

# The New CGES at Europe Brandeis *in review* *winter 2003-04*

*Dear Friends,*

Greetings from the Brandeis Center for German and European Studies! At the end of the year, it is time to wrap up and review our activities.

2003 has been a very interesting moment for us. As Germany struggles economically and politically to work needed reforms, there is much to learn about German society and politics. Germany's position in the world has also been important, particularly through its renewed alliance with France in the European Union and its stance on Iraq and the Middle East.

CGES has important responsibilities to communicate German and European opinions about issues that presently strain transatlantic relationships. We have been very active, as you will see in the rest of this Newsletter, and we intend to be even more so in the months to come. We are pleased that the DAAD and the ERP have given us funding for the next while. We hope to put it to very good use.

In the new year, CGES will host another round of interesting guests and events. Together with the departments of history and politics, we will be hosting DAAD Visiting Professor Andreas Roedder, an expert on contemporary German history, for the spring term 2004. We are also looking forward to welcoming the renowned German filmmaker Margarethe von Trotta, who will present her new movie, "The Other Woman." And our upcoming conferences cover topics as diverse as the position of women in academia and Germany and the Middle East.

We are sorry, alas, that our very able Administrator, Karin Grundler-Whitacre, accepted a new position at Harvard at the end of the summer. We knew how important Karin was to CGES, but the months since her departure have made us even more aware of it. Fortunately, we have found a similarly able replacement for her in Linda Boothroyd, who joined us in November.

We hope to see many of you soon at our events, and we are always pleased to hear from you anytime. In the meantime, we wish you happy holidays and a good start into the new year.

Sincerely yours,

*George W. Ross*

Director, Center for German and European Studies



## GRANTS AND PROJECTS.

This year, CGES has begun working on two new projects, for which we could acquire two three-year grants from Germany: “The Young Berlin Republic,” sponsored by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), and “Responsibilities of a Mature Democracy,” funded by the European Recovery Program (ERP). We gratefully acknowledge the support of these two institutions.

### The Young Berlin Republic—Chances and Challenges.

German-American relations have entered a new phase. The unequivocal alliance that was still prevalent following German unification has made way for great uncertainties in the global age. People in Germany and the United States increasingly express disappointment by the transatlantic partner. Recent events, like the debates about anti-Semitism in politics and

culture or the demonstrations surrounding President George W. Bush’s visit, disquiet Americans’ image of Germany.

Likewise, the American refutation of the Kyoto agreement, effusive patriotism and unilateralism let Germans question whether the United States are willing to take on a responsible global leadership role. Nevertheless, there is an array of problems applying to both Germany and the United States. Equal opportunities for women, minorities, and young people are some of them. Here, Germans and Americans can learn from each other and search for new paths together.

Germany enters the twenty-first century as the Berlin Republic, supplied with new self-confidence and confronted with new problems. Among these are a rapidly ageing population, the contested integration of a rising number of immigrants, and the changing position of women and families in society. The project “The Young Berlin Republic” is designed around a series of lectures, symposia, and other events which will investigate the predicaments of the new Germany, focusing especially on women, the young generation, and minorities in contemporary Germany.

### Responsibilities of a Mature Democracy.

This project, generously sponsored by the European Recovery Program (ERP), aims to promote German-American dialogue in and beyond the academy. The difference between the real Germany and stereotypical American notions seems to have reached unexpected proportions in our times. With this project CGES aims to help foster dialogue between scholars, politicians, and the public about current developments in the new democratic Germany, about its role in Europe and its position vis-a-vis the crisis in the Middle East. The grant funds special dialogue meetings, conferences, talks, and student travel to Germany that is embedded in the curriculum at Brandeis.



Projects



## MAX KADE TRAVEL GRANTS.

In the tradition of previous years, the Center for German and European Studies at Brandeis University awarded nine Max Kade Travel Grants to both undergraduate and graduate students from the Brandeis community. This year's recipients used their grants for dissertation research, senior thesis research, internships, or the Brandeis in Berlin summer program. Generously funded by the Max Kade Foundation of New York, the grants cover travel expenses to and in Germany and German-speaking Europe. The recipients of this year's grants were:

Maja Catic  
Jason Cloen  
Sara Gruen  
Michael Hamad  
Martin Kaminski

Melissa Mariano  
Rebecca Ora  
Anna Rakhman  
Eleni Tsolakis

The recipients and the Center for German and European Studies at Brandeis gratefully acknowledge the support of the Max Kade Foundation for enabling Brandeis students to foster their research and enrich their education experiences by traveling abroad.

## EVENTS 2003.

January 13

### Jews in Berlin.

JULIUS H. SCHOEPS, Director of the Moses Mendelssohn Center for Jewish History in Potsda, and HERMANN SIMON, Director of the New Synagogue Berlin—Centrum Judaicum, visited Brandeis to present their new book entitled *Jews in Berlin*.



J.H. Schoeps  
S. Stern  
C. Özdemir  
A. Dieckhoff



February 26

### A Voice from the Old Europe: Germany, Europe, and U.S. Relations.

A lecture by SUSAN STERN, Professor at the University of Frankfurt, publicist, and author of *Desperately Seeking Europe*.

March 11

### Turkey and Germany - Do They Belong Together?

A lecture by CEM ÖZDEMİR, German politician of Turkish descent, former member of the German Bundestag, and currently Transatlantic Fellow at the German Marshall Fund in Washington, D.C.

March 12

### Israeli-German Relations Today.

A conversation between the Consul General of Germany, ROLF-DIETER SCHNELLE and

the Consul General of Israel, MEIR SHLOMO, hosted by the Jewish-German Dialogue.

March 17

### Zionism, Anti-Zionism, and Contemporary Anti-Semitism in Europe.

A lecture by ALAIN DIECKHOFF, Professor at the Sciences-Po in Paris and author of *The Invention of a Nation: Zionist Thought and the Making of Modern Israel*.

March 25

### “Emigration impossible as of now”: The History of the Herskovits Family from Hannover.

This meeting of the Jewish-German Dialogue hosted author RUTH HERSKOVITS-GUTMANN, who spoke about her newly published book *Auswanderung vorläufig nicht möglich: Die Geschichte der Familie Herskovits aus Hannover*.

*March 27*

**Storytelling, Healing, and Survival: From Scheherazade to Peter Pan.**

Harvard Professor MARIA TATAR delivered this year's Martin Weiner Lecture, jointly sponsored by the Martin Weiner Lecture Fund, the Department of German, Russian, and East Asian Languages and Literature, and the Center for German and European Studies.

*April 9*

**Old Europe Versus New Europe?**

A lecture and seminar with GISELA MÜLLER-BRANDECK-BOCQUET, Professor at the University of Würzburg.



G. Müller-Brandeck-Bocquet  
K.P. Gottwald  
V. Sannicandro

*April 15*

**The Situation in the Middle East and Transatlantic Relations: A German View.**

A talk by KLAUS PETER GOTTWALD, Fellow at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs at Harvard University, and previously Director of the North American Division at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany.

*April 26*

**Cycles of Change: Reconstruction, Gender and Public Life in Western Europe after the Two World Wars.**

This workshop organized by LAURA FRADER, MARGARET HIGONNET, and JYTTE KLAUSEN (Member of the CGES Executive Committee) re-examined and compared the effects of post-war reconstruction in Britain, France, and Germany in the periods 1919-35 and 1945-60. It was co-sponsored by the Center for European Studies at Harvard University.

*April 28*

**The European Union's Open Method of Coordination: Rhetoric, Reality, and the Politics of Reform.**

A panel discussion, co-sponsored by the Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies at Harvard University, featuring

IAIN BEGG, Visiting Professor, European Institute, London School of Economics and Political Science, KERSTIN JACOBSSON, Professor of Sociology, Stockholm Center for Organizational Research, PHILIPPE POCHET, Director, Observatoire Social Européen, Brussels, and EU Fulbright Scholar, University of Wisconsin-Madison, and JONATHAN ZEITLIN, Professor of History, Sociology, and Industrial Relations, Director of the European Union Center, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

*May 3*

**The Electronic Music Marathon 2003**

took place at Brandeis University's Slosberg Recital Hall, an intimate and acoustically excellent space specially outfitted with an eight-channel sound system for the occasion. A featured performance of the Boston CyberArts Festival, this program included several multimedia and computer video pieces. The works were presented by some of the best new music performers and ensembles from the US and Europe, including members of the AUROS GROUP FOR NEW MUSIC (Boston), DINOSAUR ANNEX (Boston), the CYGNUS ENSEMBLE (New York), the LYDIAN STRING QUARTET, ODD APPETITE (Boston), MARCO CAPELLI and LUCIA BOVA (Italy), THIERRY MIROGLIO and ANCUZA APRODU (France), and VALERIO SANNICANDRO (Germany).

*September 18*

**Jewish Life in Berlin 2003.**

Members of the Jewish-German Dialogue presented their experiences on a Dialogue sponsored trip to Berlin in the summer of 2003.

*October 7*

**Sebald in his Own Words.**

A lecture and multimedia presentation by GORDON TURNER, Emeritus Professor of German, University of East Anglia, UK, and long time friend and colleague of the late author.

*October 29*

**The Experiment.**

Screening and discussion of the controversial 2002 German psychological thriller with novelist and screenwriter MARIO GIORDANO. Giordano's book *Black Box*, and

the movie based on it, were inspired by the (in)famous Stanford Prison Experiment in 1971.

*October 30, 2003*

**Dada with Bernd Seydel.**

Brandeis students enjoyed a very special performance by BERND SEYDEL, founder of the “Mundwerkstatt.” In his one-man show Seydel gave a stimulating performance of Dada and Expressionist poetry.

*November 11*

**The Goethe Taboo.**

Goethe-expert DANIEL WILSON (UC Berkeley) discussed the controversial reception in Germany of his book *Das Goethe-Tabu* (1999), in which he used new archival material to document previously unknown political conflicts between the government in the Duchy of Saxe-Weimar and groups such as peasants, students, professors, and intellectuals, during the period of 1775-1806, when J.W. Goethe was a minister of state. In his talk, Professor Wilson placed the controversies over his book in a wider context of debates about Germany’s past and contemporary political culture.

*November 11*

**Public Art and Social Sculpture.**

A presentation by German artist RENATA STIH, Berlin, whose proposal for the Holocaust Memorial in Berlin, “Bus Stop,” has since received national and international praise. Co-sponsored by the Department of Fine Arts at Brandeis University.



B. Seydel  
W.G. Sebald  
M. Giordano



*November 13*

**The New Russian Jews of Berlin and the Old Jewish German Community.**

A lecture by IRENE RUNGE, Director of the Jewish Cultural Association of Berlin.

review 2003

**NEWS FROM THE CGES TEAM.**

LINDA BOOTHROYD joined the CGES team in late November 2003 as the new Administrator. She came to Brandeis in April 2000. She was formerly a Staff Assistant in the Brandeis Politics Department. She is a proud mother and grandmother with 3 daughters, 2 sons, and 4 grandchildren.

KARIN GRUNDLER-WHITACRE, for many years the Center’s Executive Administrator, left Brandeis in August 2003 to become the Executive Assistant to the Dean of Harvard Divinity School. Karin was not only instrumental in bringing new funding to the Center. She was the main initiator behind many of the Center’s events and in charge of everything, from book-keeping to catering to public relations. Karin is sorely missed, but of course we wish her all the best in her new position.

DANIEL BECKER received his MA in Comparative History in May 2003. His thesis investigated images and conceptions of masculinity in the German paramilitary groups in the early 1930s. In the fall, he briefly took over the responsibilities of interim administrator for the Center, but he is now happy to return to his graduate studies, particularly his PhD dissertation, which will deal with criminal subcultures in Berlin and Paris between the two world wars.

PHIL SCHEFFLER has been a Student Assistant at CGES for a long time. After a year at the University of Heidelberg Phil joined us back in the fall of 2003.

ELENI TSOLAKIS, Student Assistant at CGES until the summer of 2003, graduated from Brandeis University with a degree in politics this year. She is now doing an internship in the German Bundestag.

## MOVING IMAGES—REMOVING PRECONCEPTIONS.

### CGES-sponsored Film Series at Brandeis.

Ever since the inception of the Center for German and European Studies at Brandeis, film series have been an integral part of its program. Over the years, it has become clear that movies provide an excellent background for fostering discussion about issues of history, memory, and identity, especially in a complicated case as Germany and Europe. Consequently, CGES has helped to present screenings of classic and contemporary films touching on current and historical issues of German culture.

In the spring semester, CGES co-sponsored the Sixth Jewish Film Festival 2003, *From Vienna to Naharyim*, organized by the National Center for Jewish Film at Brandeis University and the Consulate General of Israel to New England. The festival featured Boston area premieres of such highly acclaimed films as the Academy-Award-nominated *Gebirtig* (Austria, 2002), *Power of Good* (Czech Republic, 2002), *Perlasca* (Italy, 2002), and the already classic *Bronstein's Children* (GDR, 1990), starring Armin Mueller-Stahl.

German films or co-productions of a more recent vintage formed the CGES film series in the fall semester, a program made possible in its scope by the "Young Berlin Republic" grant of the DAAD. Except for Romy Schneider's last movie, *The Passerby* (*La Passante du Sans-Souci*, West Germany/France, 1982), directed by Jacques Rouffio, all films in this series were products of the new New German Cinema after unification. The series opened with Andreas Dresen's prize-winning portrait of ordinary people in 1990s Berlin, *Nightshapes* (*Nachtgestalten*), which was followed by Oliver Hirschbiegel's stunning psychological thriller *The Experiment*, Dresen's social drama *The Policewoman*, and culminated in a showing of this year's Academy Award winner as the best foreign-language film, *Nowhere in Africa*, directed by Caroline Link. For the screening of *Das Experiment*, the Center could host the novelist Mario Giordano, who had written the screenplay for this movie, based on his book *Black Box*.



## CONTEMPORARY GERMAN ART AT BRANDEIS.

Thanks to the generous DAAD grant for the project "The Young Berlin Republic," CGES could sponsor the work of KARSTEN BOTT, founder of the "Archive of the History of Everyday Life." Bott's project "One of Each with Houses," a large-scale installation, was created for the upcoming exhibition *Domestic Archeology* at the Rose Art Museum at Brandeis University (January 21 - March 28, 2004).



The exhibition revolves around the artist as archeologist, archivist, and cultural sociologist, investigating everyday objects and activities from contemporary living environments. For more information on the exhibition visit the museums website at <http://www.brandeis.edu/rose/>

## MARGARETHE VON TROTTA RETROSPECTIVE.

CGES is proud to bring renowned German filmmaker MARGARETHE VON TROTTA to the Boston area in March 2004 for a retrospective of her work organized in collaboration with the Goethe Institute Boston. Von Trotta and actress BARBARA SUKOWA will be present for a number of screenings. The series will open on Friday, March 5, 2004 at 7:45pm with the filmmaker's newest oeuvre, *The Other Woman* (2003), at the Museum of Fine Arts Boston. Screenwriter PAMELA KATZ will also be present.

Margarethe von Trotta began her film career as a sought-after actress of 1960s New German Cinema, working with Herbert Achternbusch and Rainer Werner Fassbinder, among others. But she soon developed an interest in screenwriting and directing, and became an internationally recognized filmmaker in her own right. Barbara Sukowa, who won the Best Actress Award at the Cannes Film Festival for her role in von Trotta's film *Rosa Luxemburg*, was first discovered by Rainer Werner Fassbinder, for whom she starred in *Berlin Alexanderplatz* and *Lola*. Sukowa played the lead in four of von Trotta's films and has won numerous awards for her work.

On Saturday, March 6, CGES will screen von Trotta's 2002 film *Rosenstraße* (2002) at the Wasserman Cinematheque in Sachar. The film is based on the true story of a demonstration by non-Jewish wives against the detention of their Jewish husbands in Berlin in 1943. CGES will host a reception and discussion with the director following the screening. Both von Trotta and Sukowa will also be present for the screenings of the award-winning *Bleierne Zeit* (1981) and *Rosa Luxemburg* (1985) on the following Sunday, March 7. The screenings at noon and 2:30pm will be followed by a panel discussion, for which the artists will be joined by film scholars ERIC RENTSCHLER (Harvard University) and BARBARA MENNEL (University of Maryland). The series will then continue Thursday evenings at 6:30pm with screenings of *Das zweite Erwachen der Christa Klages* (1977), *Schwestern oder: Die Balance des Glücks* (1979), *Heller Wahn* (1982), and *Das Versprechen* (1995). All films will be shown in 35mm format and with English subtitles. For more details about the retrospective, please contact Sabine von Mering at [vonmering@brandeis.edu](mailto:vonmering@brandeis.edu).



preview 2004

## WOMEN IN ACADEMIA.

Another highlight of the spring semester will be the March 1/2 workshop on "Women in Academia in Germany and the US: A Comparison." The discussion will revolve around questions concerning the differences and similarities in female scholars' success and "survival strategies" in a male-dominated environment such as a research university. With very different systems of higher education in place, the German-American comparison should cast some light on, among other things, the question if public or private institutions of higher learning can foster women scientists' careers better. Among the panelists will be GESINE SCHWAN (Frankfurt/Oder) and ANDREA LOETHER (Cologne) as well as several US participants.

Andrea Loether works for the Center of Excellence Women and Science in Cologne, which provides services to scientific and political institutions which promote equal opportunities in science and research and to women's and equal opportunities representatives as well as female academics from Germany and abroad.

Gesine Schwan serves as president of the European University Viadrina in Frankfurt/Oder, on Germany's Eastern border with Poland, a school deliberately designed as a binational institution. Formerly a dean and professor of political science at the Free University of Berlin, Schwan has been on the forefront of debates on higher education policy and reform in Germany for many years.

Professor Schwan will also give an individual lecture based on some of her research. A specialist in political theory and political psychology, she has recently published studies on German anti-Americanism since 1945 and on the political consequences of collective denial in the face of genocide.

## DAAD VISITING PROFESSOR.



Dr. ANDREAS ROEDDER will be the DAAD Visiting Professor at Brandeis in the Spring Semester 2004. He will teach POL155: *German Political Development After 1945* and a Readings Course in modern German history and politics for Graduate Students.

After graduating from the University of Tübingen, he received his PhD from the University of Bonn in 1994 and is now a *Privatdozent* at the University of Stuttgart. In 2001/02, he was a fellow at the *Historisches Kolleg* in Munich.

Dr. Roedder is an expert in modern German and British history. His research interests encompass the Weimar Republic, international relations in the interwar period, the question of German reunification in international context, the history of conservatism, and the political culture of Victorian England. Roedder is the author of numerous articles, and has so far published three books (in German)—on Julius Curtius, the foreign minister who succeeded Gustav Stresemann, on the political culture of Victorian Conservatism, and, most recently, on German political history from 1969 to 1990.

For further information about Dr. Roedder's courses, please contact the Center for German and European Studies, or the departments of Politics or History.

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## Ideas? Comments? Suggestions?

*Sagt, ist noch ein andres Land außer Deutschland,  
wo man die Nase eher rümpfen lernt als putzen?*

—Lichtenberg

The Center for German and European Studies is always eager to open its doors to people with ideas and enthusiasm. If you would like to organize workshops, seminars, lectures, etc. that fit into the program of the Center and that would benefit from its institutional support, do not hesitate to contact us! Likewise, if you would like to receive regular updates about our activities by e-mail and snail mail, please let us know, and we will add you to our contacts database.

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