

The Photography of Persecution Pictures of the Holocaust

June 22-24, 2022

The American University of Paris

With support from the Fondation pour la Mémoire de Shoah



photo: Christoph Kreuztmüller



George & Irina Schaeffer
Center for the Study
of Genocide, Human Rights
and Conflict Prevention

GEDENK- UND
BILDUNGSSTÄTTE
HAUS DER
WANNSEE-KONFERENZ

L'ÉCOLE
DES HAUTES
ÉTUDES
SCIENTIQUES
SOCIALES



Conference Program

Wednesday, June 22

Opening and Welcome

10:00

Brian Schiff, Director of the George and Irina Schaeffer Center for the Study of Genocide, Human Rights and Conflict Prevention, The American University of Paris

Introduction

Tal Bruttmann, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales,
Christoph Kreuzmüller, Haus der Wannsee-Konferenz and Jonathan Zatlin,
Boston University

Roundtable: Photographs from an Archival Perspective

10:15—12:00

Chair: Brian Schiff, The American University of Paris

Jonathan Matthews

Head of the photo archives in Yad Vashem, Jerusalem

Alina Bothe

Centre for Research on Antisemitism, TU Berlin, project manager of “Last Seen. Pictures of Nazi Deportations”, Arolsen Archives, Bad Arolsen

Lior Lalieu-Smadja

Head of the photo archives, Centre de Documentation du Mémorial de la Shoah, Paris

Photographing Persecution Before the War

13:30—14:30

Chair: Dominique Trimbur, Fondation pour la mémoire de la Shoah, Paris

“Framing Flight. Narratives of Emigration in German-Jewish Photo Albums, 1933-1939”

Robert Mueller-Stahl, Leibniz Centre for Contemporary History, Potsdam (in person)

"Debunking the Plastometer: Roman Vishniac's Photographic Exposure of and Resistance to Nazi Persecution (Berlin 1933)"

Louis Kaplan, University of Toronto (in person)

Photographing Persecution During the War

14:45—15:45

Chair: Jean-Marc Dreyfus, The University of Manchester

"Pictures of a Deportation: Gestapo Images of Wurzburg's Jews, 1941-1942"

Jonathan Zatin, Boston University, MA (in person)

"The 'Black Sabbath,' Thessaloniki, July 11, 1942 - No Caption Needed?"

Nathalie Soursos, University of Vienna (in person)

Photographs of the Warsaw Ghetto

16:00—17:00

Chair: Christoph Kreuzmüller, Haus der Wannsee-Konferenz, Berlin

"Was it Indeed 'A Day in the Warsaw Ghetto: A Birthday Trip in Hell 19.9.41'? – A Critical Examination of the Heinrich Joest Collection"

Efrat Komisar, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem (in person)

"An Administrative Report: The 'Stroop Report,' A Text with Photos"

Tal Bruttman, École des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (in person)

Thursday, June 23

Jewish Photographers in the Lodz Ghetto

10:30—12:00

Chair: Irina Tcherneva, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Paris

"Breaking the Perpetrators' Gaze: Confronting Perpetrators Photos of Deportation of Lodz Ghetto with the Photographic Perspective of the Persecuted"

Tanja Kinzel, Freie Universität Berlin (in person)

"All the Tragic Period: The Lodz Ghetto Photography of Henryk Ross"

Morgan Morales, University of North Carolina (in person)

"A Catalog of Default Photos from the Holocaust. Advertising Photographs from the Lodz Ghetto as Testimonies"

Paweł Michna, Jagiellonian University, Krakow (in person)

Photography in the Camps

14:00—15:00

Chair: Jonathan Zatlin, Boston University, MA

"Institutionalized Perpetrator Photography. SS Pictures Taken at Concentration Camps"

Lukas Meissel, University of Haifa, doctoral fellow at the Fondation pour la Mémoire de la Shoah (in person)

"Photography as Survival and Resistance: KL Prisoner Workers of the Erkennungsdienst"

Julie R. Keresztes, Tufts University, MA (in person)

Crowds, Neighbors, and Onlookers

15:15—16:45

Chair: Sarah Gensburger, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Paris

"Photographing the 1941 Anti-Jewish Pogroms in Western Ukraine: The Lviv Pogrom in a Comparative Perspective"

Thomas Chopard, French Russian Studies Center, Paris (in person)

"A Unique Discovery: Visual Evidence of the Deportation of Jews Outside the City of Amsterdam"

Laurien Vastenhout, NIOD Institute for War, Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Amsterdam (in person)

"Who Else Can Look at... Like That? A History of a Photo Taken in Krępiecki Forest"

Katarzyna Grzybowska, Jagiellonian University, Krakow (online)

Friday, June 24

Publishing Pictures in the Early Postwar Period

10:00—11:00

Chair: Audrey Kichelewski, The University of Strasbourg

"The Role and Meaning of Photographs in the Books Published by Central Jewish Historical Commission in Poland 1945-1947"

Ewa Koźmińska-Frejłak, Jewish Historical Institute, Warsaw (in person)

"Historicizing the Moment: Extermination of Polish Jews, a Survivor-authored Photobook"

Steven Samols, University of Southern California, CA (in person)

Exhibiting Pictures in the Postwar Period

11:15—12:15

Chair: Sarah Gensburger, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Paris

"Framing George Kaddish"

Rachel Perry, University of Haifa (in person)

"The Yellow Star on the Wall. Gerhard Schoenberner's Exhibition in the House of the Wannsee-Conference"

Christoph Kreutzmüller, Haus der Wannsee-Konferenz, Berlin (in person)

Humanitarian Uses of Pictures

14:00—15:00

Chair: Constance Pâris de Bollardière, The American University of Paris

"Kloster Indersdorf: Child Survivors and Humanitarian Photography"

Christine Schmidt, Wiener Holocaust Library in London, and Dan Stone, Royal Holloway, University of London (in person)

"The Currency of the Cameratic: Photographs in International Rescue Campaigns during World War II"

Rebekka Grossmann, The Jacob Robinson Institute for the History of Individual and Collective Rights, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem (in person)

Rethinking the Familiar

15:15—16:45

Chair: Brian Schiff, The American University of Paris

"The Many Deaths and Afterlives of the "Barefoot Rabbi" and the Making of an Iconic Holocaust Image"

Yechiel Weizman, Bar-Ilan University, Ramat Gan (in person)

"The Afterlife of Holocaust Photographs: Vienna 1938 and Warsaw 1943"

Jeffrey Shandler, Rutgers University, NJ (in person)

"Five Shots from Sdolbunow: The Mizocz Ghetto Liquidation Photographs in History and Memory"

Valerie Hébert, Lakehead University in Orillia, Ontario (online)

Organizing Committee

Tal Bruttmann

Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales

Sarah Gensburger

Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique

Christoph Kreuzmüller

Haus der Wannsee-Konferenz

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Jonathan Zatlín

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About the Center

The George and Irina Schaeffer Center for the Study of Genocide, Human Rights, and Conflict Prevention promotes innovative research, curricula, and pedagogies, in the hopes of reaching a deeper understanding of the causes and consequences of genocide and mass violence.

The American University of Paris is the first in France to house the USC Shoah Foundation's complete Visual History Archive, which contains over 53,000 testimonies from survivors and witnesses of the Shoah and the Armenian, Rwandan, and Nanjing genocides, representing 62 countries and 39 languages. The university is making this important resource available to researchers, teachers and students, in their investigation and dissemination of new insights into the origins and aftereffects of collective hatred, fundamentalist ideologies, discrimination, and mass violence, in historical, social, and individual memory.

Our goal is to foster scholarly discussion, here and abroad, with conferences, lectures, and publications, on how individuals, communities, and governments can respond to the challenges of extreme violence in the service of enduring peace and understanding.



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photo: Christoph Kreuzmüller