

of Czechoslovakia in Europe, 1914-1948 (2009) shows the importance of myth, propaganda, the press and intellectuals to modern European politics. Orzoff's current interests lie in transnational history and the German-speaking world. She has just finished a set of articles on the German-speaking chapters of the International PEN Club during the Cold War. Her next book will focus on defectors to Communist East Germany.

Kathryn Sederberg is Lucinda Hinsdale Stone Associate Professor of German Studies at Kalamazoo College. Her main research areas include twentieth-century German culture, autobiography and memoir, war and gender, and National Socialism and its legacies. Her current research project, *Writing Home: Emigration Diaries of German and Austrian Jews, 1933-1945*, analyzes the role of the diary as a site where refugee writers explore concepts of self, home, and belonging.

Frances Tanzer is the Rose Professor of Holocaust Studies and Modern Jewish History and Culture at Clark University. She writes histories of modern Europe that focus on the paradoxical but crucial roles of refugees and minorities in shaping the continent's identities and cultures. Her forthcoming book, *Vanishing Vienna: Philosemitism, Modernism, and Jews in a Postwar City*, sheds new light on the crucial role philosemitism and Jewish remigration played in the cultural reconstruction of Vienna after 1945. Her second book project, *Klezmer Dynasty: An Intimate History of Modern Jewish Culture, 1880 – 2019*, examines her own family, the Brandwein klezmer musicians of Habsburg Galicia.



17 NOVEMBER 2023

WORKSHOP **PERFORMING EXILE:
New Approaches to the Study
of Refugees from Nazi Europe**

9:00 AM – 6:00 PM | HIGGINS LOUNGE | DANA COMMONS



Workshop sponsored by the Strassler Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies and the Department of History

WELCOME

Welcome to “Performing Exile: New Approaches to the Study of Refugees from Nazi Europe.” This two-day workshop brings together an international and interdisciplinary cohort of scholars who will discuss their innovative research on displacement and forced migration from Nazi-controlled Europe. Its participants ask how refugees reimagined their sense of home and their identities as Europeans and/or as Jews after their flight from fascism. The participating scholars draw on the methods of performance studies to complicate older paradigms that emphasized such dynamics as Americanization and unidirectional assimilation into host countries. Instead, they provide fresh approaches to the study of migration, family, gender, and identity. Taken together, the work of these scholars gestures toward new areas of inquiry, new methods, and new horizons in the study of refugees and displacement during the Nazi period.

The workshop represents the culmination of an ongoing collaboration between this group of scholars, who first gathered virtually at the German Studies Association annual conference in 2020. We are grateful to the participants for their continued enthusiasm for our shared intellectual work and especially to Professor Michael Geyer, who agreed to deliver our keynote address.

The Strassler Center staff, including program manager Robyn Conroy, administrative assistant Alissa Duke, and budget coordinator Kim Vance, have realized our plans with characteristic expertise by attending to the details required to mount such a workshop. The Strassler Center leadership, executive director Mary Jane Rein and academic director Thomas Kühne, graciously supported our plans and encouraged their development. Our program has been generously sponsored by the Strassler Center and the History Department. The Albert M. Tapper Fund has underwritten the keynote lecture in commemoration of Kristallnacht. We look forward to rich and invigorating discussion!

Paul Lerner and Frances Tanzer

Judaism, and Jewish consumer cultures. He is currently working on “Exiles on Main Street: How Central European Émigrés Reimagined American Life” among other projects on German-speaking émigrés, consumer culture, and the history of human science.

Elizabeth Loentz is Associate Professor of Germanic Studies and Associate Director of the School of Literatures, Cultural Studies, and Linguistics at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Her research and teaching interests include: German-Jewish writing, German and Jewish women’s movements, Yiddish in Germany, contemporary transnational writing, and middle-brow literature. She is the author of *Let Me Continue to Speak the Truth: Bertha Pappenheim as Author and Activist* (2007) and is currently completing a monograph with the working title: *Mame-loshn in the Fatherland: The Meaning of Yiddish in Germany from the First World War through the Postwar Occupation*.

Nathan Lucky is a PhD Candidate in Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Clark University. His dissertation, *Resistance with Words: The Jewish Telegraph Agency during the Holocaust*, charts how the Jewish Telegraph Agency used their news agency and its more than 150 employees in bureaus around the world to spy on the Nazis and resist fascism on a global scale. Lucky analyzes the intertwined histories of news and espionage, the connections between the press and the Holocaust, and the vulnerability of diasporic networks.

Andrea Orzoff is an Associate Professor of European History at New Mexico State University. Her book *Battle for the Castle: The Myth*

Benjamin M. Korstvedt is the George N. and Selma U. Jeppson Professor of Music at Clark University. He is the author of *Listening for Utopia in Ernst Bloch's Musical Philosophy* (2010) as well as numerous publications on the symphonies of Bruckner and Mahler, symphonic aesthetics, music criticism, and musical culture in late nineteenth-century Vienna, interwar Austria, and during the Nazi era. His three-volume critical edition of Bruckner's Fourth Symphony began appearing in the Neue Anton Bruckner Gesamtausgabe in 2019. His most recent book is *Bruckner's Fourth: The Biography of a Symphony* (2024).

Thomas Kühne is the Strassler Center Director and Strassler Colin Flug Professor of Holocaust History at Clark University. He researches war, genocide, and society, long-term traditions of political culture and political emotions in Europe, and the problem of locating the Holocaust and Nazi Germany in the continuities and discontinuities of the 20th century. His recent books include *Belonging and Genocide: Hitler's Community, 1918 – 1945* (2010) and *The Rise and Fall of Comradeship: Hitler's Soldiers, Male Bonding and Mass Violence in the Twentieth Century* (2017). Kühne is currently working on a comprehensive book on Holocaust perpetrators, their mindsets, their interactions, and the way they have been looked at since the time of the Holocaust.

Paul Lerner is Professor and Chair of History at USC where he directs the Max Kade Institute for Austrian-German-Swiss Studies. Lerner has written *Hysterical Men: War, Psychiatry, and the Politics of Trauma in Germany* (2003) and *The Consuming Temple: Jews, Department Stores, and the Consumer Revolution in Germany* (2015) and has co-edited books on trauma, the history of psychiatry, German Jewish masculinities, Lion Feuchtwanger and

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Michael Geyer



Michael Geyer is Samuel N. Harper Professor Emeritus of German and European History at the University of Chicago. His most recent publication is an edited volume, with Adam Tooze, on *Total War: Economy, Society, Culture at War*, vol. 3 of *The Cambridge History of the Second World War* (2015). He is currently working on a family history, which he plans to write as an intimate history of twentieth century Germany.

THURSDAY 16 NOVEMBER

5:00 p.m.

KEYNOTE

Higgins Lounge/Dana Commons

THE PERFORMATIVE FAMILY: HOW A FAMILY MADE ITSELF IN EXILE AT HOME

Michael Geyer, Samuel N. Harper Professor Emeritus of German and European History and former Faculty Director of the Human Rights Program, now the Pozen Center for Human Rights at the University of Chicago

7:00 p.m.

RECEPTION

Higgins Lounge/Dana Commons

Keynote and reception sponsored by the Albert M. Tapper Charitable Foundation in commemoration of Kristallnacht

of exile in music and literature. Her research also includes studies of literary translation and literary criticism in both the modern and the ancient world.

Sheer Ganor is an Assistant Professor of History at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. A historian of German-speaking Jewry and modern Germany, she is currently working on a book manuscript titled *In Scattered Formation: German-Speaking Jewry in Displacement*, a study of the emergence and crystallization of the global diaspora of Jews who fled Nazi violence in German-speaking Europe.

Gabrielle Higgins is a Doctoral Student in the History track at the Strassler Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Clark University. She holds an M.A. in European History, Politics, and Society from Columbia University's European Institute. Higgins' research focuses on the formulation and enforcement of an idealized masculinity in Nazi Germany. Utilizing an interdisciplinary approach, Higgins examines art, film, and literature as vehicles for fascist body politics.

Yuliya Komska is an Associate Professor of German Studies at Dartmouth College. She is the author of *The Icon Curtain: The Cold War's Quiet Border* (2015) and co-author (with Michelle Moyd and David Gramling) of *Linguistic Disobedience: Restoring Power to Civic Language* (2018). Her book about walking the tightrope—part biography, part aerial history of Germany, part philosophical reflection on the lasting power of the tightrope metaphor in times of crises—is forthcoming. She is currently writing a biography of Curious George.

BIOGRAPHIES

Viola Alianov-Rautenberg is currently a short-term Research Fellow at the Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Jewish Studies and a research fellow at the Technical University of Braunschweig. She is a historian of Jewish and Israeli history of the 19th and 20th centuries. Her research is driven by a keen interest in questions of gender, home, and migration as well as social and cultural history. She is the author of *No Longer Ladies and Gentlemen: Gender and the German-Jewish Migration to Mandate Palestine*, (2023).

Darcy Buerkle is Professor of History at Smith College. The author of numerous essays, she publishes primarily on German Jews, gender and visual culture. She is the co-editor with Skye Doney of *Contemporary Europe and the Historical Imagination* (2023) and she is currently finishing a project on Fred Zinnemann's oeuvre-length struggle to represent Jewish experience without seeming to do so in *Telling Departures: Fred Zinnemann and His Films*. Her new research project, tentatively entitled *Surgeons of Democracy* explores transnational women's antifascist organizing, related cultural production beginning in the 1930s through the first decade after WWII, and foregrounds the centrality of Black and Jewish women's coalitions.

Cecily Cai is Assistant Professor of Italian Studies at Hamilton College. Her research centers around nineteenth- and twentieth-century European literature and music with a focus on German, Italian, and Polish. She is particularly interested in the representation

FRIDAY 17 NOVEMBER

8:30 a.m.

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

Higgins Lounge/Dana Commons

9:15 a.m.

WELCOME

Frances Tanzer, Clark University

Paul Lerner, University of Southern California

Panel I

9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

PERFORMANCE AND GENRE

CHAIR: **Benjamin Korstvedt**, Clark University

Melodies Matter – Performance, Emotions, and Contrafacta in German-Jewish Migrant Songs after 1933

Viola Alianov-Rautenberg, The Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Jewish Studies

“Was werde ich sein?": Performance, Genre, and Identity in the Emigration Diaries of Young German and Austrian Jewish Refugees, 1933-1945

Kathryn Sederberg, Kalamazoo College

10:30 – 10:45 a.m.

BREAK

Panel II

10:45 - 11:45 a.m.

PERFORMANCE AND GENRE II

CHAIR: **Benjamin Korstvedt**, Clark University

A Second Nature: Stanisław Barańczak's Exilic Variations

Cecily Cai, Hamilton College

Representing Jewish Survivors and Yiddish Culture in Postwar Germany: The Munich Jewish Theater (1946-1949)

Elizabeth Loentz, University of Illinois at Chicago

11:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

LUNCH

Strassler Center

Panel III

1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

RACE, SCIENCE, COLONIAL CONTEXTS

CHAIR: **Thomas Kühne**, Clark University

Performing Animal Exile: Displaced Zoo Animals in the Migration Archive of Curious George Creators Margret and H. A. Rey

Yuliya Komska, Dartmouth College

The Jewish Express and the Bolivian Cantata: European Refugee Musicians in WWII Latin America

Andrea Orzoff, New Mexico State University

2:30 – 2:45 p.m.

BREAK

Panel IV

2:45- 3:45 p.m.

SPACES AND BORDERS

CHAIR: **Nathan Lucky**, Clark University

Spaces of German-Jewish Displacement
Sheer Ganor, University of Minnesota

Stella Kadmon's Remigration Repertoire: Performing Intimacy and its Limitations
Frances Tanzer, Clark University

3:45 – 4:00 p.m.

BREAK

Panel V

4:00- 5:00 p.m.

FILM AND MEDIA / CLOSING DISCUSSIONS

CHAIR: **Gabrielle Higgins**, Clark University

The Performance of Terror: German-Speaking Exiles and the Radio
Paul Lerner, University of Southern California

Directing in Exile as Performing in Exile: Fred Zinnemann's Dybbuk
Darcy Buerkle, Smith College

5:00-6:00 p.m.

CLOSING DISCUSSIONS

6:30 p.m.

DINNER

VIA Italian Table