

# The New at Brandeis

# CGES Europe

*in review*  
Winter 2005–06

## Being Muslim, Being Jewish in Germany Today

“The Turkish women who are forced to marry Turkish-German husbands have a legal right to our support. It is a false sense of multiculturalism if we do not uphold our constitutional laws for fear of interfering with minority sensibilities.” NECLA KELEK (left) does not mince her words. She grew up in Germany, where she studied sociology and economics, completing a dissertation on “Islam in the Everyday”. “There are more Turkish Germans like me, of course. But we must not forget the others, who are forbidden to learn the language and often kept from interacting with their German environment.” Challenging both, the



Turkish communities in Germany, and the German population at large, Kelek knows she is putting herself in a tight spot. What moves her is a perhaps unexpected ideal: Enlightenment thought.

The recent violence in reaction to Danish cartoons depicting the prophet Mohammad painfully underscores what Kelek and others have warned for a long time: Beginning with the brutal murder of Dutch filmmaker Theo van Gogh (great grandnephew of the famed Dutch painter Vincent Van Gogh), in November of 2004, to the bombings in London on July 7th 2005, to the burning streets of Paris in November of 2005 Europe is paying a high price for neglecting the true integration of Muslim communities, leaving them open to influences by Islamist radicals.

CGES held a number of meetings to provide forums for discussion. In March 2005 over sixty students, faculty, and visitors, attended a panel discussion with AINA KHAN (London), JYTTE KLAUSEN (Brandeis) and RIEM SPIELHAUS (Berlin). The topic was inspired by recent legislation to prevent Muslim schoolteachers from wearing the Islamic headscarf. France and many German states have passed such legislation. Chancellor Gerhard Schröder had said in an interview with the newspaper *Bild am Sonntag* that if a young woman would like to wear a

headscarf in public, he considered that tolerable. But if she would like to do it as a member of the civil service, he would expect a different way of dress. Khan and Spielhaus, both Muslim women who choose not to wear the headscarf, insisted that such legislation penalizes innocent women while ignoring the real problem of radical fundamentalist Islamists. Many young Muslim women, they explained, have begun to wear the headscarf in defiance of Western prejudice.



But life is not only difficult for Muslims in today's still predominantly Christian Germany. The struggle is a different one for Jews, a significantly smaller minority. Both STEPHAN KRAMER from the Central Council of Jews in Germany, and author ESTHER DISCHEREIT (right) describe how aging German-Jewish communities are confronted with Russian immigrants on the one hand, and a largely indifferent German society on the other. The film *Metallic Blues* that was shown as part of *Jewishfilm2005*, also emphasized the difficulty most Jews still experience when confronted with Germans. As car dealer Shmuel is haunted by black-and-white memories of Nazi persecution, Dischereit's poetry describes the discomfort of the children of Holocaust survivors. Despite all successes of *Vergangenheitsbewältigung*, there is no question that most German families have still not done enough to uncover their grandparents' complicities with the Nazi regime. This year, CGES is proud to present its first *Conscience and Courage Award* to German filmmaker MICHAEL VERHOEVEN for making films such as *Die Weisse Rose* [The White Rose] and *Das schreckliche Maedchen* [The Nasty Girl]. The Award will be given in the context of *Jewishfilm2006* on Sunday, April 30, 2006 at the screening of Verhoeven's new documentary *Unknown Soldier*.



## *From the Executive Director*

Sixty years after WWII Germany and Israel celebrated forty years of diplomatic relations in 2005. Many of our visitors last year emphasized the long-standing friendship and cooperation between the two countries, often unnoticed in the US. As a stable democracy within the European Union Germany continues to serve as a model for successful democratization. While some in the US deplored Chancellor Schröder's refusal to join in the war against Iraq, this model function was never questioned. Though faced with different challenges, Israel, too, has an important role as a strong democracy in the Middle East. But even stable democracies are not immune to challenges. While European unification is ongoing, West-Germans continue to have to pay an extra annual tax to the reconstruction of the five Eastern *Länder*. Over \$150 Trillion [in German=*Billionen*] have thus been invested in the East since 1990, yet most communities are still not seeing the desired economic upswing, and unemployment continues to be above 20% in some areas. Israel is faced with a bankrupt Palestinian authority and a dire economic situation in the Palestinian territories, with unemployment as high as 60%. At the same time both Germany and Israel are facing demographic developments that will have a significant impact on their future. The birthrate dropped to an all-time low of 1.4% in 2005, and with one sixth of its population now over 65 years old, Germans reluctantly adopted a new immigration law, but integration of immigrants continues to be a challenge. In Israel the difference between a birthrate of around 1.2% among Jewish families as opposed to a birthrate among Arab-Israelis and Palestinians of 3% challenges the Jewish state in its foundation.

Elections, too, seem to become a burden rather than a boon to democracies. The unexpected outcome of the German elections, widely misinterpreted by the media, was a case in point. But while the grand coalition in Germany actually provides an opportunity to overcome the stalemate of long-standing opposition, and may even become a positive impulse for the European Union, there is little hope that Israel can find peace as easily, especially after the unexpected Hamas victory in January. Whether cooperation can be achieved by parties in and around Israel will be the big question for the coming months. For the second time since WWII Germans now have a 'grand coalition' government, under the leadership of their first woman Chancellor, Angela Merkel (CDU). Ms. Merkel, though intent on stronger alliance with the United States, made clear that her government will continue to oppose what GERHARD SCHRÖDER had termed "experiments" in Iraq, and she demanded that the US close the Guantanamo Bay prison in a speech prior to her first visit to Washington. Whether a conservative Chancellor in Berlin can help mend the transatlantic relationship remains to be seen. Whether Germany's new foreign secretary Frank-Walter Steinmeier (SPD) can continue in his predecessor Joschka Fischer's footsteps to make sure Germany and Europe play a role in bringing peace to the Middle East will have to be seen.

In 2006 CGES will continue to explore these and many other issues of concern to all of us. We are grateful to the German Academic Exchange Service and the European Recovery Program, as well as the Max Kade Foundation, and Brandeis University for supporting our work, and we hope to see many of you at our upcoming events!

*Sabine von Mering*

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## Event Highlights 2005

*February 15*

### **Carmen-Francesca Banciu**

German-Romanian author CARMEN-FRANCESCA BANCIU, who came to us as *Writer-in-Residence* at the Rutgers University German Department, gave a fiery reading from her most recent collection of essays. Having lived in Berlin since 1990 where she works as an author and teacher of creative writing, Ms. Banciu described how she initially struggled with the German language, but found that she could better express her experiences in German. Having visited Romania frequently in the past few years, she emphasized the deep disruption the country experienced. Women, Banciu pointed out, seemed to handle the crisis much better than men.

*February 18*

### **Concert for violin and piano**

As a beautiful kick-off for our events celebrating the 40th anniversary of Israeli-German relations, violinist ANNEGRET KLAUA presented a concert featuring the world-premiere of young Israeli composer LIOR NAVOK's Violin Sonata. Klaua was accompanied by pianist MARGARET CHENG TUTTLE. Also on the program were works by Schubert, Prokofiev, and Gershwin.

*March 1*

### **Changes in the Jewish Communities in Germany Today: Challenging New Solidarity between Eastern and Western European Jews**

Guest speaker at our first Jewish-German Dialogue was CORNELIA WILHELM, who is a Fellow in the Department of Modern History at the University of Munich in Germany.

Her lecture went beyond the debates about problems of religious and social integration and explored how the new dynamism and need of social activism is adding to the emergence of a new Jewish identity and solidarity in Europe. Wilhelm presented a documentary film about an ongoing aid project which had been launched in 1995 by a Russian immigrant of the Munich B'nai B'rith Lodge by founding a sister lodge, a soup kitchen, a hospital and a charity in Lemberg, Ukraine, thus creating new bonds of solidarity and aid with those who stayed behind in the Ukraine.

*March 8*

### **Israeli-German Relations**

STEPHAN J. KRAMER, the Secretary General of the Central Council of Jews in Germany and Head of the office of the European Jewish Congress in Berlin, described relations between Israel and Germany as amicable. However, German-Jewish relations were becoming more complicated with the continuing influx of Russian Jews, he explained. Germany officially cancelled the special program that brought over 100,000 Russian Jews to the country since 1990 when it passed an immigration law that went into effect on January 1, 2005. Kramer said his office was involved in the negotiations with the German government over how to continue the special program without unfairly overburdening the small existing Jewish communities. Internal difficulties between the newcomers and the established members continue to overshadow all Jewish communities in Germany today, he explained.

*March 16*

### **Feminist Interpretation of Jesus' Parables**

Brandeis enjoyed a rare visit by one of the foremost feminist protestant bible scholars, Professor LUISE SCHOTTROFF. Until September 1999 she was professor for New Testament at the Universities of Mainz and Kassel. Since January 2001 she has been teaching at the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley. Her research focuses on the social history of early Christianity, feminist liberation theology in Western Europe, and Jewish-Christian Dialogue. Schottroff, who has published widely, led a workshop with faculty and students, in which she gave a glimpse of her work on a new translation of the new testament that aims to reveal and discontinue anti-Semitic prejudices.



*March 17*

### **Headscarves—A Democratic Right? The Headscarf Controversy in Germany and France**

A Panel

Discussion with AINA KHAN (London), JYTTE KLAUSEN (Politics, Brandeis), and RIEM SPIELHAUS (Berlin) More details see front page article.





April 3

**Dance of Death**

In his documentary ‘Dance of Death’ filmmaker VOLKER KUEHNE presented rare footage from original performances of Jewish-German cabaret artists and musicians in the 1930’s. The film also includes interviews with survivors, who talk about their work as musicians in ghettos and concentration camps. Kuehne has also produced several music CDs with original recordings.

April 11

**Professors in Purgatory—Denazification of Munich University, 1945–1955**

STEFAN WIECKI, a Graduate Student in the History program at Brandeis University presented his dissertational research. Wiecki seeks to explain the transition from dictatorship to democracy in Germany after World War II by analyzing the process of denazification of the faculty of Munich University and its long-term consequences on education in post-war German society. He looks at the implementation of the concepts “denazification” and “reeducation” by the American occupation forces in order to see how effective the denazification process was in rooting out Nazism, militarism, anti-Semitism, and anti-democratic sentiments in the German educational elite.

While most historians maintain that the denazification of German universities failed miserably, his research suggests that the process constituted one of the crucial factors for the development of democracy in Germany. In his dissertation, he examines how Munich University, as an institution of higher education, became democratized and how the professors’ teaching, behavior, and mentality were affected by this change.

September 20

**Israeli-German Relations: The Beginning**

Former German Ambassador to Israel, Dr. NIELS HANSEN, presented excerpts from his book *Aus dem Schatten der Katastrophe (Out of the Shadows of the Catastrophe)*, which was published in 2002. The subsequent discussion focused on the difficult dialogue between Germany and Israel following the Second World War until the establishment of diplomatic ties in 1965. Hansen explained the complex structure of the Germany-Israel rapprochement and the important role Konrad Adenauer and David Ben-Gurion played in this process.



October 11

**Necla Kelek**

Turkish-born sociologist and author NECLA KELEK lives and works in Germany. In her work she focuses on the Muslim ‘parallel society’ hidden from public awareness and the plight of Turkish women in Germany in her book *Die Fremde Braut. Ein Bericht aus dem Inneren des türkischen Lebens in Deutschland.* (Kiepenheuer & Witsch 2005). Her searing critique of forced marriages of Turkish girls and their isolation in Germany provoked an intense public debate. She is the recipient of the *Geschwister Scholl Prize 2005*.

October 20

**Esther Dischereit**

ESTHER DISCHEREIT was born in Heppenheim in 1952 and now lives in Berlin. A prolific writer of poems, novels, plays and essays, Esther Dischereit, describes the experience of growing up Jewish in postwar Germany, a situation she has termed ‘simply improbable, unreal as it were’. Her groundbreaking first novel *Joemis Tisch* (1988) examines notions of Jewish-German identity from the perspective of women living in the shadow of the Holocaust. Her collection of essays, *Mit Eichmann an der Börse: In jüdischen und anderen Angelegenheiten* appeared in 2001. More see p.1

October 27

**Bottle in the Cellar: The lost book of Simcha Guterman: Jewish-German Dialogue with YAACOV GUTERMAN**

Yaacov Guterman was born in Poland in 1935. During the Second World War, he and his family hid under false Polish identities. They were forced to change their hiding places often. His father Simcha wrote an autobiographical book on narrow strips of paper, in which he described the tragic fate of his people. The written papers he put in bottles and hid them in cellars. One of the bottles was found after the war. Simcha was a member of the Polish underground, he fought in the Warsaw Uprising in 1944 and died in combat. Yaacov immigrated to Israel in 1950. He studied Bible and literature at the Hebrew University and taught these subjects for several decades. His oldest son Raz was killed in the Lebanese war in 1982. Yaacov started to illustrate books in the late 1950ies. He has illustrated about 140 books for children and adults in Israel and abroad. He has been active for many years in Israeli peace movements and organizations, which work towards reconciliation with the Palestinians. He has published many poems for children and translated a large body of verse from Polish into Russian as well. He is a member of Kibutz Haogen. *Bottle in the Cellar* documents his search for his father’s book in Poland.



November 9

### Remembering 'Kristallnacht'

This year's Kristallnacht Memorial event was a very successful collaboration between many organizations on campus, led by the students of the Holocaust Remembrance Committee. As they arrived at the Wasserman Cinematheque, members of the audience were greeted by cello music a slideshow showing pictures of the destroyed German synagogues. A small group of students then enacted a scene in which they presented their family connection to the victims of the Nazi pogrom. The evening concluded with the screening of filmmaker LILIANE TARGOWNIK's *Rosenzweig's Freiheit* [Rosenzweig's Freedom]. Targownik is temporarily a scholar at the Women's Research Center.



November 10

### Why is Paris burning?

A crowd of eighty students and faculty filled the auditorium in Shiffman to hear what expert faculty members had to say about the recent eruption of violence in the streets of Paris. After two teenagers were electrocuted while being chased by police, immigrant youths from poor Paris neighborhoods took to the streets, setting thousands of cars and buses on fire, attacking businesses and schools. Brandeis University Professors PAUL JANKOWSKI (History), JYTTE KLAUSEN and GEORGE ROSS (Politics), and JANE HALE and MICHAEL RANDALL (Romance and Comparative Literature) offered a variety of perspectives, but agreed that

events were neither unexpected nor primarily related to problems with Muslims per se. As Professor Ross put it: "The kids from these communities basically have no future. This has been the situation for thirty years." Ross also challenged the notion that such eruptions were a particular French problem, noting that "many ghettos in cities in the US look as bad if not much worse than those in Paris."

## The Wagner Controversy

by Evgenija Garbolevsky

Composer Richard Wagner has always evoked attention. The question most pervasive to his controversial persona is whether his art could be separated from his aggressive anti-Semitism. The small room at the faculty lounge at Brandeis University was almost unable to host all the visitors on November 10, 2005, eager to hear the speech of Dr. Gottfried Wagner about his great-great grandfather, Richard Wagner. First Gwendolyn Beinfield Professor Eric Chafe from Brandeis University, whose most recent book is entitled *The Tragic and the Ecstatic: The Musical Revolution of Wagner's Tristan and Isolde* (2005) introduced the composer's work. Professor Wagner, author of the book *Twilight of the Wagners: The Unveiling of a Family's Legacy* (2000) himself a stage director and music historian, responded with a clear "No" to the above posed question. Dr. Wagner pointed out that the composer's political position was inseparable from his art. Wagner deeply believed in the superiority of the German nation and the need for its "liberation from the Jews". His anti-Semitism was the product of an intense self-hatred and identity crises, which are also leitmotifs in his operas, explained Wagner Jr. Dr. Wagner emphasized that Hitler became an obsessed anti-Semite only after knowing Wagner's art. Hitler made the composer his cultural and political model, writing in *Mein Kampf* that "Wagner is my religion." To the question whether he still listens to Wagner's music himself, Gottfried Wagner responded: "Why should I listen to him? We have so many other great composers, such as Verdi, Mozart, and Bach." He concluded: "We cannot close our eyes. We cannot just listen to the music."



## The German Elections and the Future of Democracy in Europe

Europe was the scene of a number of important electoral decisions in 2005. The French and the Dutch rejected the proposed constitution for the European Union. Tony Blair won his third term in office with the lowest share of the vote for a ruling party in modern times. The German elections ended in a stalemate. CDU Chancellor Angela Merkel is forced to oversee a majority of SPD cabinet members. In a two-day symposium CGES presented expert reflections on recent European elections. PAUL JANKOWSKI (History, Brandeis) explained the French rejection of the proposed EU constitution as primarily a failure of domestic politics. The French, he argued, were unhappy with their government. But the EU was also regarded as a mammoth administration with little contact to regional interests. JAMES CRONIN, Professor of History at Boston College, remarked that in view of the difficulties Germany faced after its elections, the British electoral system was perhaps more favorable in times of crisis, as it allowed a government to lead in spite of a divided electorate. GEORGE ROSS, (Hillquit Professor of Labor and Social Thought and Director, of CGES, Brandeis), emphasized that Europe was indeed struggling as a result of German unification, EU enlargement, and globalization. He highlighted the failure of the EU constitution as a 'botched job' to begin with. Poorly written and not well-thought out, apart from granting human rights this constitution had little to offer and left much to desire. In his lecture entitled *Quo vadis Germany? German Perspectives after the Elections* professor GERT-JOACHIM GLÄßNER (right), political scientist from Humboldt University in Berlin and author of *German Democracy. From Post World War II to the Present Day* (2005), gave a more optimistic outlook. Presenting first of all the facts of the election results, Gläßner noted that the change at the head of the government represents a significant generational change, which might bring new vitality into the European process as well.



*November 12*

### **Better to write of laughter than of tears: A Colloquium on German Humor.**

A group of scholars and writers was convened at Brandeis by Professor STEVE DOWDEN (GRALL) for a colloquium on German Humor. See page 6.

*November 14 & 21*

### **The German Elections and the Future of Democracy in Europe.**

Symposium with PAUL JANKOWSKI (History, Brandeis), JAMES CRONIN, (History, Boston College), GEORGE ROSS, (Politics and Sociology, Brandeis), and GERT-JOACHIM GLÄßNER, (Political Science, Humboldt University, Berlin). See Details above.

*November 30*

### **Circus as Metaphor for Culture in Rafik Schami's Novel**

#### ***Reise zwischen Nacht und Morgen* [Journey between Day and Night]**

At a luncheon with students and faculty, HILTRUD ARENS, Associate Professor of German, University of Montana, Missoula, introduced the work of Syrian-German author Rafik Schami. In a close reading of

his novel *Reise zwischen Nacht und Morgen*, as well as recent essays, Arens highlighted Schami's solitary attempt to bridge the gap between Christian Europe and the Arab world. Schami, she explained, uses the circus as a metaphor for the work of the writer, who like the trapeze artist or the clown, lives between the cultures and performs his acrobatics in the hope of translating human experience from one place to another.

*September-December*

### **Brandeis German Film Evenings**

Every Wednesday night in the Fall Semester of 2005, the Center for German and European Studies sponsored a movie evening for all Brandeis Students. The allure of German pop culture and art house cinema, with the additional benefit of free pizza, attracted a steady following of students to the TV Lounge in the VILLAGE dormitory. The Center showed critically acclaimed movies such as *Run Lola Run*, *Goodbye Lenin* and *Wings of Desire*. The highpoint of the semester was the screening of the world renowned *Das Boot* by Wolfgang Petersen. Due to the success and popularity of the screenings the Center decided to extend the movie series into the Spring semester, naturally with more free pizza. Visit CGES's website for updates on upcoming screenings. All screenings take place Wednesdays at 9pm in the TV Lounge of the VILLAGE dormitory.

## Faculty Profile

PAUL JANKOWSKI (right) is Ray Ginger Professor of History at Brandeis University and currently chair of the History Department. He received his B.A. and Ph.D. from Oxford University in the United Kingdom. His published work has so far been focused on the history of modern France. His work on the 1930s, the German occupation, and on political scandals throughout French history explores the mysterious forces that hold a country together or drive it apart, for French history “is an alternating tale of national cohesion and simmering civil war.” He is currently working on a book about the battle of Verdun, the encounter in 1916 between the French and the Germans that left over 300,000 dead. His goal is “to explore the battle from all angles, military, cultural, social, short-term and long-term, French and German” in order to write a comprehensive history of the battle, which has since become “a symbol of the folly of the first world war and an emblem of the cause of Franco-German reconciliation.”



## BETTER TO WRITE OF LAUGHTER THAN OF TEARS: A Colloquium on German Humor

By Steve Dowden

On November 12, 2005, the Center for German and European Studies together with the Goethe Institute Boston convened a day-long colloquium at Brandeis. In attendance were many scholars of German literature and culture from Brandeis and other universities in the Boston metropolitan area but also from as far away as London and Nova Scotia. The motive for the conference was twofold. First, it was intended to challenge critics to think about a significant topic that is rather understudied, but it was also our intention to open lines of communication among colleagues who live near one another yet are more likely to meet in some national or international context. Happily, we were successful on both counts. There were six lectures with discussions kicked off in each



Prof. Steve Dowden, GRALL

case by a prepared response with topics ranging from Monty Python and German culture (LESLEY CHAMBERLAIN, London), to the bitter comedy of EDGAR HILSEN RATH (Thomas Kniesche, Brown). SYLVIA SCHMITZ-BURGARD (Holy Cross) explored



some links between feminism and humor.

JANE CURRAN (Dalhousie) spoke on the comic didacticism of Günter Grass. The afternoon concluded with SUSAN COCALIS (University of Massachusetts) in a comic lecture splendidly sending up the academic lecture as cultural form. Serving as respondents to these lecturers were DAVID DOLLENMAYER (Worcester Polytechnic), THOMAS NOLDEN (Wellesley), ELLIS SHOOKMAN (Dartmouth), and VERONIKA FUECHTNER (Dartmouth). In the evening events continued with a performance by German cabaret artist SINASI DIKMEN. Herr Dikmen uses humor to probe the sensitive seam between the culture of German Turks and the culture of the ethnically German countrymen.



## How about being in Berlin for the Soccer World Cup!?

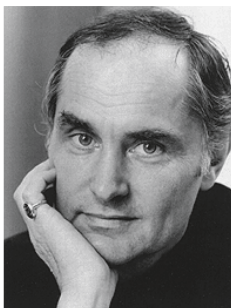
Brandeis Berlin Summer Program June 7-July 22 2006

Soccer will be big in Berlin in the summer of 2006, as the World Cup takes center stage June 9–June 23, 2006. Participants in our *Brandeis Berlin Summer Program* will be able to enjoy the festivities surrounding the games, as Berlin opens its doors to soccer fans from around the world. But academically, too, the program has much to offer: Three new courses have been approved: In addition to *Beginning and Intermediate German*, *Modern Jewish-German History*, and *Art and Architecture in Berlin*, a politics and an economics course have been added to the roster: *Germany and European Unification*; and *Economics of Reprivatization in the new Europe*. Those students already fluent in German are able to take a new upper-level German literature course in the German language: *Berlin in Literature—Literature in Berlin*. Information about travel support and study grants is available on the CGES website. The deadline for applications is March 15, 2006.



## Preview of Upcoming Events in 2006

Renowned German filmmaker MICHAEL VERHOEVEN will come to Brandeis April 28-30, 2006 to present the US Premiere of his new documentary film *Unknown Soldier*. Verhoeven was



born in Berlin in 1938. Although his father, the theater director Paul Verhoeven (not to be confused with the Dutch filmmaker of the same name) tried to discourage Michael from “such a joyless career”, Verhoeven first studied medicine in Berlin and Munich. But parallel to becoming a doctor, Verhoeven began to act on stage and produce and direct films in the late 1960’s. Having set up his own film company, *Sentana Filmproduktion*, with his wife, actress Senta Berger, Verhoeven produced a number of films for German television before launching a successful international career as a film director. Brandeis will show a retrospective of his biggest successes, including *The White Rose* (1982), *Nasty Girl* (1989), which was nominated for an Academy Award and a Golden Globe, and *My Mother’s Courage* (1995). Verhoeven’s newest film, *Unknown Soldier*, is a documentary that was inspired by the 1997 exhibit “Crimes of the Wehrmacht”, which traveled all over Germany [see [http://www.verbrechen-der-wehrmacht.de/docs/home\\_e.htm](http://www.verbrechen-der-wehrmacht.de/docs/home_e.htm) for details]. In his film Verhoeven asks questions about

the complicity of Wehrmacht soldiers in Hitler’s “Final Solution”; Did the Wehrmacht get involved in anti-Jewish actions

only haphazardly? Or was there a basic agreement with Nazi policies among army generals? For screening times and directions, please visit <http://www.brandeis.edu/jewishfilm>.

On March 21, 2006 you are invited to join a panel of experts for a discussion of “Auschwitz to Srebrenice--War Crimes, Crimes Against Humanity, and the Possibilities for Justice” with PAUL JANKOWSKI (history), DANIEL TERRIS (Director, Ethics Center) and DEVIN PENDAS (History, Boston College).

On April 25 (Holocaust Remembrance Day), Professor JEFFREY PECK from the American Institute for Contemporary German Studies in Washington, D.C. will come to Brandeis to present his new book. His talk is entitled “In the Shadow of the Holocaust: New Jewish Life in Germany Today.”

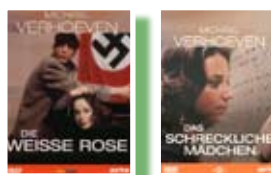


CGES will also mark the 100th birthday of violinist ALMA ROSÉ, who was born in Vienna in 1906 and killed in Auschwitz in 1944. Her role as the conductor of the women’s orchestra at Auschwitz has recently been highlighted in Richard Newman’s *Alma Rosé: Vienna to Auschwitz* (2005).



As CGES continues its investigation into the ‘Responsibilities of a Mature Democracy’, plans are underway for two conferences, one on nuclear energy and security (May 2006), and another on recent developments in Eastern Europe (November 2006).

For details and the most updated information about upcoming events, please visit our website at <http://www.brandeis.edu/departments/cges>.



Preview 2006