

## Speaker's Archive: Visual and Audio Series 2014 – 2013

13 November, 2014

7:30 pm Higgins Lounge, Dana Commons

### Geographies of the Holocaust

**Speakers:** Anne Knowles

The Holocaust separated families, destroyed communities, displaced millions, created new kinds of places — densely crowded Jewish ghettos and concentration camps — where people labored and died. Each of these traumas was fundamentally geographical, yet few scholars have examined geographies of the Holocaust. Professor Anne Knowles (Middlebury College, Geography Department) highlighted the work of the Holocaust Geographies Collaborative, an international team of historians and geographers who explored this complex event using geographic and methods of analysis — notably Geographic Information Systems (GIS) — and data visualization.

[Listen to audio of the event »](#)

Co-Sponsored by the Graduate School of Geography; Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning; Human-Environment Regional Observatory; and Liberal Education and Effective Practice (LEEP).

11 September, 2014

7:30 pm Higgins Lounge, Dana Commons

### Narrating Genocide; Literary Representations and Historical Accounts

**Speakers:** Chris Bohjalian and Khatchig Mouradian

Strassler Center Director and Rose Professor Debórah Dwork moderated a conversation between Strassler Center doctoral candidate Khatchig Mouradian and best-selling author Chris Bohjalian. They discussed different routes to the past (literature and history) and how each genre informs the other. Bohjalian is the author of *The Sand Castle Girls* (2012), an epic novel about the Armenian Genocide and, most recently, *Close Your Eyes, Hold Hands* (2014). Mouradian is completing his dissertation on *The 'Ground Zero' of the Armenian Genocide: Destruction and Agency in the Concentration Sites of Syria (1915-1918)* and serves as Coordinator of the Armenian Genocide Program at Rutgers University.

[Listen to audio of the event »](#)

Co-Sponsored by the National Association for Armenian Studies and Research

2 April, 2014

4:15pm rose Library, Cohen-Lasry House

### Antisemitism and Catholicism in Postwar Poland

**Speaker:** Brian Porter-Szücs

Professor Brian Porter-Szücs (University of Michigan) discussed Polish antisemitism after 1945. Drawing on his then new book, *Poland in the Modern World: Beyond Martyrdom*, which pushed discussion of Polish Antisemitism beyond the familiar emphasis on Polish tragedy and suffering, Porter-Szücs discussed the context for understanding modern Polish history within a global framework.

[Listen to audio of the event »](#)

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**13 March, 2014**

**7:30 pm Rose Library, Cohen-Lasry House**

## Lies, Truth, and Fiction: The Holocaust in Literature

**Speakers:** Ruth Franklin, Contributing Editor at the New Republic

Literature is art and memoir is fact. Franklin explored the limits of this statement in the context of Holocaust memoirs and literature. Can literature help us understand the truth of atrocity? Is memoir as straightforward and truthful as it seems at first glance?

[Listen to audio of the event »](#)

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**13 November, 2013**

**4:15pm Rose Library, Cohen-Lasry House**

## The Nature of German Antisemitism during the Third Reich

**Speaker:** Tom Kohut (Williams College)

Professor Thomas Kohut (Williams College) built on his interest in the psychological dimension of the past and how psychology is shaped by culture. Using findings from his current research and his recent book, *A German Generation: An Experiential History of the Twentieth Century*, he analyzed the psychological nature of German antisemitism.

[Listen to audio of the event »](#)

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**3 October, 2013**

**4pm Rose Library, Cohen-Lasry House**

## The Challenge of Powerlessness: Writing History from the Victims' Perspective

**Speakers:** Amos Goldberg (Hebrew University)

From the publication of Anne Frank's diary in 1947 to the more recent availability of other Holocaust diaries and collections, historians and lay readers alike have been intrigued by the window into daily life that diaries offer. Yet using diaries to understand history is not straightforward. Dr. Amos Goldberg, Cutler Distinguished Visiting Scholar, explored why Holocaust diaries are a rich but problematic source, and what the ethical implications of using diaries — and questioning them — are.

[Listen to audio of the event »](#)

Co-Sponsored by History Department and The Henry J. Leir Chair  
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