (University of Pittsburgh Press, October 2020). This volume brings together a diverse group of scholars from North America and Europe to explore the history and memory of Germany's fateful push for power in the Balkans during the era of the two world wars and the long postwar period. Each chapter focuses on one or more of four interrelated themes: war, empire, (forced) migration, and memory. *German-Balkan Entangled Histories in the Twentieth Century* expands and enriches the neglected topic of Germany's continued entanglements with the Balkans in the era of the world wars, the Cold War, and today.





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