

02 – 04 SEPTEMBER 2018



REMEMBERING ACROSS THE IRON CURTAIN

University of York &
Institute of Contemporary History,
Czech Academy of Science

REMEMBERING ACROSS THE IRON CURTAIN

The Cold War influenced how people, societies and states dealt with and understood the Holocaust and its aftereffects. Challenging previous perceptions of the West as the democratic “Free World” that embraced commemoration and the East as totalitarian and repressive, the papers in this conference will examine how political interests influenced commemoration in *both* East and West. At the same time speakers will show how individual actors carved out space to remember the Holocaust in ways that stood at odds with the dominant narratives. Examining communal, individuals and state efforts, from the Soviet Union to the US, from Hungary to France, this conference will provide opportunities to re-evaluate the commonalities, differences and entanglements between Eastern and Western memory of the Holocaust.

SUNDAY

02 SEPTEMBER 2018

VENUE Black Box Theatre, University of York

19:00 OPENING EVENT

– David Shneer (University of Colorado, Boulder)
ART IS MY WEAPON: THE RADICAL MUSICAL LIFE OF LIN JALDATI
Performance with live music

MONDAY

03 SEPTEMBER 2018

VENUE Berrick Saul Building, University of York

09:15 – 09:45 WELCOME

- Geoff Cubitt (IPUP, University of York)
- Stephan Stach (ÚSD, CAS Prague)
- Paulina Gulińska-Jurgiel (Aleksander Brückner Center, Halle)

09:45 – 10:15 INTRODUCTION

- Anna Koch (FMS, University of York)
- Stephan Stach (ÚSD, CAS Prague)

10:15 – 10:45 COFFEE BREAK

10:45 – 12:15 PANEL 1

JEWISH EFFORTS TO REMEMBER THE SHOAH IN EAST AND WEST

Chair: *Nadège Ragaru (CERI, Science Po, Paris)*

- Arkadi Zeltser (Yad Vashem, Jerusalem): The Cold War and Memorialization of the Holocaust in the USSR
- Eli Lederhendler (Hebrew University of Jerusalem): The Politics of Memory and the Shadow of the Holocaust in America in the Cold War Era
- Simon Perego (University Paris-Sorbonne): “The Communist Schism in Jewish Life.” – Transnational Politics and Holocaust Commemorations among Parisian Jews during the Cold War, until the end of the 1960s

12:15 – 13:15 LUNCH BREAK

13:15 – 14:45 PANEL 2

REMEMBERING PERPETRATORS AND RESCUERS ACROSS THE IRON CURTAIN

Chair: *Jeffrey Herf (University of Maryland, College Park)*

- Kai Struve (Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg): The Case of Theodor Oberländer in 1959/60 – an Entangled History of Propaganda, Politics, and Holocaust Memory in East and West
- Siobhan Hyland (University of Northampton): Searchlight – Campaigning against Nazi Perpetrators in Britain
- Manja Herrmann (Selma Stern Center for Jewish Studies Berlin-Brandenburg): Transnational Holocaust Memory and

the Case of Rescue: Kurt R. Grossmann and the Early Berlin Initiative *Unsung Heroes* (1958–1966)

14:45 – 15:15 COFFEE BREAK

15:15 – 16:30 PANEL 3

MEMORY STAGED IN THE COURTROOM

Chair: *Paulina Gulińska-Jurgiel (Aleksander Brückner Center, Halle)*

- Matthew Turner (Deakin University, Australia/lfz München): Politicising the Holocaust in the Frankfurt Auschwitz Trial, (1963–1965)
- Vanessa Voisin (CERCEC, Paris): From the courthouse to the screen: Holocaust history made memory in Cold War USSR

17:00 ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

HOW DID COLD WAR SHAPE OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE HOLOCAUST?

Moderation: *Anna Koch (FMS, University of York)*

- Discutants: Jeffrey Herf (University of Maryland, College Park), Nadège Ragaru (CERI, Science Po, Paris), David Shneer (University of Colorado, Boulder), Isabel Wollaston (University of Birmingham)

TUESDAY

04 SEPTEMBER 2018

09:00 – 10:30 PANEL 4

SCHOLARSHIP AND HOLOCAUST MEMORY

Chair: *Geoff Cubitt (IPUP, University of York)*

- Olof Bortz (Stockholm University): Raul Hilberg, the Cold War and the history of the Holocaust
- Stefan Troebst (Leipzig University): Skopje vs. Sofia – Contrasting Memories on Bulgaria and the Holocaust
- Daniela R. P. Weiner (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill): Educational Entanglements – East and West
- German History Textbooks’ Narratives about the Holocaust and the Second World War

10:30 – 11:00 COFFEE BREAK

11:00 – 12:30 PANEL 5

ARTISTS AND INTELLECTUALS’ EFFORTS TO SHAPE MEMORY

Chair: *Hugo Service (University of York)*

- Jenny Watson (University of Sheffield): ‘No gas chambers. No crematoria.’ – Romanian-German authors of the 1970s–80s and the insufficiency of international memory discourse
- Irina Tcherneva (CERCEC, Paris): The arts judge crimes against humanity. Social and political usages of the painting *The Last Way* by Yosef Kuzkovski in Soviet Latvia (1944–1970)
- Anna Pollmann (Hebrew University of Jerusalem): Atrocities without their own reality. Günther Anders and Holocaust reception in the West German Left

12:30 – 13:30 LUNCH BREAK

13:30 – 15:00 PANEL 6

MEMORY AND MORALITY

Chair: *Shaul Mitelpunkt (University of York)*

- Jonathan Kaplan (Freie Universität Berlin): Ambassadors of Memory: The Struggle of guilt and Responsibility in the GDR
- Máté Zombory (Centre for Social Sciences, Hungarian Academy of Sciences): Moral Universalism in the East – Holocaust and memory in Zoltán Fábri’s film *Late Season* (1966)
- Marta Zawodna-Stephan (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań): Moral Universalism in the East – Let the dead serve the living. Dead body politics in the former Nazi camps on both sides of the Iron Curtain

15:15 – 16:15 CLOSING REMARKS

- Anna Koch (FMS, University of York)
- Stephan Stach (ÚSD, CAS Prague)

16:15 RECEPTION

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Ústav pro soudobé dějiny



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