



ASN

THE CENTER *for* AUSTRIAN STUDIES
AUSTRIAN STUDIES NEWSMAGAZINE

Vol. 24, No. 2 • Fall 2012

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CAS OPENS NEW SEARCH FOR DIRECTOR

plus

A look at Vienna's Arbitration Panel for *In Rem* Restitution

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Driven to Discover

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ASN

Austrian Studies Newsmagazine

Volume 24, No. 2 • Fall 2012

Designed & edited by Daniel Pinkerton

Editorial Assistants: Linda Andreat, Katie Evans, Mollie Madden, and Kevin Mummey

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COVER: *Interior of the Art Gallery of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada, where part of the Wirth Institute's "Trans-Aesthetics" conference was held (see story, p. 28). Photo: Daniel Pinkerton.*

Twentieth BMWF Fellow comes to the Center

Matthias Falter, a doctoral candidate in political science at the University of Vienna, was awarded the 2012-13 CAS BMWF Fellowship by the Austrian Federal Ministry for Science and Research (BMWF).

Matthias is the 20th student to come to Minnesota since the program was established in the fall of 1992. The award, funded by the BMWF, brings an outstanding Austrian doctoral student to the University of Minnesota for an entire academic year. While here, the fellow works on his or her dissertation, delivers a scholarly paper, consults with U of M faculty, and often travels around the U.S. to conferences and archives. The BMWF Fellow also assists the director in various scholarly or administrative projects.

Matthias has only been in Minnesota since September 10, but already he has planned several activities: he is traveling to the German Studies Association conference in October to deliver a paper, he is giving a presentation in the CAS Lecture Series in November and, along with Linda Andreat, has picked the fall movie, *Mein Bester Feind* (see calendar on p. 3).



Matthias Falter. Photo: Daniel Pinkerton.

LETTER *from the* DIRECTOR

Is *IT IMPOLITE* to beat one's own drum and to congratulate oneself? Even if it is, I will disregard it for a moment and congratulate ourselves at the Center. I want to wish us a very happy birthday. 2012 represents the 35th anniversary of the founding of the Center for Austrian Studies at the University of Minnesota. In 1977, then Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky "in celebrating the Bicentennial Anniversary of the United States (presented) a Gift of One Million Dollars to the University of Minnesota for the establishment of a Center for Austrian Studies." The Memorandum of Understanding between the University and the "Kuratorium des Österreichischen National Fonds '200 Jahre USA,'" from which I just quoted part of the preamble, goes on to define the purpose of the center: It is to serve as a "catalyst" and a "focal point" for Austrian studies across academic disciplines and fields; it is to "encourage cultural, intellectual, and practically applicable studies of Austria;" it is to organize scholarly events such as symposia and conferences; and it will "seek to engage and assist Austrian scholars to visit ... and assist in fostering relations between institutions of Austria and the United States." Last but not least, the Agreement charges the Center to publish "notice of its activities, the scholarly product of symposia and conferences" and to establish a scholarly publication on Austrian Studies.

Faithful readers of the *ASN* who, over the years, have seen reports on the number and the range of activities, initiatives, and programs we have organized will agree with me that we have lived up to, indeed exceeded, our charge over the last 35 years. I actually just mistyped the word "exceeded," my fingers automatically typed "excelled." And that is true, too: we have excelled in the execution of our charges. Let's take stock.

Bill Wright, our founding director, started the Center's strong tradition of publishing scholarly monographs and conference proceedings. And all subsequent directors have continued to do so. The practice culminated in a designated and ongoing book series on Austrian and Habsburg Studies published by Berghahn Press. Fourteen volumes have come out in the Berghahn series so far (and a fifteenth is due soon) with about the same numbers of books published elsewhere by the Center before the series was instituted. Bill Wright also brought us the *Austrian History Yearbook*, the premiere English-language scholarly journal for Austrian Studies. It came to the Center from Rice University after the retirement of John Rath. It has been published under the auspices of the Center since 1979. The editors are hard at work on volume XLIII; that is 43



continuous scholarly annals devoted to Austrian Studies. Of course, besides the academic publications we shouldn't forget the very newsmagazine you are reading right now. We very much regard it as one of the catalysts envisioned in our founding documents, as the forum in which the Austrian Studies community in North America shares its news and its stories.

In addition to its publications, the Center's excellence is reflected in the many scholarly conferences, symposia, seminars, and workshops we have organized and hosted over the years. They are too many to list, but the history conferences range in time from the Middle Ages to contemporary history. Other conferences ranged in discipline from the arts and humanities to the social sciences and natural sciences, including environmental studies, energy policy, and law. For many years we have kept up a vibrant lecture series anchored by the annual Robert A. Kann Memorial lecture. On November 8th, we'll host the 28th Kann Lecture (see p. 7).

Facilitating exchange visitors from Austria and Central Europe is another long-standing Center priority. We have hosted faculty and students from a number of Austrian universities through the Fulbright program and through bilateral agreements with the universities of Graz, Vienna, and Salzburg, among other institutions, and with the Austrian Fulbright Commission. We are proud to host our 20th Minnesota-BMWF Doctoral Fellow in 2012-2013.

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CAS fall calendar 2012

Wednesday, October 17. Lecture.

Thomáš Klvaňa, journalism, political science, Czech Republic. "Czech Republic: Still in Transition? From Communism to EU Accession to Today." 12:00-1:30 p.m., 1210 Heller Hall. *Cosponsored by the Institute for Global Studies, the European Studies Consortium, and the Department of History.*

Monday, October 22. Film. *Mein bester Feind* (My best enemy).

Directed by Wolfgang Murnberger (Austria, 2011). 6:00 p.m., 710 Social Sciences Building.

Wednesday, October 31. Lecture.

Thomas Schnöll, Austrian Consul General, Chicago. "The Future of the Eurozone: The European Project at a Crossroads." 12:00-1:00 p.m., 614 Social Sciences Building.

Thursday, November 8. 28th Annual Kann Memorial Lecture.

Nora Berend, history, Cambridge University. "Violence as Identity: Christians and Muslims in Hungary in the Medieval and Early Modern Period." 3:30-5:30 p.m., 120 Anderson Library. *Cosponsored by the Center for Medieval Studies and the European Studies Consortium.*

Thursday, November 15. Lecture.

Matthias Falter, political science, University of Vienna; 2012 BMWF Fellow. "Parliamentary Discourse on Right-Wing Extremism in Austria since 1999." 3:30-5:00 p.m., 710 Social Sciences Building.

Thursday, December 6. Annual Nikolaus Day Party. Time and location TBA.

U of MN Launches New Search for CAS Director

In the biggest news of the summer, the College of Liberal Arts at the University of Minnesota announced an international search for a new permanent faculty director for the Center for Austrian Studies.

As has been the case with past permanent directors, the new director will hold both an administrative appointment as director of the center and a faculty appointment with indefinite tenure in the College of Liberal Arts. In this new search, the faculty appointment may be at the rank of either associate professor or professor.

The search is another sign of ongoing support for CAS from CLA and its dean, James Parente, Jr. Evelyn Davidheiser, assistant dean for international programs and long-time chair of the CAS Advisory Committee, is the chair of the committee.

The administrative appointment is a 12-month appointment at the rank of director (with faculty rank); the initial term of the administrative appointment is three years, 2013-14 to 2015-16, with the possibility of renewal for an additional three-year term or terms.

The faculty appointment is a 100%-time appointment over the nine-



month academic year, consistent with existing collegiate and University policy. The tenure unit for the faculty appointment will be an appropriate academic department within the College of Liberal Arts, to be determined in consultation among the candidate, the department, and the college.

A nine-month base salary is attached to the faculty appointment; a salary augmentation is attached to the administrative appointment. The position will begin as early as July 1, 2013 but no later than August 26, 2013. The salary will be competitive.

The university encourages scholars of Austria and East-Central Europe in any discipline of the humanities, social sciences, and fine arts to apply. Application

materials must be submitted electronically through the University of Minnesota's online employment system. The full job posting, with contact information for Davidheiser, may be found at the URL <http://cla.umn.edu/about/DirectorAustrianStudiesFY12.php>.

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled, but those who are interested in this opportunity should act quickly. The search committee will begin reviewing applications on **November 1, 2012**. ❖

Bren, Hochman win 2012 CAS Prizes



2012 was an unusual year for the biennial book and dissertation prizes we have administered since 1990. In a time of worldwide economic difficulties, it is perhaps unsurprising that the outside funding for the prizes disappeared. However, CAS, whose mission is to facilitate scholarship across the humanities, social sciences, and fine arts, found the money in its budget to fund the prizes—hence the slight change in title. When all was said and done, we received an unusually large number of entrants this year, but the scholars who graciously volunteered to serve on the prize committees were able to come to clear decisions.

The Center awarded the 2012 CAS Book Prize to Paulina Bren for her book *The Greengrocer and His TV: The Culture of Communism after the 1968 Prague Spring* (Cornell University Press, 2010). Erin Regina Hochman won the CAS Dissertation Prize for “Staging the Nation, Staging Democracy: The Politics of Commemoration in Germany and Austria, 1918-1933/34” (defended at the University of Toronto, 2010).

According to the committee, Bren's *The Greengrocer and His TV* “uses Jaroslav Dietl's Communist-era television serials to get at the inner life of post-1968 communist Czechoslovakia, the era of normalization, and deconstruct old Cold War binaries concerning power and resistance in the East Bloc. Instead of an iron divide between repression and dissidence, regime and people, and public and private life, her analysis of what the greengrocer watched in his living room reveals a complex set of mutually constitutive state-society relations that were mediated through the tv screen, defining “normality” and “self-realization” in Czechoslovakia after the Prague Spring.

“This innovative, lively study of mass media encourages rethinking about commonalities across East and West in the postwar world. Bren's book will shape research questions about the 1970s and 1980s in Eastern Europe and inspire new uses of non-traditional sources, making it a standard setter for scholars of successor states of the Habsburg Monarchy during the late twentieth century.”

The dissertation committee, in its evaluation of Hochman's “Staging the Nation, Staging Democracy,” said, “Hochman proposes a re-examination of nationalism, citizenship, and democracy in the contexts of both the Austrian First Republic and the German Weimar Republic and chal-

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Water Quality and the Environment: an international perspective

What does having good quality water mean to people around the world? Access to drinkable water is so important that many people consider it a basic human right. And yet, parts of the world have water safe to drink and use as needed, while parts of the world struggle to get a few drops of drinkable and useable water.

In the water quality workshop cosponsored by CAS, the participants explored current global water quality issues from various perspectives, local as well as world-wide. They learned about water as a basic human right, about the connections between water and human health including water borne diseases, and about watersheds in both local and global contexts. Experts were invited to discuss a variety of issues, from basic human rights to options considered by other countries as they manage their water resources to provide access to safe sources of water.

Since Minnesota has an abundance of water resources, the group was able to make use of nearby sources. One afternoon the class walked down to the Mississippi river to take and analyze water samples. On another day, they took a trip to a marsh area on campus, which allowed them to analyze samples to measure water transparency. The class was also able to evaluate water quality by determining the type of insects found in various water samples. In the classroom, instructors conducted a filtration lab activity that demonstrated how simple to complex testing can be used in elementary to high school classrooms to develop various methods of water filtration. The class also made a field trip to the Wastewater Treatment Plant in St. Paul for a guided tour of the process of collecting and treating water to make it safe for use.

Throughout the week, presenters offered international perspectives. The co-founder of H2O spoke about the program that matches American students with a school in a developing nation to improve water access. Presentations were given on water quality practices in two European countries. Derya Erylimaz, a Ph.D. student who has worked on the Swedish implementation process, spoke about her experiences there. Hans Kordik, Counselor for Agriculture and the Environment at the Austrian Embassy in Washington, D.C. spoke on water quality policies, practices, and goals in Austria.

Each day class members turned in their reflections on the events along with suggestions of ways they could implement what they had learned that day. It was an exciting and active week. Thank you to all who participated!

Linda Andread
Center for Austrian Studies

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THE HORST RECHELBACHER FOUNDATION,
TITLE VI NATIONAL RESOURCE CENTERS AT THE U OF MN,
AND ADVANTAGE AUSTRIA



Participants and presenters at a field trip down by the Mississippi River. Photo: Simone LeClair.



While on a riverboat in the middle of the Mississippi River, participants listened to a presentation by Derya Erylimaz. Photo: Simone LeClair.

CAS rewards high school scholars

photos by Linda Andean

Once again, the Center for Austrian Studies participated in Minnesota History Day. This is a remarkable program in which more than 1,200 Minnesota middle school and high school students come to the University of Minnesota to display or perform historical research projects that they created.

Projects can be in the form of a paper, display, documentary film, or dramatic performance (solo or group). Each category has a junior and senior division, and the winners in each category go on to compete at National History Day in Washington, DC.

A number of organizations also give prizes for outstanding projects connected with that organization's interest, e.g., The Immigration History Research Center. These are judged separately and do not affect the general competition.

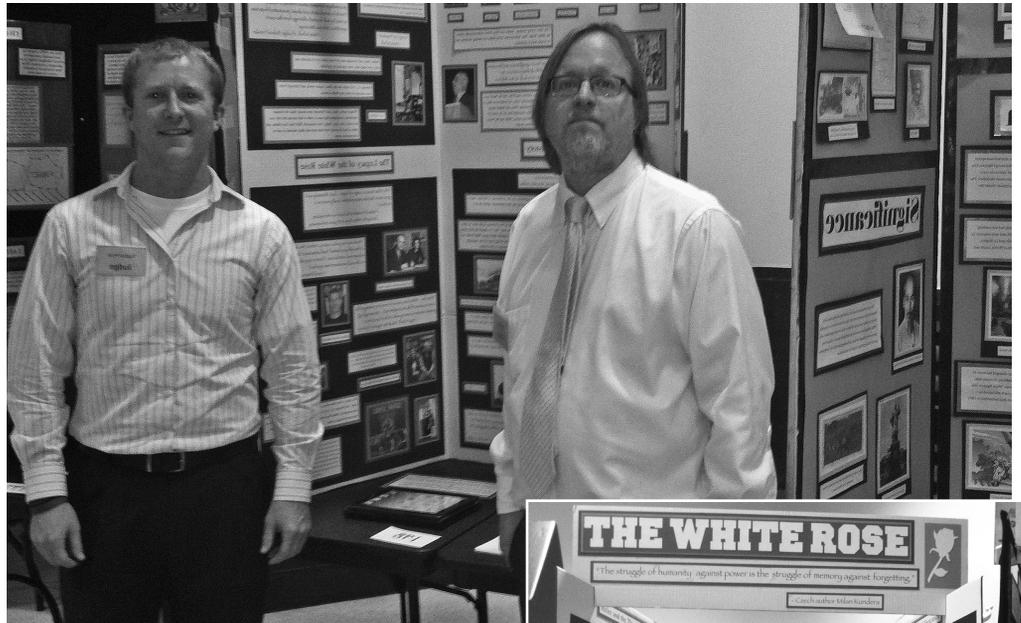
CAS honored four student projects:

- Tony Rich, Holy Rosary School, Duluth: "The Printing Press" (Junior division, individual, documentary)
- Alexandra Skinner and Lexi Hilton, Capitol Hill Magnet, St. Paul: "Fighting for Dignity: The Warsaw Ghetto Uprising" (Junior division, group, display)
- Kaitlyn Shepherd, Schaeffer Academy, Rochester: "The Fall of the Berlin Wall: How a Reaction by Peaceful Revolution Sparked a Reform" (Senior, individual, documentary)
- Megan Voight, Cretin-Derham Hall, St. Paul: "The White Rose Resistance" (Senior division, Individual, Exhibit)

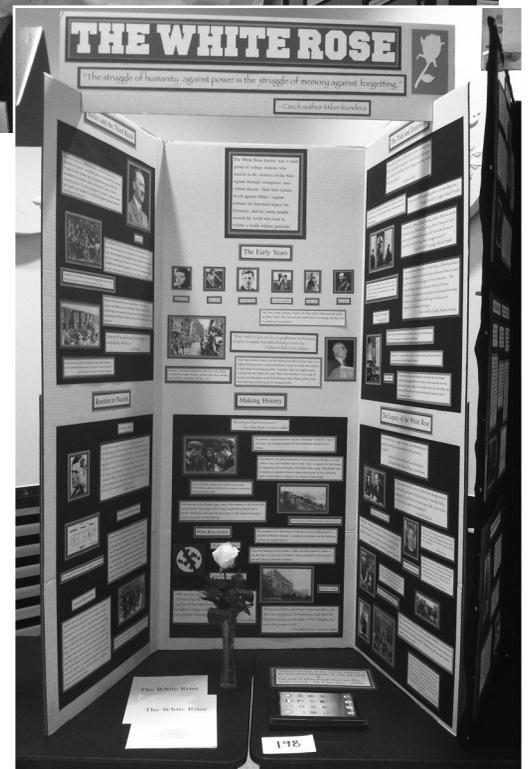
Each award consisted of a certificate and \$100. The judges were Linda Andean, administrative manager of CAS, and history graduate students Adam Blackler (a TA in history) and Kevin Mummey (a CAS RA). CAS congratulates all these young scholars and wishes them a bright academic future in high school and beyond.



Above: History Day displays.



Above: Judges Kevin Mummey and Adam Blackler. Left: Megan Voight's award-winning display.



LETTER from the DIRECTOR from page 3

From day one the Center has also focused its efforts on community and student oriented activities. The Austrian and Central European expat community, visiting scholars, and exchange students from across the University, and American undergraduate and graduate students participate in our cultural events, be they film screenings, vineyard visits (yes, even in Minnesota!), or the annual St. Nikolaus party for kids and grown-ups alike.

There is not enough room here for a detailed history of the Center—only a bird's eye view of our objectives and accomplishments. It is important, though, to look back once in a while and

to remind ourselves where we've come from and what we set out to do. The goals and missions envisioned by our founders are as valid today as they were 35 years ago. Stay tuned: we are planning a big birthday bash in spring 2013. We hope to invite all our friends and partners—all the agencies, institutions, sister Centers, contributors, donors, fellows, visitors, and collaborators to thank them and to congratulate them too. After all, we know all too well that there wouldn't be a drum to beat without the people that collaborated with us over the years.

Klaas van der Sanden
Interim Director, CAS

Islam and Muslim Communities in Central Europe



The Habsburg Empire occupied Bosnia and Herzegovina in 1878 and annexed the territory in 1908. The Empire issued the so-called *Islamgesetz* in 1912, making Austria-Hungary the first Catholic-dominated European state to give Islam an official status. The present status of Islam in the region is still affected by the structures and legal frameworks set up by the *Islamgesetz* after the annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina by Austria-Hungary.

The Center held a two-day conference to

discuss the consequences of this legacy for Islam and Muslim communities in the modern successor states. The opening session gave a solid grounding in the historical context. Other speakers gave analyses of the current situation in Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Hungary, Slovenia, Croatia, the Czech and Slovak Republics, Poland, and Ukraine. One participant gave a comparative talk on Muslim communities in the U.S. and Muslim communities in Europe.

The conference included visits to local

Above: Participants, left to right: Jan Kreisky, Štěpán Macháček, Gyorgy Lederer, Dunja Larise, Thomas Schmidinger, Sonja Aziz, Andy Wilhide, Karima Aziz, Mustafa Jamale, Kafya Ahmed, Konrad Pędziwiatr, Esnaf Begic, Duygu Özkan, Zeynep Arslan. Not pictured: Fatimah Fanusie. (Photo: Daniel Pinkerton.)

mosques, community centers, and a microloan agency run by Muslim immigrants. It was cosponsored by the Institute for Global Studies and the European Studies Consortium.

Cambridge U's Nora Berend to deliver Kann Lecture

Nora Berend, Professor of History at St. Catherine's College, Cambridge University, will present the 28th Annual Kann Memorial Lecture on November 8. Her lecture will be titled, "Violence as Identity: Christians and Muslims in Hungary in the Medieval and Early Modern Period" (see calendar, p. 3, for details on time and place.)

Berend is an internationally renowned scholar and teacher of medieval history, especially social and religious history, c. 1000-c. 1300. She has worked on the changing regulation of child oblation in canon law; on the place of non-Christians in medieval Christian society, including economic, social, legal,



Nora Berend

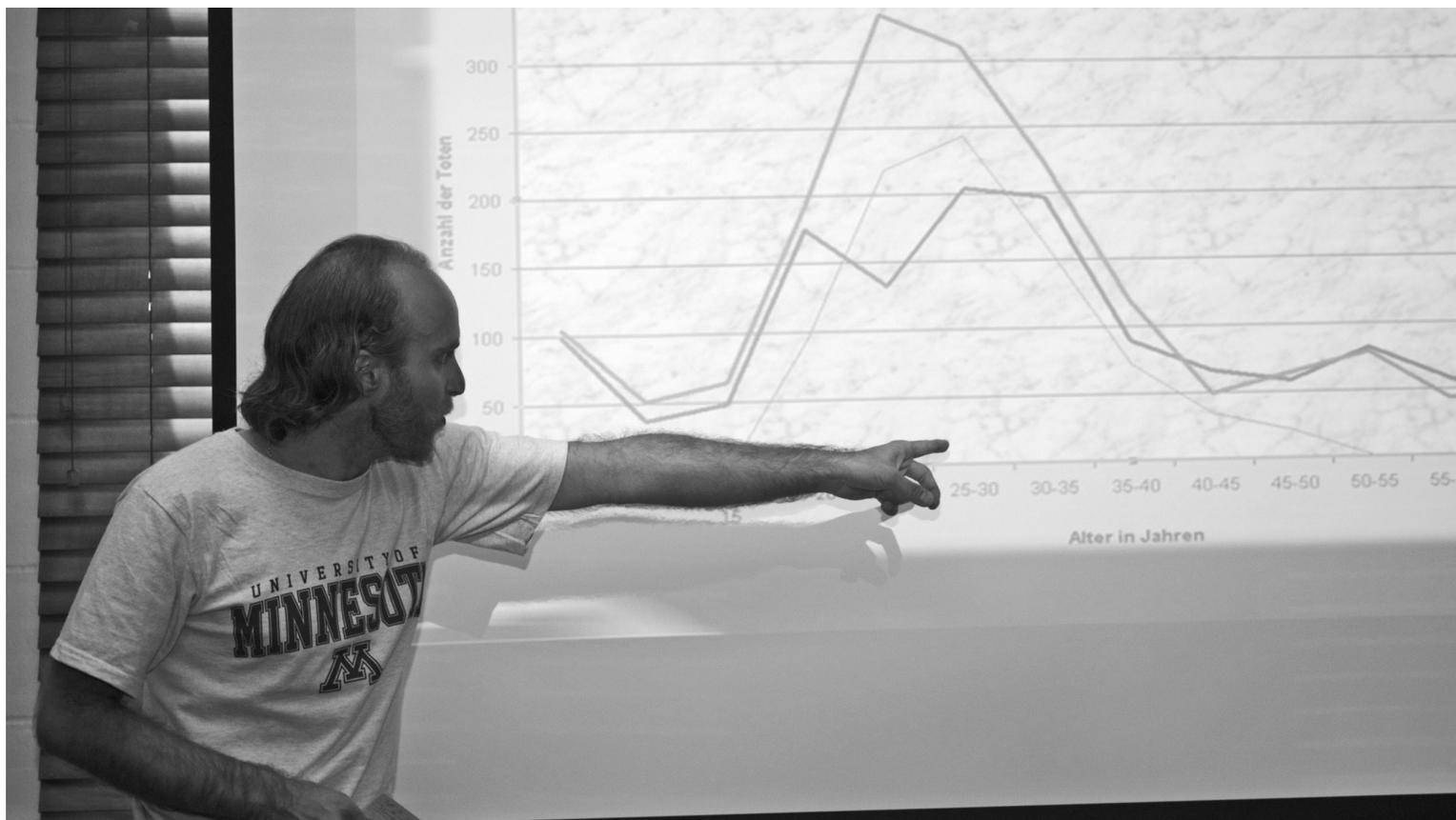
and religious interaction; and on medieval frontiers, Christianization, and state-building. Her current work and future projects focus on ideas of Christendom, sanctity, and

the history of social exclusion. In addition to numerous scholarly articles, Berend's publications include *At the Gate of Christendom: Jews, Muslims and 'Pagans' in Medieval Hungary c. 1000-c. 1300* (Cambridge, 2001), which was awarded the Gladstone Prize for non-British history; *Medieval Frontiers: Concepts and Practices* (co-edited with David Abulafia, Ashgate 2002); and, as editor, *Christianization and the Rise of Christian Monarchy: Scandinavia, Central Europe and Rus' c. 900-1200* (Cambridge, 2007).

In addition, Berend is a native Hungarian, the daughter of economic historian Iván T. Berend. ❖

Suddenly Last Spring

photos by Daniel Pinkerton



On May 3, Thomas Hörzer, the 2011-12 BMWF Fellow (above), gave a lecture, “The 1918-19 Spanish Influenza in Rural Minnesota.”



Last spring, the University of Minnesota and the University of Athens inaugurated a scholarly exchange, funded by the College of Liberal Arts. Konstantinos Raptis, a Habsburg historian at Athens, came to the U of M as the first visitor. During his stay, he delivered a lecture for CAS, “Nobility in Central Europe during the Late 19th and the First Decades of the 20th Century: The Counts Harrach, 1886-1945.” Left to right: Konstantinos Raptis; Evelyn Davidheiser, assistant dean for international programs; Klaas van der Sanden, interim director of CAS, and Theofanis Stavrou, U of M professor of history.

CAS, VOV award summer grad fellowships

A number of high-caliber graduate students at the University of Minnesota received summer fellowships for their work on Austrian and Central European topics in 2012. The funds came from several different sources.

Once again, the Center held a competition for summer graduate student fellowships. The winners were:

Lindsay J. Lawton, German Studies. In describing her work, Lindsay said, "My dissertation explores the production and consumption of a formulaic narrative in Germany and Austria which centers on the violent oppression of Muslim women by their families." Though the dissertation deals with both countries, she traveled to Austria to complete research on a chapter that deals with a specifically Austrian narrative and the reception of such narratives in Austria.

Nichole Neuman, German Studies (pictured far right). Nichole's dissertation will examine *Heimatfilme*. She will, in her words, "endeavor to answer how Heimatfilme shaped a postwar identity by whom it chose to depict (e.g., das Volk und seine Landschaft); who did not fit (foreigners); and who was left out (Jews)." But she will put a twist on this. She will study 40 Heimatfilme, both Austrian and German, that ended up in Los Angeles. "What purpose did this collection serve?" she asks. "How does Heimat function in a foreign land?" In order to prepare herself, she flew to Berlin "to comb the film archives of the Deutsche Kinemathek and Bundesarchiv to broaden my knowledge of Heimatfilme."

Rachel Schaff, Comparative Literature/Discourse and Society. For her dissertation, Schaff is "proposing an expansion of my masters thesis from Columbia University entitled 'The Holodrama: A Dialectic of Historicized Pathos and Action, a Comparative Study of Czechoslovak and Hollywood Holocaust Melodramas,' in which I explore my original concepts of the Holodrama and historicized pathos as they relate to a Czech-specific condition." She traveled to the National Film Archives in Prague, Czech Republic, to conduct research and consult with her advisor, U of M faculty member Alice Lovejoy, who was in Prague at the same time.

Henry Thomson, Political Science (pictured near right). Henry's Ph.D. topic is "Economic Origins of Democratization in Austria: The Grain Crisis of 1873-1896 and Democratic Reform." A political economist, he writes, "I am interested in the impact of commodity price shocks on the trade policy of authoritarian governments, and how different policy responses to food price volatility affect democratic reform." He will be examining historical literature and analyzing economic data.

Each student was awarded \$4,000.

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Henry Thomson



Nichole Neuman

U of MN to honor Tomáš Klvaňa Journalist, scholar to give lecture on campus

The University of Minnesota Global Programs and Strategy Alliance has awarded Dr. Tomáš Klvaňa a 2012 Distinguished Leadership Award for Internationals. This award is a University-wide award for alumni, former students, and friends of the University who have distinguished themselves in their post-university work as leaders in their professional careers.

In conjunction with this award, Klvaňa will travel to the University of Minnesota to deliver a lecture, "Czech Republic: Still in Transition? From Communism to EU Accession to Today," October 17, 12:00-1:30 p.m., 1210 Heller Hall. In it, Klvaňa will offer the experience of the Czech Republic as a possible model for other nations transitioning to democracy.

Klvaňa is an outstanding journalist, scholar, researcher, and alumnus of the College of Liberal Arts, earning his doctorate in speech communications in 1997. Klvaňa currently serves as a lecturer at New York University Center in Prague.

He is also a member of the Czech Euroatlantic Council, and the Harvard Club of Prague's Board of Directors, participates regularly in international conferences on international relations and security policy, and is a frequent analyst for Czech media organizations.

Klvaňa was one of the student leaders who led the successful Velvet Revolution in 1989 as editor-in-chief of a student publication that played a significant role in the critical last weeks of the communist regime.

Following his studies at the University of

Minnesota, Klvaňa taught at the University of Southern Maine. During this time he stayed in contact with people in the Czech Republic and wrote regularly for daily and weekly publications.

Klvaňa also served as the press secretary and policy adviser for President of the Czech Republic, Vaclav Klaus, in early 2003. Thereafter he went on to be a Shoreinstein Fellow at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. He then served as Czech Government Communications Coordinator of the Missile Defense Program in 2007.

Klvaňa has also acquired respect as an academic. He has given many lectures and participated in various public forums dealing with international relations, diplomacy, and the restoration of democracy. He came to CAS in October 2004 and delivered a lecture, "Media and the Failure of Civil Society in the Czech Republic." An interview with him appears in the Spring 2005 ASN (available online). ♦



Tomáš Klvaňa



Taras Polataiko

balancing politics & art

interview & photo by Daniel Pinkerton

Artist Taras Polataiko was born in Chernivtsi, Ukrainian SSR, now the independent state of Ukraine. He earned a BFA from the Moscow State Stroganov University of Fine and Industrial Arts, then immigrated to Canada and earned an MFA from the University of Saskatchewan. Currently, he is an assistant professor of art at Lethbridge University in Alberta and a frequently exhibited artist. His work was included in a 2012 exhibit at the Art Gallery of Alberta (AGA), REARVIEW MIRROR: New Art from Central and Eastern Europe. He gave a talk about his work in conjunction with the exhibit and a conference the AGA and Wirth Institute coorganized, "Trans-Aesthetics: Crossing Central Europe" (see article, p. 28).

ASN: Tell us about your early life.

TP: Chernivtsi was a provincial city. The people idealized the city as a kind of provincial heaven where everybody always gets along. Now Ukraine is independent, and the city still cultivates its identity as a haven of tolerance. But it's actually very interesting for me to be here in the context of this conference, being in the middle of a group of people who are all interested in the region's Habsburg legacy. When I think about what influenced my identity as a person, being surrounded by the architecture of Chernivtsi was very important. I was born and grew up in the center of the city, and much of it was Habsburg buildings. Of course, it was that brutal Soviet time so there was this huge disjunction

between the architecture and the reality of the Soviet Union. I remember how much history was brutalized in the Soviet Union. The high school curriculum featured history leading up to 1945, when the Russian tanks rolled in. Before that, there was really no history, which made me very interested in that stuff that wasn't available to me. Therefore, I'm still fascinated by this Habsburg legacy and in the identity of Chernivtsi. I left when I was 17 to go to art college in Moscow, and that was a long time ago, but it has left an imprint on me. For example, when I was in Moscow—in the 80s, when everything was changing, with Perestroika and all that—I would sometimes say "I'm Western Ukrainian, I'm like an Austrian." Of course, we all say, what is Austrian, right? But I was young and I was positioning myself as an outsider, a dissident. From an early age, I had a lot of escape fantasies.

ASN: I wonder if the brutality of some of Chernivtsi's history is one of the reasons so many people have a nostalgic longing for imagined Habsburg days. That's a kind of escapism of its own.

TP: It is. Chernivtsi has had a difficult history; that territory changed hands so many times. It was ruled by Kyiv. In the 16th century, Turkey ruled it. It just kept changing hands, and the Habsburg time was, comparatively speaking, the happiest time. If you can quantify brutality, there was probably less of it in Chernivtsi than in other places, and everybody there agrees that

the roughly 175 years of Habsburg rule were a happy time. Everybody seemed to get along. Do we idealize Chernivtsi's past? Sure. But I think the multiculturalism and tolerance of this community had basis in reality. The Ukrainian community, the Romanian community, the Jewish community—all of them had a cultural home in the city.

ASN: Is anyone in Chernivtsi nostalgic for the Soviet Union era? Is there a Ukrainian equivalent of German Ostalgia and the communist nostalgia that is hitting Russia? Those were awful times, but nostalgia is a funny thing.

TP: It is. Remember what I said a minute ago about being interested in those blanks, the unavailable pieces of postwar history. I want to understand my identity, because I want to understand why I think the way that I think. And that includes understanding my personal past as well as understanding the city where I come from. That means I have to know every part of Chernivtsi's history, not just the happy part. I'm drawn to the controversial parts of history, especially the pieces of history that most people prefer not to discuss. For example: In 1945, there was mass rape of women by the Red Army in Berlin. It's not discussed much, which leads to another bigger problem: why were war criminals on one side put to trial, while war criminals on the other side were not? It's not just a historical question. It influences contemporary politics a

lot, especially in a place like Ukraine. Sometimes I'm appalled when I'm listening to someone like Slavoj Žižek going on and on and on and quoting Lenin. My response to that is, Lenin has a lot of blood on his hands, why don't you go quote *Mein Kampf* while you're at it? Do you see my argument? Lenin was not involved in the Second World War, but if the Stalinist crimes, or people who were involved on that side of the war were rightfully put on trial—if we said a war criminal is a war criminal, never mind the ideology, and a crime is a crime and a rape is a rape, and shooting civilians or robbing is a crime, so why, why not? If people do not have to answer for their crimes because they have the correct ideology, you don't have a democracy.

ASN: *What were Moscow and art college like in the 80s?*

TP: The good thing was the euphoria—all of a sudden everything seemed to be possible. Perestroika was happening—from the top down, of course, and Gorbachev moved very slowly. But gradually, this became possible and that became possible. And pieces of history were coming up that were so unbelievably phantasmagoric. However, as a young person living there, I slowly realized just how deprived I was. In fact, the more I live the more I realize how deprived I was as a teenager and as a young person. When I compare myself to my daughter, who is growing up in Canada and is exposed to—well with the Internet, pretty much everything, right? It's clear that she has much more freedom, much more information, though in many ways it's something she can take for granted rather than something that is new and exciting. Sometimes when she goes to Ukraine and she sees it, she says "I wouldn't want to live there," even now. But when I was a young man in Moscow, it was an exciting change when all this information was becoming available. And mind you, I knew everything that was going on, because I was a short wave radio addict—I couldn't go to sleep without it. I was tuned to every source—BBC, Voice of America, Radio Free Europe. Therefore, I knew a lot of stuff, but it was interesting to see that information being absorbed by the masses, and the changes it was causing in the country's mentality. Those were really interesting liberal years. But then—and I believe it started in Moscow—the country started going in this ugly nationalist direction. I always wanted to get out, I hated the Soviet Union, and I took the first opportunity. When the University of Saskatchewan offered me a scholarship to do my graduate studies in Canada I just went, and never looked back.

ASN: *It was either that or draw posters for the Soviet Army.*

TP: No kidding. In those days, that, more or less, is how it was for an artist. You would graduate and you would be sent to a specific city and you would be part of a certain branch of the artists'



Taras Polataiko, spray painted gold, faces the statue of the first Ukrainian Governor General of Canada. Polataiko stands on a platform with the legend, "Dedicated to the 100th anniversary of Ukrainian settlement in honour of those Ukrainians who never became governor general."

union. The artists were not on salary, the artists were always on commission and they had to compete for the commissions. The application process wasn't very clear; in fact, it was Byzantine. You never knew exactly how a particular artist got the commission for a particular mural. I know this for a fact, because my father had to deal with this process.

ASN: *Your father was an artist, too?*

TP: He still is. I grew up surrounded by artists, so I always knew all sides of it—the nicer sides, the difficult sides, and the politics. It wasn't a pretty prospect for me to get stuck somewhere painting murals for dining rooms.

ASN: *So, you managed to travel to Saskatoon for your graduate studies. Since then, you have been creating two differing kinds of art. The first is paintings on canvas, and the second is a sometimes participatory and often political art. When did you first start doing what one might call "performance art"?*

TP: We actually did performances in Moscow. I didn't even know what performance art was at that time, but this is what we did. At one time, the police in Moscow were told to abide by law as a part of the new democratic process. They were pretty confused because going by the book was new to them. So they were very careful, and sometimes too careful. Being young, we engaged in intuitive kinds of expressions. Looking back now, I would call them surrealistic actions. We

never bothered recording them. However, it was important to have one person who looked like a Western journalist with a decent camera. And once you had that person you could get away with pretty much anything, within reason. We were playing with fire, but the cops didn't want to get involved. They didn't want to end up on camera and get into trouble. That was a fun time, and it only lasted for a short period of time. Some of it had political overtones—for example, we had burning flags—but usually it was not a direct political statement. It was improvised. But Moscow was the center of this monstrous empire that was falling apart—I mean it went really quick. That was exciting. I was interested in history. I understood the magnitude of it; I mean I felt it. So that made me aware of politics, and how politics are connected to aesthetics. This is always true; for that matter, everything is aestheticized. Therefore I was never interested, as some artists are, in putting art in the service of changing life. I did not want to be an activist. But I was interested in aestheticizing, using politics as part of art—not making art subservient to politics but doing the opposite. As an artist, I wanted to look at politics, at real things that influence real events, and use quote-unquote "reality" as part of my aesthetic.

ASN: *In Canada, you continued to create performance pieces, including one in 1992 where you pretended to be a statue facing the commemorative statue of the first Ukrainian Governor General of Canada. What was the impetus for that?*

TP: The idea for "Artist as Politician: In the Shadow of the Monument" was simple. I just didn't think the real monument was cool. First of all, I felt it was a weird representation based on some sort of inferiority complex. I thought that Canadian Ukrainians, or some subgroup of them, made a decision to represent all of us by this statue, and that act was a testament to an inferiority complex. "We have a president now!" So what? Some Ukrainian dude became governor general, fine, but there's going to be another one. And second, when I came to Canada, I was one of many Ukrainians who did not have a country. All of a sudden, there was an independent Ukraine, and I asked myself, "What does that mean for me, to have a country now?" I've left the Soviet Union, which I hated so much, and I'm here in Canada doing my work. Who am I? So when the monument goes up, it claims to represent my identity. But it doesn't sit well with me. You can't represent a large, diverse group of people by one person who happens to be a living politician.

ASN: *And your response didn't just make a political statement, it made a statement about the inherent politics in an existing piece of art.*

TP: Yes, which is always a problem. It's the nature of public sculpture in general, because

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Matic Večko. Photo by
Anna Windisch.

MATIC VEČKO

finding the connections between ancient epics and modern fantasy

by Anna Windisch and Katarina Zeravica

Matic Večko holds a BA and an MA degree in English and Comparative literature and is pursuing his Ph.D. in English literature at University of Ljubljana. He also works as a translator, writes film reviews, and is currently editor of a film publication series. Večko was a visiting researcher at the University of Alberta's Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies. Both the Wirth Institute and the University of Ljubljana hope that Večko's visit will strengthen ties with Slovenia, one of seven countries that partner with the Institute.

A&K: What brought you to the Wirth Institute for one month?

MV: In spring I was on an ERASMUS Intensive Program in Venice, where I met some colleagues with whom I talked about studying in Canada. They spoke very favorably about the University of Alberta and its library and resource system. At that time I had great problems obtaining certain sources for my research. In addition, I had wanted to visit Canada for a long time. I began inquiring about the possibility of conducting part of my research there during the summer of 2011. I received extremely generous support from Ms.

Harol from the Department of English and Film Studies. She brought my inquiry to the attention of the director of the Wirth Institute, Dr. Patrouch, who expressed interest in my research and was unbelievably kind and supportive.

A&K: In what way can the Wirth Institute help you and your research?

MV: Since I must hold a regular job while working on my Ph.D., the month at the Wirth Institute has, first of all, offered me an invaluable opportunity to focus solely on my research in extremely stimulating and favorable working conditions. But perhaps even more precious is the access to sources from the university's amazing library system. On top of that I have been able to get into contact with students and scholars who share similar research interests, which has proved to be an immense opportunity to exchange and gain additional ideas.

A&K: Does your home university (University of Ljubljana) have any pre-existing ties to Canadian universities or a Canadian Studies Center?

MV: Unfortunately, I cannot speak for our university in general. The Faculty of Arts of Ljubljana, where I come from, does not actively cooperate with any of the Canadian universities at the moment. I am quite convinced that this will change in the near future.

A&K: What is your dissertation research about?

MV: My dissertation examines the position that is occupied by the genres of epic and romance in contemporary fantasy genre. I suggest that as twentieth-century mainstream literature has become increasingly disillusioned, cynical, and ironic as a result of the disintegration of modern metaphysics and intensification of metaphysical nihilism (manifested in its clearest and finite form in postmodern texts), fantasy literature is a narrative form which represents a reaction to the same phenomena, but proceeds in an opposite direction, employing traditional imaginative modes and forms of myth, epic, and romance in an attempt to reintroduce a meaningful human experience through a view of the world as a totality in which humanity is still empowered and has not lost the potential for action (without being ironic and deconstructive).

A&K: In your research, do you draw on comparisons with literary epics of other nationalities?

MV: I work with epics from Sumerian, Ancient Greek, Roman, Finnish, French, Spanish, German, and English literatures.

A&K: You write film reviews and you've worked on a couple of books dealing with the Slovene film industry. When and/or how did your love for movies develop?

MV: I have been interested in cinema since I
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Schoenberg & his legacy are focus of new ACFNY art exhibit

by Kerstin Schuetz-Mueller

A modern day appraisal of Austrian composer Arnold Schoenberg and his legacy forms the point of departure for the Austrian Cultural Forum's upcoming fall 2012 exhibition, titled *Against the Specialist*. The show, curated by Eva Fischer, is being mounted in cooperation with the Arnold Schoenberg Center, Vienna. It presents a group of international contemporary artists working at the intersection between seeing and hearing, image and sound, and avant-garde and experimental practice.

The title of the exhibition is a direct quote by Schoenberg, from an essay he wrote in 1940, in which he argued for the necessity of multidisciplinary in the arts. Schoenberg saw the need to develop a command of and utilize many different disciplines as essential to the artistic process.

The juxtaposition of works by contemporary artists with excerpts and quotes from Arnold Schoenberg's body of work exposes the complexity of this composer, visual artist, and vanguard who is today regarded as one of the most influential and visionary artists of the past century. Schoenberg's interdisciplinary use of so many different means of expression renders him a precursor to what Rosalind Krauss calls the "age of the post-media condition."

Against the Specialist seeks to reflect these multi-media and interdisciplinary currents prevalent in contemporary arts, and in doing so, allows for a reassessment of the artist himself. As Peter Weibel puts it, these "new forms and possibilities of art [enable] us to establish new approaches to the old media of art and above all have kept the latter alive by forcing them to undergo a process of radical transformation."

To this end, some of the artists in this exhibition reference Schoenberg's oeuvre directly, while others connect to Schoenberg on a metaphorical level: questions of music theory or structure are addressed, and visual expressions make deliberate use of systems such as metrics, chromatics, and rhythm. The show also focuses on reevaluating the ideas put forth by Schoenberg and his contemporaries. Concepts such as his "inner cry of distress" have obviously lost relevance, but what are the visions and ideas that fuel artists today? Can we still revolutionize art, or has everything been said, leaving room only for collage, remixes, or quotes?

The two Austrian audio-visual artists known collectively as DEPART directly reference Schoenberg's *War Clouds Diary* in a multi-screen installation and audio soundscape. Tina Frank's video—shown here as a large scale double pro-



jection—focuses on the threshold of spatial perception: yellow and black patterns contract and unfold like a chromographic pendulum to pulsating rhythms by Florian Hecker. The late Austrian avant-garde filmmaker Kurt Kren deconstructs a painting by artist Helga Philipp in his analogue film, *11/65 - Bild Helga Philipp*, using montage and editing to create rhythm - in the absence of an actual sound layer.

Exhibition visitors are invited to interact with artist Gerald Moser's thicket of symmetrically aligned strings, giving them movement which in turn alters the images projected onto the strings and disturbs the structure. A question of space alludes to Schoenberg's twelve-tone technique which Moser sees as oscillating between rigid structure and artistic freedom. Viennese sound artist Konrad Becker provides the audio for this piece, with five tracks from his ground-breaking 1982 album, *Monotonprodukt 07*. Rainer Kohlberger's multi-screen piece, *Col*, represents a visual approach to mathematical and algorithmical structures, in which abstract shapes move toward and away from each other only to meet at random intervals, guided by variation, metrics, and chromatics.

Schoenberg's idea for a mechanical note-writing machine designed to facilitate the reproduction of musical scores was never realized, and today, that vision has been completely turned

on its head: with the ubiquity of digital media, precious autographs have turned into free downloads. Claudia Märzendorfer's ice-sculpture model of Schoenberg's device is a homage that speaks to the technological limitations of that time, in that it has no functionality. Ohio native Robert Howsare's *Drawing Apparatus*, two turntables connected by a pen that creates drawings unique to the respective records' speeds, represents another contemporary commentary on Arnold Schoenberg's musical notation systems. As is the case with Moser's installation, this piece also fluctuates between a structured system and artistic coincidence.

Photographs by New York-based artist John Brill capture emotions, visions, and surreal impressions. They reference Schoenberg's paintings, his so-called "gazes", which he saw as the most immediate means of emotional expression.

Against the Specialist is part of a series of programs the Austrian Cultural Forum has dedicated to Arnold Schoenberg throughout 2012, as it marks the 100-year anniversary of his seminal composition *Pierrot Lunaire* (1912). The exhibition also coincides with the ACFNY's annual experimental music festival, *Moving Sounds*.

For gallery hours and more information, see the ACFNY website, www.acfny.org.

Kerstin Schütz-Mueller is head of communications at ACFNY. ❖

"A COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTION"

Vienna's Arbitration Panel for In Rem Restitution seeks to redress Nazi property seizures



The Arbitration Panel for In Rem Restitution and members of its team in January 2012. Seated, from left to right: August Reinisch, Josef Aicher (Chairman) and Erich Kussbach.

by Susanne Helene Betz

The Arbitration Panel for *In Rem* Restitution has been quietly working on behalf of Austrian victims of National Socialism for over a decade. It forms a key part of Austria's most recent measures to provide compensation and restitution for losses and damages suffered at the hands of Nazis in Austria between 1938 and 1945. It was established with the General Settlement Fund for Victims of National Socialism in Vienna in implementation of a bilateral agreement between the USA and Austria, the Washington Agreement of January 23, 2001,¹ and works on the basis of the Austrian General Settlement Fund Law (GSF Law).²

The independent Arbitration Panel is composed of three members, Austrian university Professors of Law Josef Aicher (Chairman) and August Reinisch, and retired Austrian Ambassador Erich Kussbach. Erich Kussbach was appointed member of the Arbitration Panel by the Republic of Austria, while August Reinisch was appointed by the United States of America. Erich Kussbach and August Reinisch subsequently nominated Josef Aicher as Chairman. The members of the Arbitration Panel serve in an honorary capacity. The Panel currently has a staff of around 20, mostly lawyers and historians.

BEGINNINGS

The Washington Agreement marked the last of the latest Austrian compensation and restitution measures. It had its origins in the 1990s, when a series of events led to renewed international focus on issues surrounding compensation and restitution. Following the US seizure of artworks of dubious provenance from an Austrian art exhibition in New York in 1998, and following claims filed by former slave laborers and several class action suits against Austrian enterprises and the Republic of Austria

before American courts from 1998 onward, Austria was prompted to once more address questions of restitution of assets and the compensation of slave laborers. Prior to this, Austria had taken numerous steps to provide restitution and compensation of assets which had been seized under National Socialism and also made payments in the field of victims' welfare. However, several aspects had been neglected (for example, the compensation of seized tenancy rights).

Against this backdrop, an Austrian Historical Commission was convened in the autumn of 1998 "to investigate [...] all aspects of seizures of assets on the territory of the Republic of Austria during the National Socialist era as well as restitutions and compensations since 1945."³ In October 2000, following negotiations on financial compensation of slave laborers led by the USA in the role of mediator, negotiations on open questions of restitution and compensation of seized assets commenced. A US delegation headed by Stuart Eizenstat, Special Representative for Holocaust Era Issues, mediated the negotiations between the Austrian government (represented by Special Envoy Ernst Sucharipa) and various interest groups including plaintiffs' attorneys, the Claims Conference, other victims' organizations, and the Jewish Community Vienna. On January 23, 2001 their result—a comprehensive package of measures which aimed to remedy "gaps and deficiencies" in earlier Austrian restitution and compensation legislation—was adopted in the form of the bilateral Washington Agreement.⁴

In addition to \$150 million made available for the monetary compensation of seized tenancy rights, household effects, and personal valuables, and to the endowment of a General Settlement Fund with 210 million US Dollars for compensation payments in ten further categories of losses, *in rem* restitution formed a core element of the Washington Agreement. In this context, *in rem* restitution means that real estate and superstructures which were seized in connection with events that occurred



The photos (taken, from left to right, in 1939 and 2012) depict the property subject of decision no. 3/2003 which was restituted to the heirs of the previous owners. Since its ary-anization in 1938, first the Vienna Regional Employment office, then, from 1994, the Public Employment Service was accommodated in this house in the first district in Vienna. (1939 photo printed courtesy of the Austrian National Library, Picture Archives).

on the territory of present-day Austria during the National Socialist era, and which were publicly owned on January 17, 2001,⁵ can be returned to the former owners or their legal successors on the basis of a recommendation by the Arbitration Panel. Jewish communal organizations can also apply for *in rem* restitution of moveable property, particularly cultural and religious items. In principle, a recommendation can only be made if, in addition to meeting the aforementioned statutory requirements, no restitution proceedings had been conducted after 1945 pertaining to the requested assets.

However, in exceptional circumstances, the Arbitration Panel can recommend restitution where proceedings have already taken place but did not result in a restitution at the time. In fact, many proceedings were concluded with a settlement in which the former owners or their heirs waived restitution in exchange for a payment. If the Arbitration Panel deems a settlement of this kind to constitute an “extreme injustice”, it can recommend restitution despite the existence of a so-called “prior measure.” A further exception occurs if new evidence pertaining to earlier claims denied due to lack of evidence, such as newly discovered documents, has become available.

Due to the very small number of cases where claims for seized real estate were not asserted or not covered by previous restitution and compensation measures (the seven Austrian Restitution Laws passed in the late 1940s, implementation ordinances within the scope of the Austrian State Treaty of 1955 and other compensation measures already covered the majority of properties which had been “ary-anized” or seized by other means), the Arbitration Panel often deals with the examination of applications asserting “extreme injustice.” Movable assets are rarely claimed.

PROCEEDINGS

Applications to the Arbitration Panel are processed by historians and lawyers working in interdisciplinary teams. This approach is necessary and practical, as the seizures and the restitution proceedings occurred decades ago and their interpretation requires an in-depth knowledge of the respective organizational and legal frameworks. Moreover, the applicants only seldom possess the necessary documentation themselves. In many cases it is not until comprehensive historical research has been carried out

in national and international archives that it is possible to establish the facts of the case which are necessary for legal decision-making.

The applications are firstly examined for the formal statutory requirements: public ownership on the cut-off day, January 17, 2001, a seizure between 1938 and 1945, and ownership of the property by the applicant or his/her predecessors in 1938. If these elements are present, the application is subsequently designated “substantive.” About a quarter (545) of all 2,250 applications received by the Arbitration Panel met these legal requirements.

Applications that do not meet the aforementioned requirements upon this initial inspection are designated “formal” applications. They form the large majority of the applications to the Arbitration Panel. However, they are also subjected to meticulous research. In many cases, the requested properties are not precisely specified in an application. Very often, this lack of information about former family property stems from the loss of knowledge and documentation of the applicants’ family history as a result of expulsion, emigration, and murder. In these cases an attempt is made to determine the address or location of any properties which could be relevant to the application by using finding aids and carrying out research in various archives (e.g. the historical address registry or the property notice holdings in the Austrian State Archives) and by researching the immovable assets of a series of the applicant’s family members (direct and first degree ascendants). If properties are identified during the research process which were publicly-owned on the cut-off day and which also fulfill the other statutory requirements, these applications are then further processed in accordance with the procedure for substantive applications.

Each substantive application is processed by one lawyer and one historian who initially determine the necessary research method. This research serves to determine in detail the eligibility to file an application, the ownership status in 1938, whether there was a persecution-related seizure, and the existence of a prior measure or the “extreme injustice” of such a prior measure after 1945. The duration of this historical research varies from case to case. On average, the processing of an application requires several months due to the complex research required in archives and official departments.

During the proceedings, both the applicants and the public owner have

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Photo courtesy Mariam Tazi-Preve.

Mariam Tazi-Preve

gender and the welfare state

Professor Mariam Tazi-Preve, a researcher at the Austrian Institute for Family Studies, was the 2011-12 Marshall Plan Chair at the University of New Orleans. Here she shares her expertise with *ASN* readers.

interview by Günter Bischof

GB: *You are the 2011-12 Marshall Plan Chair at the University of New Orleans. How did you hear about this program and get the appointment?*

MTP: It was a great pleasure for me to be invited to the University of New Orleans. I enjoy both the position as a visiting professor, located in the Department of Political Science, and being affiliated with Center Austria. I enjoy living in New Orleans greatly. I came across the position several years ago in a search for scientific programs abroad. I continued to follow the announcements by Center Austria and as soon as I noticed the call for a chair in Political Science/Gender Studies I applied for it and was fortunately selected.

GB: *For your recent Marshall Plan Chair talk in New Orleans you talked about the European welfare state. What should an American audience know about the accomplishments of the European welfare state?*

MTP: I think it is important to understand the historical development of the welfare state in Europe. It was first introduced in the late 19th century in Germany, which was then an empire, shortly after the first measurements on unemployment, retirement, and sickness were also introduced in Austria, and soon after by many European states. So the welfare state is not a socialist invention although the states responded to the demands of the growing labor movement. In fact, the welfare state is the consequence of the phenomenon of industrialization and the development of the free market. The state overtook the role of balancing the demands of employers and employees and is interested in reducing the risk to the employer when employees become incapacitated. It comprises the areas of health, pension, unemployment, social affairs, and family and is thus more comprehensive than the common American understanding of welfare.

GB: *What kind of models of European welfare states do scholars distinguish? Where does Austria fit in?*

MTP: There are three classical models which comprise the liberal welfare state. The first model features modest universal transfers and modest insurance plans. Great Britain, the USA, and Switzerland belong to this type. The second is the conservative-corporatist type with its preservation of the traditional family and high amount of mostly direct transfers. Germany, Austria, and Belgium are representatives of this type. The third is the social democratic regime type with its principles of gender equality (Sweden, Norway). This type today belongs to the highest spenders. This typology has been further developed by including other countries and regions as well as drafting the models along gender criteria – e.g. strong, moderate, or weak male breadwinner types. According to this typology Germany and Austria

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GB: *When did you first become interested in gender studies? Where did you study, and who were your mentors? What is your current position?*

MTP: I studied at the University of Innsbruck and did two majors: political science and romance languages, specifically Italian. Almost right from the beginning of my studies I focused on gender issues, then called women's studies, selecting classes in this area. I obtained a deeper and broader understanding of the societal stratification according to sex when I started my master thesis with Prof. Claudia Werlhof, who later became my Ph.D. advisor. Her broad understanding of patriarchy as a universal system goes far beyond inequality on an individual level, e.g. the unequal share of household duties, and has influenced my work substantially. I do my research at the University of Vienna's Austrian Institute for Family Studies. I also teach at the Universities of Vienna and Innsbruck as well as two Universities of Applied Science (Innsbruck and Nürnberg, Germany).

GB: *You're a leading expert in gender studies and family studies in Austria. How did you get to this position?*

MTP: In terms of professional experience I was a scientific coordinator in Family Studies and thus gained influence in the areas in which research in this field is done. Since my dissertation I have focused on so-called population and family issues. I used to work in an interdisciplinary environment at major scientific institutions like the Austrian Academy of Sciences as well as the Ludwig Boltzman Institute, together with sociologists, demographers, psychologists, and economists trying to explain social inequality on a broader level, meaning to look at supposedly private issues simultaneously from an individual, societal, and political view. Together with Prof. Werlhof and a group of scientists I have participated in creating what we now call the "Critical Theory of Patriarchy."

Panel for *In Rem* Restitution *from page 15*

the opportunity to present their views of the case to the Arbitration Panel, thus ensuring a fair hearing. If necessary, the Arbitration Panel can call a hearing with the parties to the proceedings if new findings which go beyond the written submissions can be expected.

The implementation of the Panel's decisions in which restitution is recommended falls under the competence of the public owner. If *in rem* restitution is not practical or feasible (this is the case, for example, with public traffic thoroughfares, schools, or municipal residential buildings), a comparable asset can be awarded to the applicants pursuant to Sec. 34 of the GSF Law. Generally, this takes the form of the market value of the property, which is determined by the Arbitration Panel on the basis of an independent expert valuation.

APPLICATIONS AND DECISIONS TO DATE

Since its establishment, 2,250 applications for *in rem* restitution have been submitted to the Arbitration Panel. More than half of them (1,180) have so far been decided in 856 decisions (126 of them on substantive applications).⁶ 1,090 applications have either been rejected or dismissed; 90 applications resulted in 23 positive decisions by the Arbitration Panel.

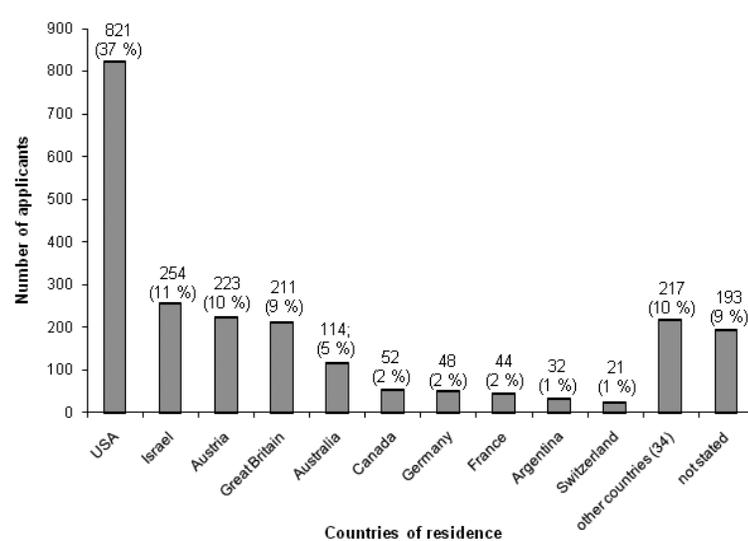
The Arbitration Panel made its first recommendation in 2003, when the Panel assessed a prior settlement of 1957 to be "extremely unjust." The decision pertained to a house in the first district of Vienna that had belonged to a Jewish family until 1938 (see photos on page 15).

The deadline for the submission of applications ended on December 31, 2011. As over three-quarters of the substantive applications have already been decided, the work of the Arbitration Panel will most likely be completed in 2014.

TOTAL AREA AND ESTIMATED VALUES

The total area of the properties recommended for restitution in the aforementioned 23 positive decisions comes to around 861,500 m² (ca. 9.3 million square feet). Roughly estimated, the total value of this real estate comes to €42.3 million (ca. \$51.6 million). So far, around €7.7 million (ca. \$9.4 million) of this amount have been disbursed as a comparable asset pursuant to Sec. 34 of the GSF Law.

Figure 1. Applicants to the Panel according to country of residence



Source: Arbitration Panel for *In Rem* Restitution, internal database, query according to country of residence of the applicants.

APPLICANTS

The applicants to the Arbitration Panel form a heterogeneous group. They include persons who suffered the losses themselves, second or third generation heirs of these persons, organizations and their legal successors, and other legal entities. The proportion of the latter is comparatively small and constitutes less than 2 % of all applicants.

Data analysis shows that the majority of the applicants⁷ live outside Europe, predominantly in the USA, where over a third of all applicants to the Arbitration Panel reside. Significantly fewer (around one tenth of the applicants) live in Israel, Austria and Great Britain respectively (see Figure 1). As some applicants filed several applications with the Arbitration Panel, 2,230 records are evaluated here, i.e. fewer than the total number of applications (2,250). Note that 193 (9%) of the applications do not contain any (evaluable) details of residency since addresses are not always available for applicants who are represented in the proceedings before the Arbitration Panel.

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Tazi-Preve *from page 16*

belong to the first, France to the second, and Sweden to the third model.

GB: Tell us about some of the premier features of the Austrian *Wohlfahrtsstaat*, esp. when it comes to women and mothering. Are fathers encouraged to stay at home and raise children?

MTP: The Austrian *Wohlfahrtsstaat* has a long tradition of implementation of benefits concerning motherhood which lead furthermore to the extension of more instruments supporting families in general. Austria belongs to the European states with the largest spending in family policy. At this point we have to understand the underlying gender images of political acting. Family is primarily understood as a nuclear family with a fully employed husband and a housewife or partly employed wife. This leads to the implementation of imbalanced measures which reinforce the unequal balance of household and childcare duties. This is also the reason for the comparatively late implementation of paternal leave at the beginning of the 1990s. In spite of that the rates are low – they have never increased above 5% and usually the father takes the shorter part of the parental leave which can be shared among parents. The state generally acts ambivalent when it comes to the question of fatherhood. On the one hand, there are new political campaigns supporting active fatherhood. On the other hand, social policy primarily rewards male participation in the labor market. Furthermore, the male identity is still first and foremost work centered and thus in itself provides an obstacle for change.

GB: Do Austrians abuse generous welfare state provisions?

MTP: This is an argument used in the context of provisions for single mothers who can gain higher parental leave benefits. It is furthermore generally used in the context of the lower class and migrants. This has already lead to constraints in the last years. It seems especially unjustified referring to single mothers who have a high risk of poverty, not to mention a double burden: the responsibility for their children and the need to make a living in the labor market. Studies show that single mothers have a higher employment rate than married women. Studies also show that immigrants receive less state provisions than they have paid into the system.

GB: Why is it so crucial to approach welfare state programs from a gender perspective?

MTP: It is important to understand that social policy, as it is more commonly called in Austria, is fundamentally based on gender biased assumptions. These trace back to the historical dichotomy of the private and the public sphere in ancient times (Greek) when the "public" was separated from the "private" sphere which included then the family and the economy. In this process, and later in history, women were excluded from the public sphere by assuming that their maternal role would not allow them to be full citizens. The disjunction between "reproductive" and "productive" work in the process of industrialization led to the origin of the gender wage gap, and to the so-called paid labor world and the unpaid family work, which

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Tazi-Preve *from page 16*

before the rise of the women's movement in the 1970s was not even called work as such. Studies carried out since then show that the reproductive sphere forms the so-called "shadow GNP," about 50% of the official GNP, and constitutes the basis of the official economy. Gender discrimination (less income, less benefits for unemployment and retirement) is the outcome of a social system which compensates exclusively the duration and the extent of paid employment. Thus we have to understand the diverse effects of political measures on men and women and that the gender bias is an inherent part of the political and economic paradigm.

GB: *You have lived and taught in the U.S. for a year. What has surprised you about the American welfare state? What are the biggest differences when compared to Europe?*

MTP: Yes, actually I was surprised! When I started to teach my class on the European Welfare State, my students had only a negative connotation of "being on welfare." Then I was also astonished by the common understanding that

the welfare state is an invention of the leftists and often the students would argue that this was not the American way of accomplishing things. I also saw that education is a big issue and that it is hard for many students to afford tuition fees. Students at UNO often work to make a living and pay the fees. In addition, family policy measures are not common in the United States, which leads to hardships for mothers with toddlers. Finally, it is the different understanding of the public and the private sector's duties which distinguishes Europe from the USA—first and foremost.

GB: *You concluded your Marshall Plan lecture with a strong plea for matriarchy as a model for social organization. Why?*

MTP: As the nuclear family is one of the pillars of a patriarchal structured society underlying the economic and political framework we have to have a closer look at it. My conclusions from comprehensive studies on family issues (e.g. motherhood, fatherhood, fertility) are that the nuclear family often causes harm which affects all their members. The indications of its failure

are manifold: high divorce/separation rates, the myth of romantic eternal love (hetero as well as homosexual), the marginalizing of single mothers, the often problematic situation for children after divorce, overburdened mothers in or out of marriages/partnerships, the ambivalent roles of fathers, since the paternal identity is not comparable with the maternal, and the phenomenon of (sexual) abuse by (grand, step) fathers.

Matrilinear societies, on the other hand, provide models of shared childcare as well as backing for the adult members of the familial clan. The main characteristics are the understanding of motherhood as a collective caring principle, the principle of the maternal line including mothers, sisters, brothers, daughters and sons, and the social paternal role of the mother's brother. It is important to understand the distinction between erotic relationships (visiting marriages) and the upbringing of children as well as the "home basis" for adults within the familial organization. Such an organization of private life would lead to a release of all the family members, avoid physical crisis and violence between adults and children,
continued on page 31

Innovative Austrian program strengthens transatlantic ties



2012 participants, left to right: Franz Rössler, Austrian Trade Commissioner, Chicago; Michael Logrande, City of Los Angeles; James Shelby, City of Atlanta; Adie Tomer, Brookings Institution; Marcy Rood Werpy, Department of Energy, Argonne National Laboratory; Carissa Schively Slotterback, Humphrey School of Public Affairs, U of MN; John Frece, United States Environmental Protection Agency; Andrew Mooney, City of Chicago; Kevin McCarty, US Conference of Mayors; Debra Lynn Dehany-Howard, US Conference of Mayors; Caroline Adenberger, Austrian Embassy, Washington DC; Uwe Brandes, Urban Land Institute.

From April 9-14, 2012, the fifth group of Americans visited Austria as guests of an innovative Austrian exchange program.

Established in 2007, the George C. Marshall Visit to Austria Program was created, like the CAS, in recognition of the assistance Austria received from the United States during a difficult period in Austria's history. It reflects Austria's interest in and commitment to a strong and positive transatlantic relationship between the United States of America and Austria.

The George C. Marshall Visit to Austria Program was established under Section 108 A of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961 and has been formally approved by the US Department of State.

Every year the program brings a group of 10 mid-career decision makers from the US Congress, the Administration, various federal and state-level agencies, as well as think tanks and industry associations to Austria to highlight Austrian innovations in industry and technology. The program's objective is to improve mutual understanding through communication at personal and professional levels, coordinated and administered by the Austrian Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs.

Each year, the focus of the program varies. Three years ago the program focused on innovative environmental policies and technologies and resulted in formal negotiations on an environmental and energy partnership between Cali-

fornia and Austria. The 2010 program focused on Austrian automotive industries and included on-site visits to several production and research facilities as well as discussions with representatives of industry associations. Last year's program dealt with "Energy Efficiency in Buildings" and included meetings with federal and regional government officials as well as visits to energy-efficient buildings, passive houses, and energy parks.

This year's program focused on a particularly important and timely topic, "Smart Cities & Urban Technologies." It again featured meetings with federal and regional government officials, briefings by relevant agencies, and site visits to best practice projects in Austria. ❖

IN MEMORIAM

FRITZ FELLNER, 1922-2012

Fritz Fellner, Professor emeritus for Modern History at the University of Salzburg, died in Vienna on August 23, 2012.

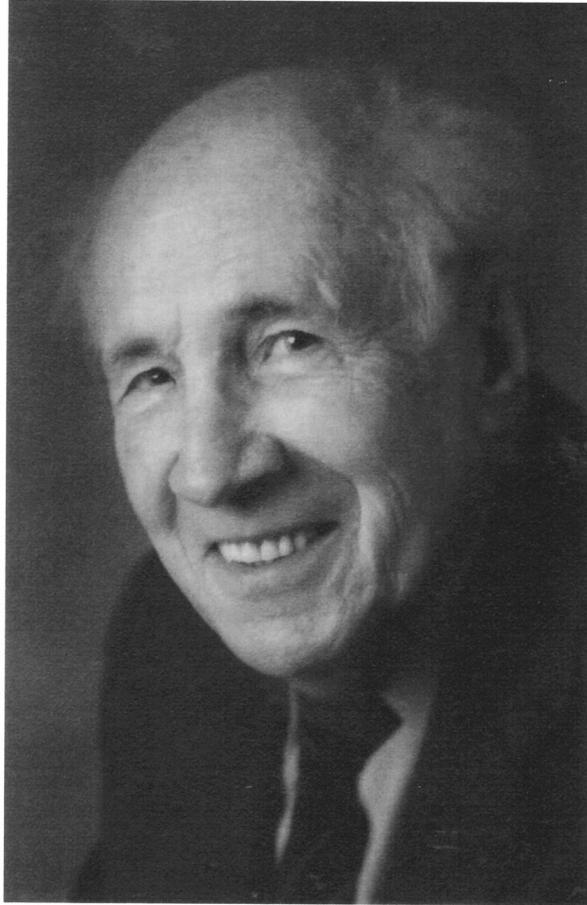
Born on Christmas Day in 1922, he was raised and educated in his hometown and enrolled at the Alma Mater Rudolphina in 1940. After serving in the German Army in World War II, he earned his Ph.D. in history in 1948 and continued his historical training at the prestigious Institut für Österreichische Geschichtsforschung.

In 1954, he became an assistant professor at Vienna University's Department of History, where he earned his *venia legendi* in 1960. Four years later, he was appointed as the first professor at the newly founded University of Salzburg, where he taught for almost thirty years until his retirement in 1993. From 1990 until 2007, he chaired the Commission for Modern Austrian History, a leading non-university research institution. A Viennese by birth and heart, he never gave up an apartment in his hometown and returned to Vienna for good after his retirement. But he always spent the summers in Salzburg and at the nearby lakes of the Salzkammergut.

Fritz Fellner was a teacher and historian who was always open to new developments. He was eager to challenge dominant scholarly interpretations in the face of the discovery of new documents, as well as through the careful reading of those already known. Fellner was trained in the Viennese methodology, which stressed a precise approach to historiography strictly based on primary sources. However, he overcame the shortcomings of this approach by integrating a multitude of new sources into his teaching and research, ranging from modern media to oral history, and from photography and film to the artifacts of material life. He tried, in his teaching and writing, to stimulate discussion and debate, and he challenged his students and readers to think critically. His openness to new currents and his rejection of traditional approaches to history in general, and the Austrian past in particular, contributed greatly to the modernization of historical scholarship and to structural reforms in history pedagogy at Austrian universities.

Fellner's research and teaching interests were broad, extending from 19th-century Europe through both World Wars and into the era of the Cold War and East-West conflict. He always opposed the separation of contemporary history from modern history in general, stressing that this separation can only be done at the price of distorting the comprehension of both past and present.

Early on in his career, Fellner focused his research on the origins of World War I, reinterpreting Austria's role through the discovery of important new documents and the results of the Fritz Fischer debate. In his later years, the history of Austrian historiography became his main research interest. In 2006 he published a biographical dictionary of Austrian historians in the 20th century.



Fellner's close ties to the Commission for Modern Austrian History remained a dominant factor throughout his entire academic life. Early in his career, he edited the diaries of Josef Redlich, a leading source on Austrian politics before and during World War I. This project was financed through a scholarship and published in two volumes in 1953-54 in the series of the Commission. In 1973, he became a member, and from 1990 until 2007, he served as the chairman of this institution. Finally, in 2011 Fellner published a new, greatly enhanced edition of the Redlich diaries once again in the series of the Commission.

Fellner's private archive, collected over the course of nearly seventy years of active involvement in historical research, particularly research on Austrian historiography, became an important source for not only his own work but also the work of others. For many years, the standard answer to questions about developments of history departments from Vienna to Innsbruck was, "Go ask Fritz Fellner."

Fritz Fellner had close personal and professional ties to the United States. His twin brother Paul emigrated soon after World War II and still lives in Oregon. In the early 1950s, Fellner became acquainted with Eric Boehm. Together they founded *Historical Abstracts*, and Fellner served for many years on its advisory board. He was also a member of the advisory board of the *Austrian History Yearbook* from the first volume in 1965 until 2005. He held several guest professorships in the United States, starting in 1960 at the University of Texas at Austin. In 1978, he was the first occupant of the Chair of Austrian Studies at Stanford University, and in 1984 he taught at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. During his years as a faculty member at the University of Salzburg and as chair of the Commission, he was an unceasing advocate for the Center for Austrian Studies, using his influence on its behalf whenever appropriate. But he did this for other institutions as well, including his own. Due to his efforts numerous distinguished Fulbright guest professors taught at the University of Salzburg's Department of History.

In his inaugural lecture at the University of Salzburg, Fritz Fellner quoted Friedrich Meinecke: "History cannot satisfy itself by being the mere reflection of the past, for past and present form a single life process which one can only penetrate if one comprehends it from all sides." These words describe Fellner's own understanding of the historian's task, an understanding he passed on to his students and communicated in his publications.

In addition to his brother, Fritz Fellner is survived by Liselotte, his wife of more than sixty years, two sons, and their families.

Franz Adlgasser
Austrian Academy of Sciences
Commission for the History of the Habsburg Monarchy

VIENNA THROUGH THE LENS OF THE LOOSHAUS

Christopher Long, *The Looshaus*. New Haven: Yale Univ., 2011. 256 pp., color & halftone illus. Cloth, ISBN: 978-0-300-17453-3, \$50.

Buildings are typically named for the client who occupies or pays for them. The title of Christopher Long's book counters this custom, identifying the building completed in Vienna between 1910-11 for the men's tailoring firm, Goldman and Salatsch, by the name of the designer, Adolf Loos.

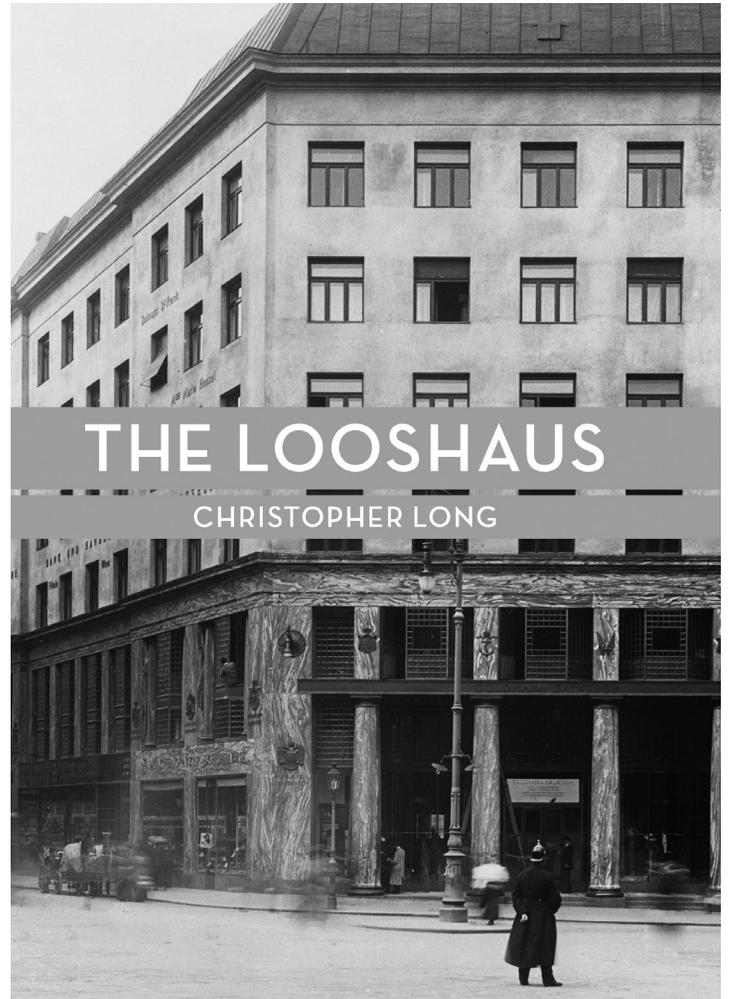
Originally, the term "Looshaus" was a hostile attribution introduced by the Viennese press; it appeared early in 1911, following the onset of the building's construction. The epithet formalized the idea of Loos's responsibility for the design and launched a polemic against the building. Later in 1911, Loos would present a lecture whose title, "Mein Haus am Michaelerplatz" ("My House on Michaelerplatz"), underscored his intention to accept his role as designer and fight for the completion of the building as he intended it. In choosing to foreground the idea of Loos's authorship, Long signals that the chronicle of this building will expand to recognize multiple narratives—the history of its conception and construction, the controversy surrounding it, and the identity of its designer—along with its ultimate significance and interpretation.

The opening chapters of the book are devoted to a series of factual accounts in which the depth and quality of Long's research are evident. In the first chapter Long scrupulously details background information concerning the client, the historical significance and evolving urban form of the Michaelerplatz (the building's site in Vienna), and initial attempts to hold a competition for the design of the building. The chapters following introduce Loos according to a wide spectrum of measures: his family background, friendships, intellectual pursuits, theoretical positions, relationship to the client, and role as designer. Here the difficulty of integrating many subtopics and themes becomes evident, and the chapters begin to feel compartmentalized. As the book moves into its middle third, however, Long focuses on balancing the complexity of the designer with the complexity of the building, and disjunctive narratives begin to synthesize.

The cause and nature of Viennese hostility to Loos's design are central to this story. Public complaints arose soon after the early stages of construction revealed the building's aesthetic severity and absence of ornamentation. Loos's response did not satisfy his critics; anger intensified, much of it targeting Loos personally. Long probes social and political forces behind the antagonism but also notes that other "modern" buildings were being constructed in Vienna without inciting the kind of opposition that Loos encountered. At the time, the mainstream of Viennese modernists, known as the Secessionists, were proposing the creation of a new style of decoration and ornament, intended to replace older forms that they deemed anachronistic. Loos did not accept the idea of a quid pro quo—inventing new substitutes for old ideas—and this placed him in opposition to a group that might otherwise have supported him as a progressive designer.

An explanation of the rift between Loos and the Secessionists is that their differences reside in Loos's authorship of an essay entitled "Ornament and Crime," but this essay has proven subject to misinterpretation. Long details circumstances surrounding the speech in 1910 that served as the origin of the written version. He also examines Loos's argument that civilization evolves away from the need for decoration, rendering the practice of ornamentation in a developed society regressive and undesirable. As publication of "Ornament and Crime" spread in conjunction with an emerging "functionalist" group that advocated similar ideas, Loos became associated with functionalist ideology. Long rightly argues that the characterization is not accurate.

As the final chapters of the book progress, diverse lines of inquiry merge in a complex rendering, and Long completes a thorough analysis and interpretation of the building. Focusing on the needs and intentions of the client, Long



recognizes that workability and image pertain to both the interior and exterior of the building, and he takes care to balance discussion between the exterior design of the building and its interior development. His analysis of the exterior is stellar, and he spends a satisfying amount of time reconstructing the building's interior by correlating floor plans with a study of archival and restoration photographs.

Long argues that Loos conceived the tailoring firm as a large but elegant shop within—or, as it turns out, underneath—a less distinctive commercial building. Early in the book reference to Loos's smaller-scale shop work, including prior work for Goldman and Salatsch, opens a conversation about the transition from small to large scale. Long ultimately speculates that the interior of the Goldman Salatsch building may serve as an intermediary stage in Loos's later development of *raumplan* theory. Following Long's description, it's possible to visualize Loos working through the scale of the smaller shops—responding to the separate actions of producer and purchaser and the need to accommodate interaction between them. It's plausible that a developing sensibility for spatial manipulation acquired in simpler settings would evolve into experimentation at the larger, more public scale. The idea is appealing and deserves further study. Long is also percipient in noting a distinction between the building's street and courtyard facades. He claims that Loos was arguably more "functionalist" in dealing with the unseen, utilitarian aspects of the building but recognized that a higher strategy should direct the formation of design visible to the public.

continued on page 31

Austrian diplomacy: an inside view

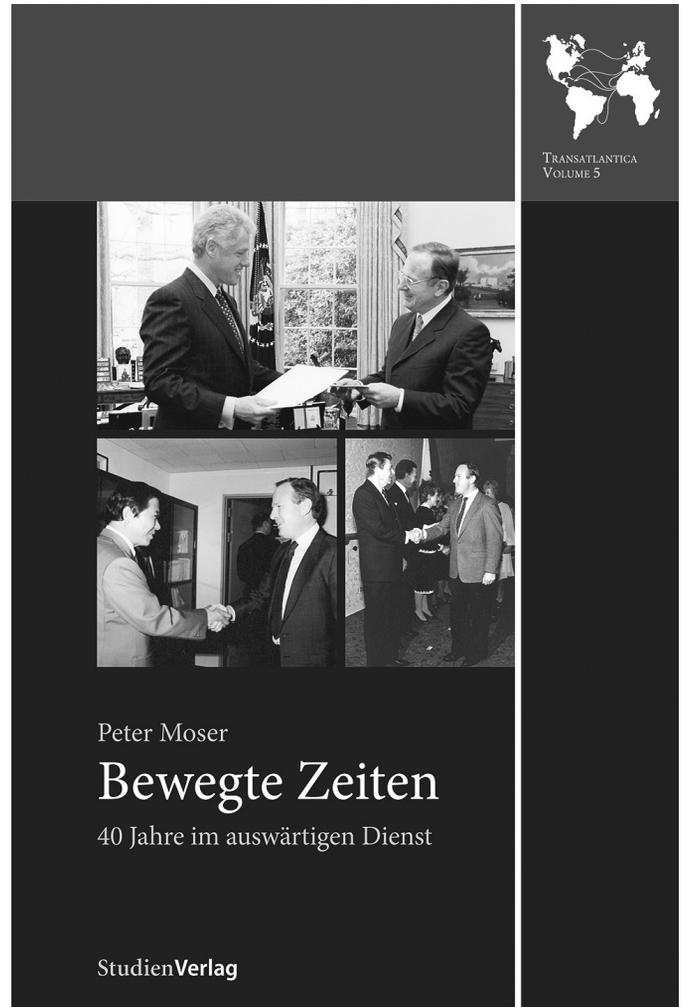
Peter Moser, *Bewegte Zeiten: 40 Jahre im auswärtigen Dienst*, Innsbruck: Studienverlag, 2011. 206 pp., photos. Paper, ISBN 978-3-7065-5091-8, € 34,90.

Austria's diplomats seldom write memoirs. This rare example, written by the neutral country's former ambassador to the United States, provides new insights into foreign policy issues from the Kreisky years through the conservative-right wing ÖVP-FPÖ coalition government of 1999–2007.

Moser, a Social Democrat and graduate of the country's Diplomatic Academy, entered foreign service after the end of the SPÖ's participation in government 1966–67. Before the termination of the coalition, the remaining governing party, the ÖVP, had prepared for depriving the hitherto "Social Democratic" Foreign Ministry of some of its competencies (p. 25). Among Moser's first assignments abroad was Bulgaria in 1972, a partner in Austria's "neighborhood policy" (*Nachbarschaftspolitik*) toward the communist states, which was to foster détente and East-West trade. The Soviet Union had repeatedly underlined that it wished neutral Austria to develop closer ties with the Eastern bloc. Both architects of Austria's early *Ostpolitik*, Chancellor Julius Raab (1953–1961) and Foreign Minister Bruno Kreisky, were well aware of the limits imposed on Western diplomacy and human rights by the Soviet and local communist regimes. However, they and their diplomats were determined to use their maneuvering space, small as it was, for reaching across the Iron Curtain, improving their country's position behind it, strengthening its security, and representing Western democracy. Kreisky became the first Western politician to visit not only Bulgaria in 1965 but also Romania and Hungary; Vienna was chosen as the destination of the first trip to the West, for example, of Bulgaria's foreign minister, Ivan Bashev, in 1964. During Moser's term, visits by Todor Zhivkov to Austria and by then Chancellor Kreisky to Sofia fostered "good neighborly" relations, and the Austrian side strove to use them for addressing human rights issues.

When Moser took office as consul general in Los Angeles in 1979, the nadir of U.S.-Austrian relations, which was marked by the Waldheim affair, was still in the distant future. Since 1933, California had hosted a large community of émigrés and political refugees from Germany and Austria. Most were German-Jewish and Austrian-Jewish citizens who had fled the Nazi regime, among them Fritz Redlich, Arnold Schönberg, Franz Werfel, and Billy Wilder. Some were Austrians who left after 1945. Relations with the expatriate community played an important role for Moser and Ambassador Thomas Klestil, a highly active and respected diplomat (and later federal president) who had opened the consulate in 1969. The first visit of an Austrian president to the United States did not happen before 1984—a rather late point in time and an imbalance, given the fact that the U.S. had massively contributed to rebuilding postwar Austria with Marshall Plan aid and served as the country's protector state and that by then, three U.S. presidents had visited Austria while three Austrian presidents had traveled to Moscow in 1959, 1968, and 1982.

After assignments to Seoul and Vienna, Moser returned as an ambassador to Washington in 1999, where he weathered the storm that emerged once the ÖVP entered a governmental coalition with Jörg Haider's politically incorrect and rampantly anti-immigrant Freedom Party. Cohorts of Austrian SPÖ and ÖVP politicians had contributed to this debacle by not drawing and implementing a clear line as to what degree of playing down Nazi crimes and inciting hatred by politicians was within limits and what was criminal. As a result, the governments of Austria's fourteen partner-nations in the European Union imposed bilateral sanctions and pressed the U.S. government to do the same. While Secretary of State Madeleine Albright gave out the order to judge the new Austrian government by its deeds, not the FPÖ's past words and the U.S. ambassador to Austria, Catherine Hall, asked the new chancellor temporarily not to seek high-ranking bilateral contacts, Moser successfully lobbied against a House of Representatives draft resolution branding the FPÖ as a neo-Nazi party (which it was not, although neo-Nazis formed some percent of the party's electorate and the "wartime generation" was frequently courted in Haider's speeches) and calling for a comprehensive boycott of trade, tourism, and traffic with Austria. In the end, the resolution was watered down to an appeal to the U.S. government to monitor the human rights situation in Austria.



To somehow reduce the pressure and to counterbalance the disastrous effects the new coalition had on Austria's prestige (a disaster that was accompanied, as recently disclosed, by mushrooming corruption in both parties), the ÖVP-FPÖ government agreed to tackle anew the issues of compensation for Nazi crimes, in particular, payments to former forced laborers and restitution or compensation. Both issues had until then been dealt with, albeit incompletely; in 1999, Germany and the United States set a precedent by concluding an additional agreement regarding the issue, the Eizenstat-Lambsdorff Agreement. In 2000–01, two similar U.S.-Austrian agreements were reached regarding the establishment of the Reconciliation Fund and the General Settlement Fund (*see related article, p. 14—ed.*).

Peter Moser's four-year term in Washington covers about a third of the volume and is undoubtedly the strongest part of it. Günter Bischof, Marshall Plan Professor of History and director of the CenterAustria at the University of New Orleans, deserves the credit for having convinced the diplomat to make his experience and expertise available for historians by publishing his recollections. An expert in U.S. and Austrian diplomatic history, Bischof provides an enlightening introduction into this book, which all students of Austrian foreign relations in the 1990s and early 2000s will find worth reading.

Wolfgang Mueller
Austrian Academy of Sciences
Vienna

HOT *off the* PRESSES

- Paulina Bren and Mary Neuburger, eds. *Communism Unwrapped: Consumption in Cold War Eastern Europe*. New York: Oxford, 2012. 432 pp., halftones. Cloth, ISBN: 978-0-19-982765-7, \$99; Paper, ISBN: 978-0-19-982767-1, \$29.95.
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- Alexei Miller and Maria Lipman, eds. *The Convolutions of Historical Politics*. New York: CEU Press, 2012. 362 pp. Cloth, ISBN: 978-6-155-22515-4, \$60, € 55.
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NEW TITLE from Berghahn Books and CAS

Journeys into Madness

Mapping Mental Illness in the Austro-Hungarian Empire

edited by
**Gemma Blackstone
& Sabine Wieber**

222 pages, 23 ills, bibliog., index
ISBN 978-0-85745-458-4 Hb \$70.00/£43.00

At the turn of the century, Sigmund Freud's investigation of the mind represented a particular journey into mental illness, but it was not the only exploration of this 'territory' in the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Sanatoriums were the new tourism destinations, psychiatrists were collecting art works produced by patients, and writers were developing innovative literary techniques to convey a character's interior life. This collection of essays uses the framework of journeys in order to highlight the diverse artistic, cultural, and medical responses to a peculiarly Viennese anxiety about the madness of modern times. The travelers of these journeys vary from patients to doctors, artists to writers, architects to composers, and royalty to tourists; in engaging with their histories, the contributors reveal the different ways in which madness was experienced and represented in "Vienna 1900."

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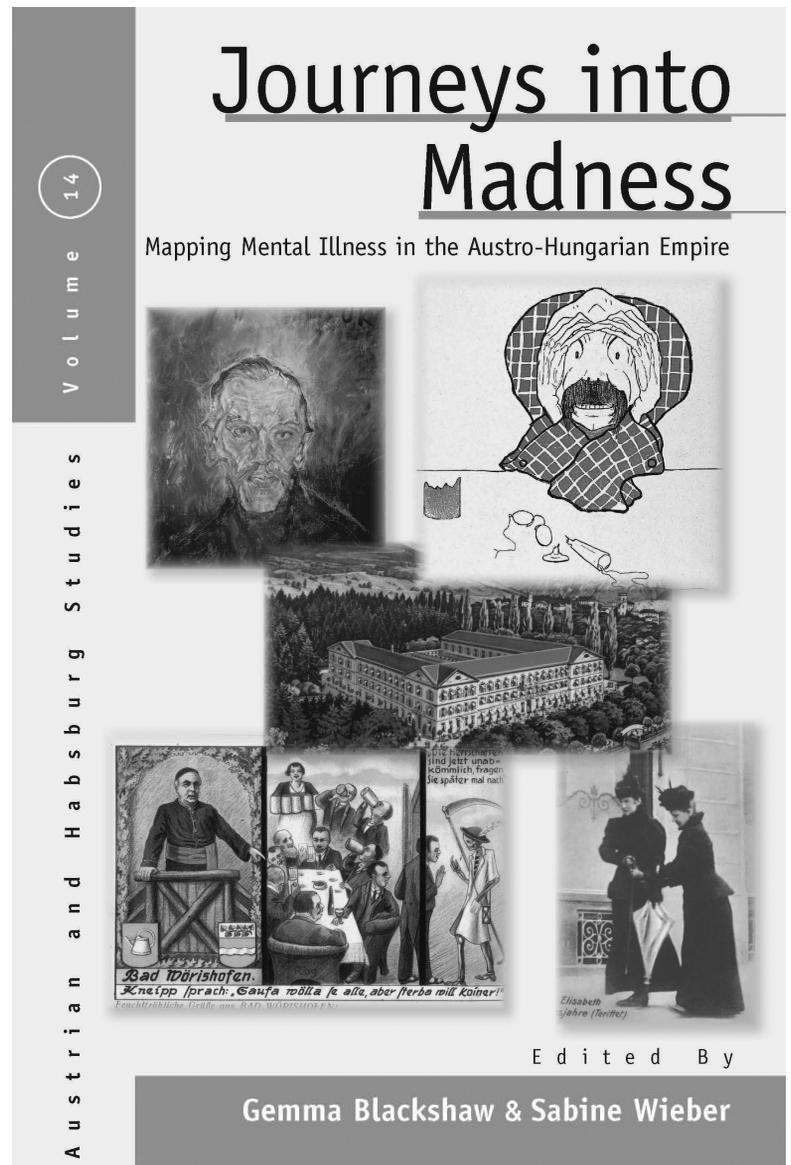
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Fall 2012



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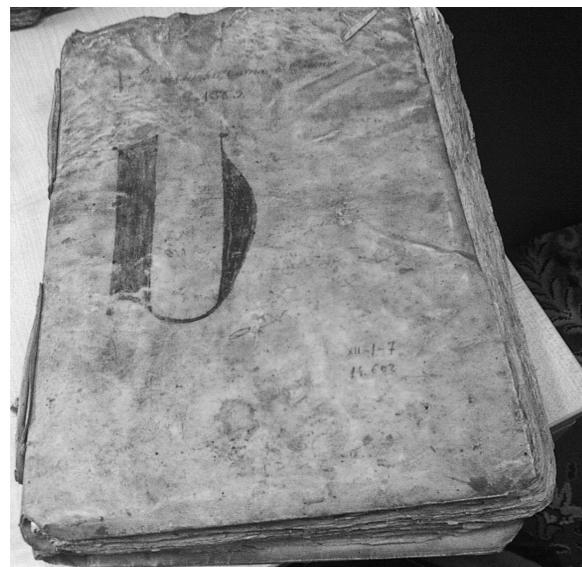
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MALLORCA

A treasure trove of Early Modern Habsburg sources



Above: A notarial protocol from the 1360s.

Left: The front of the Capitular Archive of Mallorca. The archive is on the second floor, above the Cathedral visitors' entrance.

Story and photos by Kevin Mumme

In present-day central Europe, images of Mallorca's olive-green fauna and sunburnt architecture connote images of care-free fun, food, wine, and souvenirs. While the Balearic Islands are today seen as a kind of Mediterranean recreational park, as many readers of the ASN are aware, they were once part of the Habsburg dominions and had a historical connection with Austria for over 400 years.

The centuries of Habsburg rule form an important part of Mallorca's cultural patrimony, a legacy which has been energetically preserved by the island's scholars for over a century. This process of preservation has a singular connection to the Habsburg monarchy in the person of Archduke Ludwig Salvator (1847-1915). The Archduke was an energetic investigator and engaged in what might be termed "proto-ethnographic" research on Mediterranean islands, particularly the Balearics. He had a keen eye for architecture, and his drawings of now lost medieval and renaissance architecture in the city of Palma de Mallorca still serve as valuable historical sources. Ludwig was also a major landholder on Mallorca. Shortly after his first visit in 1867, the Archduke began acquiring vast estates,

including Miramar in Valdemossa and Son Marroig in the municipality of Deía, which currently houses the Ludwig Salvator Museum. Although Ludwig Salvator's image veers somewhere between eccentric aristocrat and proto-tourist, his massive *Die Balearen*, which took him 22 years to complete, remains an important contribution to the history of Mallorca.

Beyond distant monarchs and local eccentrics, of course, were the people of Mallorca, who lived under Habsburg rule for over two hundred years. Research opportunities exist for those interested in political, ecclesiastical, and commercial affairs as well as daily life on the island in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. The Archive of the Kingdom of Mallorca (*Arxiu del Regne de Mallorca*, ARM, arm@arxregne.caib.es) is a virtual treasure house of documents pertaining to the period. The ARM has a long history; in the late 16th century the Great Council called for the establishment of a great archive to preserve the acts, books, and other writings of local government. During the 17th century a new archive was established under the direction of the archivist Jaume Pol, who produced the first inventories of the collection. The modern-day archive dates to an official act of the mid-19th century, and to the pioneering efforts of José Maria Quadrado i

Nieto, who oversaw the affairs of the archive in its often difficult first few decades.

The current archive, under the direction of Ricard Urgell Hernández, holds over 11,000 linear meters of documentation, dating from the 13th through the 19th centuries. Holdings for the Habsburg period include records of the royal administration, the Inquisition, local government, and associations of merchants and artisans. The archive also holds hundreds of notarial protocols that record the commercial and personal affairs of Mallorcans from all walks of life.

Another valuable font of information is the Cathedral Archive of Mallorca (*Archivo Capitular de Mallorca*, ACM, acm@catedraldemallorca.org). Adjacent to the magnificent gothic cathedral of Palma, the ACM holds a large collection of materials relating to both ecclesiastical and secular affairs on the island. Holdings include individual parchments concerning judicial, civil, and ecclesiastical affairs dating from 1230 to 1685, and a collection of notarial protocols covering a wide range of daily affairs from the fourteenth to the eighteenth centuries. Social historians can benefit from the sacramental records of the cathedral, which cover the entire range of its history, and architectural historians can explore the

continued on the next page

MALCA BECOMES ASA: VISION, TASKS EXPAND

The Modern Austrian Literature and Culture Association (MALCA) voted to become the Austrian Studies Association (ASA) at its annual conference in April 2012. Held this year at California State University-Long Beach, the topic of the well-attended conference was well suited for the action: "AEIOU-Global Austria."

The change was made in an effort to be more inclusive in providing a platform for international Austrianists and Austrian studies. As per ASA's statement, the association is an "interdisciplinary organization that welcomes all eras and disciplines of Austrian studies at its conferences and in its journal, including scholarship on the cultures of Austria's earlier political forms (the Holy Roman Empire, the Austrian Empire, and Austria-Hungary) and scholarship that acknowledges this region's historical multiethnic, multilingual, and transcultural identities."

Initiated by outgoing president David Luft (Oregon State University), the association's long published journal, *Modern Austrian Literature* parallels this shift with a new name, the *Journal of Austrian Studies*, and its former editor Craig

Decker (Bates College) and new editors Todd Herzog (University of Cincinnati) and Hillary Hope Herzog (University of Kentucky) have insured the growth of the journal through its publication by the University of Nebraska Press and with an international editorial board.

Business manager and web coordinator Katie Arens (University of Texas at Austin) promises a more membership-friendly interaction online and one that will reach beyond the U.S., Canada, and German-speaking countries. ASA has a Facebook site: www.facebook.com/pages/Austrian-Studies-Association/406278762745129 (visit and "like" us!) This has our official logo on it. Its new website is www.austrian-studies.org and the old MALCA site will have a forward on it. The central ASA e-mail address is austrianstudiesassociation@gmail.com.

As the incoming president of the ASA, I welcome and enthusiastically encourage growth, such as a move toward an even stronger recognition of Austrian studies and the Austrianist in global academe. As a specialist in Austrian cinema and various cultural-historical periods, I

believe the expanded mission of ASA embraces those who felt the original name unintentionally alienated a diverse focus on Austrian arts and cultural history. The 2013 Annual Conference will be held at the University of Waterloo in Canada and future conferences are scheduled and planned for Canada, the U.S., and Austria, so the growth is already visible. My goal is to expand collaboration even further—to engage Austrianists beyond North America and Europe.

The revitalization that shapes ASA is positive and timely. Literature was my scholarly beginning and will always be a central point of Austrian Studies. But the very idea of a successful presentation and study of specific cultural history depends on the interdependence and inclusivity of all mediums, genres, ethnic relationships, and eras, as well as being open to new concepts in presenting artistic communication. This breadth on every level of historical creativity and contemporary study has made Austrian culture unique and uniquely influential.

Robert Dassanowsky

President, Austrian Studies Association



The Cathedral of Mallorca. Begun in the 13th century, work continued throughout the Habsburg period.

MALLORCA *from previous page*

records of the building of the cathedral, which date from 1389 to 1876. The director, Pere Fullana, is eager to welcome scholars from abroad interested in exploring Mallorca's rich past.

Outside of the archives, Palma's old quarter contain many examples of medieval and renaissance architecture. Many street layouts remain virtually unchanged from the Habsburg period. The Museum of Mallorca also contains many physical artifacts from the period, including art, architectural decoration, and implements of daily life.

There is more to Mallorca than sand, sun, and

somewhat kitschy tourism. Mallorca is an island with a rich and colorful history. The island's energetic efforts to preserve its cultural patrimony provide scholars with an opportunity to explore the Mediterranean world of the past, including the Habsburg Mediterranean. Scholars of the Habsburg Empire and the early modern period in general may find Mallorca's treasures to be of great interest.

Kevin Mummy is a Ph.D. candidate in history and an RA at CAS. Last summer, CAS awarded Kevin a travel grant to do research in Mallorca.

Wirth Institute establishes formal ties with U of Wrocław

On June 20, 2012, Wirth Institute Director Joseph F. Patrouch met with University of Wrocław (UW) Vice Rector Professor Adam Jezierski and the Director of UW's International Office Urszula Broda in Wrocław, Poland. There, they completed a new memorandum of understanding between the University of Alberta (UA) and the University of Wrocław.

The Habsburg Holy Roman Emperor Leopold I founded UW in 1702. It was the second university he founded (the first was the University of Innsbruck, which he founded in 1669). UW has close ties to UA's Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies.

The University of Alberta-University of Wrocław agreement establishes the framework for future cooperation between the two universities in the areas of common research projects, faculty and student exchange, and possibly joint degree programs.

Patrouch also met with university representatives from a variety of institutes, including Sociology, International Studies, Logic and Methodology of Sciences, Political Science, Art History, and German Philology. These new ties will serve to broaden the already-established Polish language and cultures program at UA with its existing ties to the University of Silesia, the Catholic University of Lublin, and the Polish Academy of Sciences.

Joseph Patrouch, director, Wirth Institute

UNO SUMMER SCHOOL IN INNSBRUCK



A group of UNO Summer School students, with Innsbruck and the Alps behind them. (Photo: Günter Bischof)

by Günter Bischof

This past summer the University of New Orleans (UNO) International Summer School met for the 37th time in Innsbruck, the spectacular Alpine capital. In the summer of 1976 Gordon “Nick” Mueller, a young historian of Central Europe at UNO, took some 200 students to Innsbruck to study in a variety of fields. Above all, he wanted to use the environs of Europe as the “lab” space for students to visit, study, and experience. Next to visiting local places of interest, weekend field trips went to Venice, Vienna, South Tyrol, and Dachau. Mueller himself had attended the University of Vienna Summer School in equally spectacular Strobl am Wolfgangsee in the early 1960s and wanted to offer UNO students a similarly rich academic environment that had advanced his skills as a student of Europe in Strobl. Clearly, part of the success of summer schools in Europe is an attractive spot that students feel comfortable in.

The 2012 UNO Summer School, with the University of Georgia in Athens as its principal partner, taught 258 students from 22 different universities from all over the South. 54 percent of the students were female, 68 percent sopho-

mores, and almost half of the student body were business majors. Fifty students were admitted to summer school classes from the University of Innsbruck, adding a more diverse classroom environment with their comparative perspectives, insights, and questions. Twenty-three faculty members, including four from the University of Innsbruck, taught 43 different classes: 31 liberal arts classes including German and Italian, 11 business classes, and one Alpine geology class. Rich course offerings utilizing the local environment allow summer schools to succeed.

I taught two history classes—one on World War II and one on the Habsburgs. The World War II class took one day field trips to Berchtesgaden (Hitler’s “Eagle’s Nest” and the documentation on National Socialism by the Institute of Contemporary History in Obersalzberg); another afternoon field trip went to Dachau concentration camp to look into the dark heart of Europe of the Nazi period. Introductory lectures preceded both field trips—the Dachau one by a professor of sociology from the University of Georgia who taught a class on genocide. I also took my Habsburg class on an afternoon field trip to the Court Church in Innsbruck (Emperor Maximilian I’s elaborate tomb), to the Innsbruck

Hofburg (with the lovely Riesensaal featuring Empress Maria Theresia’s entire family—representing the future of the dynasty), as well as to the new *Panorama* Museum on the Bergisel.

The spectacular *Panorama* Museum now displays the relocated monumental painting of the 1809 battles (“Riesenrundgemälde”) on the original historical site of the battles. Here the intriguing figure of the peasant leader and national hero Andreas Hofer—the quasi-“Robert E. Lee of the Tyrol”—comes alive. The *Panorama* is connected through a tunnel with new exhibits on Tyrolean material history, ethnology, and religious customs of *Volksfrömmigkeit* (fine representations of the Baroque *pietas Austriaca*), with the old Kaiserjägermuseum. This monument to the Tyrolean traditional privilege of self-defense and the imperial riflemen regiment, who fought bravely in many battles in Italy from the 1850s to World War I, is perched high above the city and offers a perfect view. These martial historical memories of the Tyrol seem to militate against the highly pacifist and neutralist Austrian sentiments of today. But they enliven classroom lectures by deeply immersing American students in local culture and history, clearly a centerpiece of

continued on opposite page

UNO at INNSBRUCK *from previous page*
the value of a European summer school experience.

Other classes took students on field trips up on a glacier to study Alpine geology, to the Ötzi Museum in Bozen to explore prehistoric life in the Alps, to the medieval city of Hall for an immersion experience in late medieval urbanism, and inside the caves of the 63 km railroad tunnel being dug under the Brenner Pass between Austria and Italy, one of the biggest engineering projects currently under way in Europe and the key to controlling the trans-Alpine traffic avalanche and protecting the labile Alpine environment. Business students got hands-on experience by visiting the BMW factory in Munich, art history students by exploring the treasures of the Northern Renaissance in the Alte Pinakothek in Munich.

Needless to say, the rich historical environment offered by Innsbruck and its environs add enormously to the classroom discussions. They give students visuals they never forget and allow for an immersion in local culture and traditions that can only be intimated but never experienced in the American classroom. This is what makes studying abroad so exciting and valuable. These students will not become Habsburg historians, but they will treasure these European memories for the rest of their lives. Their personal traveling experiences all over Europe will be an important part of their evolution from native provinciality to global citizenship. After a summer in Austria, they will be impressed with both the country's amazing prosperity and its welfare state; they will be less inclined to swallow the condescending and offensive propaganda about "socialist Europe" proffered by one political party in the current U.S. presidential campaign season.

Günter Bischof is a university research professor of history and director of CenterAustria at the University of New Orleans. Since 1981, he has taught in the UNO Summer School in Innsbruck a dozen times and directed it three times. ❖

CAS, VOV fellowships *from page 9*

The 2012 Voices of Vienna Fellowship, funded by Kathryn Keefer in honor of William Wright, founding director of CAS, went to **Juliette Brungs**, German studies. Brungs is working on a dissertation about the history of Viennese chanson and contemporary Viennese chanson and cabaret artists. She traveled to Austria and conducted research in the Austrian Archive of Cabaret in Graz and the Literature Archive in Vienna. In addition, she visited theatres and cabarets and interviewed selected artists from Vienna. She is interested in prewar cabaret as both a vehicle for political expression and Jewish ethics. She is also interested in its companion and successor, the Viennese chanson or Lied, "with

GWU Summer Institute on Archival Research

George Washington University's Institute for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies is pleased to announce the 11th annual Summer Institute on Conducting Archival Research (SICAR). This prestigious five-day seminar will be held in Washington, D.C., from 20-24 May, 2013. SICAR trains graduate students from multiple disciplines to maximize their research in archives and includes the following sessions:

- preparing to go to an archive and structuring time once there;
- understanding how archival documents come to be written and deposited in archives;
- tackling the challenges of interpreting archival documents, including issues of culture and foreign language.

Ph.D. students from the US and abroad working on international relations and modern history are encouraged to apply. George Washington University will provide accommodation and meals during the week of the Institute and

accepted students may apply for subsidized travel.

Applications should include the form available at www.ieres.org, as well as:

- a two-page proposal indicating how the week-long Summer Institute would be beneficial to your dissertation research,
- a curriculum vitae,
- one letter of recommendation from a faculty member in your department.

Applications should be sent to sicar@gwu.edu; the subject should read "SICAR application." Recommendation letters may be e-mailed or sent to: Institute for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies, ATTN: SICAR Application, 1957 E Street NW, Suite 412, Washington, DC 20052. Tel: 202-994-6340; Fax: 202-994-5436.

Please direct questions to sicar@gwu.edu, or visit the website at www.ieres.org.

The deadline for applications is **January 15, 2013**. ❖

CAS prizes *from page 4*

lenges our understanding of what it means to be "German"—and "Austrian." She argues that social democrats and republicans in both states mobilized a Großdeutsch nationalism to counter right-wing nationalists who denounced democracy as un-German. This left-wing Großdeutsch nationalism was rooted in an interpretation of 1848 that sought to create a unified German state founded on both democracy and national unity.

"Through juxtaposing Germany and Austria, Hochman analyzes the significant differences in how national symbols and holidays were established and celebrated in the two German-speaking countries. Hochman highlights the ways in which citizens on both sides of the border took the democratic process seriously and engaged in the debates surrounding the symbols of the newly founded republics. She also points out the

its distinct melancholic, sarcastic, and politically critical tone." The Voices of Vienna Fellowship was also in the amount of \$4,000.

The Center also awarded a travel grant of \$1,500 to Kevin Mummey, a graduate student in the Department of History. Kevin traveled to Mallorca for further research on his dissertation, "Women and Chains," about women slaveholders in late 14th century Mallorca. He also hopes to use the material he found for a scholarly article that would be related to, but separate from, his dissertation. He worked in municipal, ecclesiastical, and museum archives in Palma de Mallorca. You can see pictures of Mallorca and its archives on page 24-25 of this magazine, because Kevin wrote an article for the ASN on archival holdings in Mallorca. ❖

extent to which the right-wing parties adopted democratic practices to undermine the two republics.

"The committee notes three areas where this dissertation stood out. First the dissertation challenged accepted arguments in German and Austrian historiography in a thoughtful and deliberative manner. Furthermore, the dissertation makes a substantial contribution to a growing literature on the symbolic and ceremonial aspects of political culture in both Austria and Germany. Second, not only did Hochman visit federal archives in Berlin and Vienna, but she also used materials from regional archives like Graz and Salzburg. As a result the Austro-German comparison went deeper than events on the national level. Third, the author was succinct and effective. The dissertation, with its polished prose and engaging style, was a joy to read."

Each prize carries a cash award of \$1,500.

Each committee also named an honorable mention. The book was Michael Yonan, *Empress Maria Theresa and the Politics of Habsburg Imperial Art* (Pennsylvania State University Press, 2011). The dissertation was Jakub Sebastian Beneš. "Deserving the Nation: Workers Between Socialism, Nationalism, and Democracy in Late Habsburg Austria, 1890-1914" (defended at University of California, Davis, 2011).

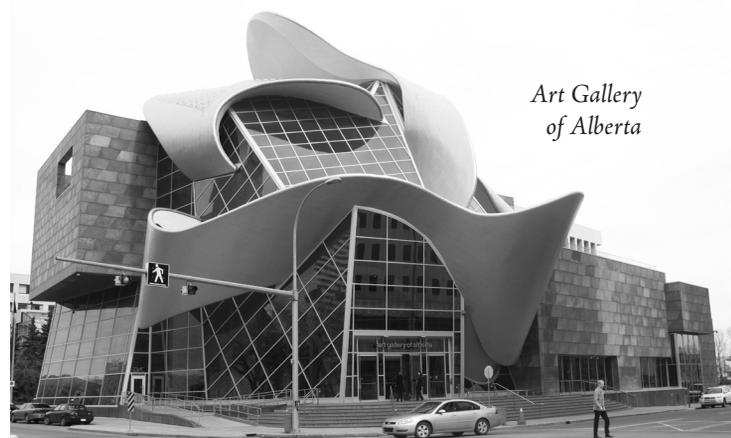
The Book Prize Committee consisted of Cathleen Giustino, Auburn University (chair); Maureen Healy, Lewis & Clark College; James Shedel, Georgetown University. The Dissertation Prize Committee consisted of Matthew Lungerhausen, Winona State University (chair); Nicole Phelps, University of Vermont; Jacqueline Vansant, University of Michigan-Dearborn. The Center thanks them all for their service. ❖

Talkin' about ART



Participants at Trans-Aesthetics conference.

in Central Europe



Art Gallery of Alberta

Text & photos by Daniel Pinkerton

From April 1-3, 2012, the Wirth Institute and the Art Gallery of Alberta (AGA) teamed up for an unusual and highly successful combination of scholarship and art exhibit. The conference was entitled "Trans-Aesthetics: Crossing Central Europe," and its companion exhibit at the AGA was entitled "REARVIEW MIRROR: New Art from Central and Eastern Europe."

The conference opened with a talk by artist Jan Edler on Sunday night. On Monday, the first day of the conference, proceedings were held on the campus of the University of Alberta, in the Old Arts Building, home to the Wirth Institute.

An exhibition of poster art, "150 Years: Croatian National Theatre," opened in the building on that day. The Croatian Ambassador to Canada, Veselko Grubišić, presided over the opening ceremony, and Katarina Žerevica gave a talk about the role of the theatre in Croatian culture.

The second day of the conference took place at the AGA and featured scholarly presentations, a tour of the exhibit, and a talk by artist Taras Polataiko (*see interview, p. 10*).

The event brought together scholars from Canada, the US, and Europe to cast a comparative eye on East Central European culture. Scholars examined both popular art (Stefan Simonek's analysis of the heavy metal band Laibach; Kornél Zipernovský's history of the introduction of jazz to Austria and Hungary) and high art (Wacław Osadnik on translating Elfriede Jelinek into Polish; Agatha Schwartz on women writers of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy). Susan Ingram examined the role of Vienna in the film *Before Sunrise* and Markus Reisenleitner compared the cultural worlds of two TV cop shows, "SOKO Kitzbühl" and "SOKO Donau."

Some scholars took a broader view of "culture," including a panel whose papers addressed the role of Freud and psychoanalysis in Habsburg and interwar Vienna: Lilliane Weissberg, Orsolya Papp-Zipernovsky, and Hanna Chuchvaha. Still others looked at agents of regional cultural exchange, such as traveling German theatre companies (Katarina Žerevica) and German and Croatian impressionism (Mario Martinec). ❖



Conference organizers at the Art Gallery of Alberta. Left to right, Helga Mitterbauer, Carrie Smith-Prei, and Joseph Patrouch.

Wirth Alumni Network meets in Budapest

Sixteen past Wirth Institute Fellows and guest researchers met in Budapest from June 8-10, 2012 to continue building the Wirth Alumni Network (WAN).

This organization was founded in Vienna in 2010. The alumni gathered in Budapest elected the group's first official officers. Men and women from Austria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, and Poland gathered to remember the times in Edmonton. In addition to the business meeting, activities included a banquet, a walking tour of the city, and a boat trip on the Danube. Institute director Joseph F. Patrouch, founding director Franz A.J. Szabo, office manager Sylwia Adam-Ross, and current Wirth Institute Austrian visiting professor Helga Mitterbauer also attended.

Plans call for a web presence and email distribution list to help the one-time Wirth Institute scholars stay in touch and to contact the almost forty alumni of the various Wirth programs. The next meeting of the WAN is planned for Prague in the spring of 2014.

For further information, contact the Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, T6G 2E6, Canada. Telephone: (780) 492-1444. Email: wirth.institute@ualberta.ca.

*Joseph F. Patrouch, director
Wirth Institute
University of Alberta*



The WAN meeting in Budapest. Background, Franz Szabo. Foreground, left to right: Matthias Forenbacher, Bernadette Allinger, Laryn McLernon, and Joachim Bürgschwentner. (Photo: Wirth Institute.)

Archaeologist from University of Graz to appear at Macalester College

Tina Neuhauser, internationally known archaeologist from the University of Graz, will give a lecture entitled "Roman Provincial Theaters" on Thursday, November 8 at 6:00 p.m. in the John B. Davis Lecture Hall, Ruth Stricker Dayton Campus Center, Macalester College.

This lecture should be of interest to those interested in archaeology, architecture, ancient history, and history of the theatre. Dr. Neuhauser will discuss theatres in Dalmatia, Moesia, Noricum and Pannonia, where a number of diverging cultures met: Greek, Roman/Italic and Gallic. These four Roman provinces provide us with a legacy that cannot be found in the rest of the Roman Empire.

The lecture is sponsored by Macalester College and the Minnesota Society of the Archaeological Institute of America. For more information, go to the website <http://aiamn.blogspot.com>.

CFP: European Jewish Literatures & World War I

The Center for Jewish Studies, University of Graz and the Association for European Jewish Literature Studies (AEJLS) will hold a conference at the University of Graz, June 10-12, 2013. The theme is "European Jewish Literatures and World War I." The languages will be English and German.

The conference will involve scholars of Literary Studies, Jewish studies, history, cultural studies, and media studies. It will discuss the forgotten Jewish literature (including journalism and published letters) that was published in different European countries during the period of the First World War. The organizers encourage a comparative perspective. The specific focus is on the complex living situations of European Jews shortly before, during, and immediately after WWI, and how this is discussed in literature, journalism, and other documents. They hope to analyze and illuminate connections between literature and culture, daily life, and war.

On the one hand, the connections should be made apparent by comparing the specific (aesthetic) characteristics of the media and different genres as well as the respective transformation processes in the perception of war which is mirrored in the texts. On the other hand, by analyzing motifs, images, narrative strategies, and discourses, the conference would like to focus on the changing conceptions of Jewish identities, ideological orientations, political views, and cultural values that affected Jewish groups in the

European countries, as well as the changing relations between the Jewish and non-Jewish population.

The research questions will refer to aspects of religion, (regional) background, origin, nation, gender, generation, and class. Furthermore, the organizers would like to examine the different discursive premises and narratives in order to capture both the experiences and the (intended) symbolic meanings of war. The notions of expectation, experience, memory and space will provide the leading heuristic concept, e.g., the category of space will be helpful in dealing with phenomena like "Kriegslandschaft" (Kurt Lewin), displacement, exile, homeland, expulsion, visions of Europe, etc. The notions of expectation, experience, memory, and their literary expressions could be discussed in relation to the specific cultures of the warring states (and their successor states).

The lectures will be published in proceedings in 2014. (Deadline for the articles: November 30, 2013). Accommodation costs will be paid (3 nights). A limited number of grants for travel expenses will be available.

The organizers invite interested researchers to send their abstracts (300-350 words) and a short c.v. by mail to Dr. Petra Ernst, Centrum für Jüdische Studien, Universität Graz, Heinrichstrasse 22/III, 8010 Graz, Österreich. E-mail: petra.ernst@uni-graz.at. The deadline for applications is **October 30, 2012**. ❖

Polataiko *from page 11*

it gets neutered so much. I've done public projects since then—official ones that actually paid money. The artist is invited to propose something, and then the design goes through many committees and subcommittees. The local people in the neighborhood have a say, the local artists have a say, there is an architect who has a say, the money, the developer, has a say. Suppose you propose something with a certain edge to it—and I believe "edge" is something that makes art noticeable—by the time it gets through all these committees it becomes so neutered that nobody even looks at it. It becomes a decoration. So the question becomes, "Why bother to do those things? Is that what we need, just décor?" I want it to be art because I am an artist and because it's called art.

ASN: *The artist has a great idea, and the developer is interested in décor. You're lucky if it retains a small part of the original creative spark.*

TP: It's always an interesting process of negotiation. This may sound contradictory, but—I guess because of my background—I don't believe in absolute freedom. In fact, absolute freedom is paralyzing. You have to have something to work against, some kind of limitation. Once you have parameters you can grab on to something and go from there. The problem is that with public art, those parameters are often so strict and the process is so Byzantine. Let me give you an example. I submitted a proposal for the Federal Court of

Canada. In the original proposal, a black and white plate would be turning, and there would be a signal coming from the upstairs where the verdicts are issued. If the verdict was guilty, the plate would be black, and if the verdict was innocent, the plate would be white. This means that if you're in that lobby you can tell what is happening in the courtrooms. Surprisingly, they didn't have a problem with that. What they did have a problem with, if they were being honest, was "safety issues." They said, "If somebody points a finger into those rotating metallic plates and their finger gets scratched, then we're liable."

ASN: *They're right. They could be sued for millions of dollars if someone were injured.*

TP: True. So they told me they loved the idea of black changing into white, but asked, "Can you do it without rotating plates?" What could I do? I had to come up with that accordion shape, which I actually like. Instead of the thing rotating there for you, you make it rotate because of your own movement through it. It was one of those lucky compromises. It's a good piece of art, it works as a sculptural piece, it's an example of negotiations and restrictions resulting in something positive.

ASN: *Are you still painting?*

TP: Yes, I am. I love painting, I think it is a very subtle language. Every ten years or so someone declares that painting is dead, but what does that mean, painting is dead? Painting is not dead as long as somebody paints.

ASN: *That's right.*

TP: It's an old medium, it's very loaded. In order to say that something is dead you have to compare it to video or performance which has much more immediacy, has much more impact, it's physical—or in case of performance or video it's time-based, it's storytelling. These media suck you in. It's like watching a movie, it's that magic of being caught up in a story unveiling. Painting doesn't have that. But you can't compare a tank with a car. One is just so powerful it just hits you, so it's an unfair game when people compare them. And to declare that there is nothing you can say through one medium? I'm interested in subtleties of the language. So if you're only focused on some kind of idea of art having massive impact then you're disregarding this whole beautiful and really complex body of knowledge that art is. Painting is a territory of paradox and layers that all interconnect. So to me it's barbaric to declare something dead or less effective. And if the impact in the real world is your only concern, then why bother creating that impact through art? That's a logical question. That's my problem with activism that flattens art. For example, let's take political activism as art. If you're really interested in changing lives, go be a politician or a social worker. Art provides a beautiful space for ambiguity and a certain amount of freedom. Use politics as a part of art, but don't flatten art in the service of something else. ❖

MATIC VEČKO *from page 12*

was very young, often sneaking out of my room at night to watch films when my parents were asleep. This fascination has remained with me ever since, even though I later decided to study comparative literature—film studies as an individual program did not exist at our universities at that time. While I was studying for my bachelor's degree, I had a rule to watch at least one film per day, which, my approach being very eclectic, resulted in seeing some of the best and the worst that world cinema has to offer. So this would be my first informal phase of film education. After that I started working for a publishing company that specialized in film literature. This position gave me an additional and practical insight into cinema and film business.

A&K: *How would you describe the situation of the Slovenian film industry at the moment?*

MV: The situation is actually somewhat confusing and contradictory. On one hand, the last year was extremely successful for our national film industry as it premiered the highest number of Slovenian films in years, some of them by first-time young directors, while also producing a huge box office success with the youth film *Going*

Our Way, which became the most successful Slovenian film of all time. On the other hand, most of our film production is state funded; due to the restructuring of the national state budget and the worldwide economic crisis, Slovenian film production has found itself in extremely difficult circumstances and the future does not look too bright at the moment.

A&K: *Where does that place the Slovenian film industry in a broader context?*

MV: When we consider the fact that most film production relies on the funds received from the state and that there are no tax incentives that would encourage foreign production, the situation is not good right now. On the other hand, there are quite a few promising young new filmmakers emerging, so independent and low-budget production is gaining momentum, which could present one of the possible courses for the future of Slovenian film.

A&K: *Is this your first time in Edmonton? If so, what surprised you the most so far?*

MV: This is not just my first time in Edmonton, it is actually my first time in Canada. The first thing that kind of shocked me was the sheer size and scale of the land and the city. I was very

pleasantly surprised by the kindness and general openness of the people. The second extremely positive surprise was the university, the infrastructure, level of organization, the conditions it offers to students, and the kindness and support of people here. Being more of an outdoor person than a typical city dweller, I also love the amount of nature one can find in Edmonton. The River Valley is one of the most fascinating things I have ever seen in a city. And although I miss the mountains a little, the open sky here is a pretty impressive trade-off.

A&K: *Soon you will finish your research here and go back to Slovenia. What are your future plans?*

MV: I would like to finish with writing my Ph.D. in the next year. After that I will most probably enroll in postdoctoral research that will combine my interest in cinema with my research of fantasy. The outline of the research idea started to take shape about a year ago as I was working on a paper dealing with the use of myths in a Canadian science fiction film. Hopefully, it will bring me back to Canada for another visit at some point.

Anna Windisch was the Wirth Institute's 2011-12 Austrian Research Fellow. Katarina Zeravica was its 2011-12 Croatian Research Fellow. ❖

Panel for *In Rem* Restitution from page 17

The applicants' years of birth span a period of 82 years. The oldest applicant, born in Vienna in 1903, filed her application with the Arbitration Panel in 2002. She lived in South Africa until she passed away a few years ago. 1922 is the most common year of birth.⁸

BOOK SERIES

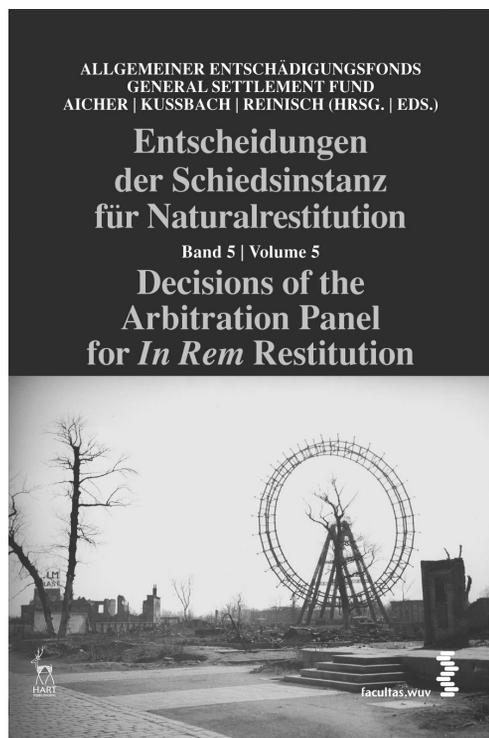
Since 2008, the Arbitration Panel for *In Rem* Restitution, in cooperation with two editing houses located in Vienna and Oxford (UK), has been publishing its decisions on substantive applications in a bilingual series of books.⁹ With this series the Arbitration Panel for *In Rem* Restitution provides a lasting record of its responsibility-laden work. In addition to the decisions (in anonymous form) and the introduction, which aims to provide historical context, the appendices of each volume contain extras, such as the latest version of the GSF Law, the Rules of Procedure of the Arbitration Panel, the materials and amendments to the law, and a complete version of the Washington Agreement. To mark the tenth anniversary of the Washington Agreement, volume 4 of the series featured an historical essay on the establishment of the Arbitration Panel and a facsimile of the Joint Statement of January 17, 2001. It also encompassed a thorough statistical analysis of the fundamental aspects of the Arbitration Panel's field of work, providing information on the applications, applicants, decisions, and subjects of the proceedings. It is intended that all substantive decisions of the Arbitration Panel will be published in this series; currently one volume per year is planned.

Additionally, all decisions of the Arbitration Panel (in anonymous form) and up-to-date information on the Arbitration Panel's work can be accessed on the homepage of the General Settlement Fund (www.generalsettlementfund.org).

This article was translated into English by Sarah Higgs.

NOTES

- 1 See Federal Law Gazette III 121/2001 of 29 June 2001.
- 2 Federal Law Gazette I 12/2001 of 28 February 2001.
- 3 Historikerkommission der Republik Österreich, eds. *Veröffentlichungen der Österreichischen Historikerkommission. Vermögenszug während der NS-Zeit sowie Rückstellungen und Entschädigungen seit 1945 in Österreich*, 32 Vol. (Vienna/Munich: Oldenbourg, 2002–2004)
- 4 For further information and literature on the events that led to the Washington Agreement and the establishment of the Arbitration Panel, see the introduction to volume 4 of the Panel's book series (see footnote 9 below).
- 5 Public ownership means that the Republic of Austria as well as those regional administrative bodies which opted in to the proceedings of the Arbitration Panel (the City of Vienna, the federal provinces of Upper Austria, Salzburg, Carinthia, Lower Austria, Styria, Vorarlberg and Burgenland, and 16 other Austrian municipalities) decided to allow the



Arbitration Panel to examine *in rem* applications for real estate and Jewish communal organizations' movable assets in their possession on January 17, 2001. This date was chosen as the cut-off day because on this day the final round of negotiations regarding the Washington Agreement was concluded with the signing of a Joint Statement at the U.S. Department of State in Washington, D.C.

6 The discrepancy between the number of applications and the number of decisions is to be attributed to the fact that one decision can relate to several applications that request the same object.

7 The legal entities were placed on equal terms with natural persons for the evaluation of the data on countries of residence.

8 For further information and data see Susanne Helene Betz, "Ten Years of the Arbitration Panel for *In Rem* Restitution – Figures, Data, Facts," in the appendix of volume 4 of the book series of the Arbitration Panel, p. 442–494 (see footnote 9 below).

9 Allgemeiner Entschädigungsfonds [General Settlement Fund], Josef Aicher, Erich Kussbach, August Reinisch, hrsg. [eds.]. *Entscheidungen der Schiedsinstanz für Naturalrestitution* [Decisions of the Arbitration Panel for *In Rem* Restitution], Bd. 1–4 [vol. 1–4], Zweisprachig, deutsch/englisch [bilingual, German/English]. Redaktion [Editing]: Susanne Helene Betz. (Vienna: facultas.wuv/Hart, 2008–2011) ❖

Tazi-Preve from page 17

avoid abandoned children after divorce/separation as there would be a continuous upbringing, and guarantees the absence of economic dependency on the partner.

GB: *Do you think that matriarchal societies that work in a "Third World" context can be applied in the Western world with its strong legal provisions in organizing family life?*

In fact all these matrilinear societies, e.g., the Seneca Iroquois, Ohio, USA; in Yucatan, Mexico; the Khasi in Northeast India; the Minangkabau in Sumatra/Indonesia; the Mosuo in South China or the Asante in Ghana, West Africa live within national states, but could maintain their traditions—often already influenced by their surrounding patrilinear systems—as they live usually in remote areas. Certainly a simple direct implementation in our Western societies would not be realistically accomplished. On the other hand, studies show that there are also traces in our societies where women primarily rely on female networks as a source for the upbringing of their children. So we can call matrilinearity a form of second culture simultaneously existing alongside with patrilinear structures.

Günter Bischof is director of CenterAustria, University of New Orleans. ❖

LOOSHAUS from page 19

Prior to completing his arguments, Long integrates his assessment of the building with an evaluation of Loos's significance as an architect. In the process, he describes Loos's position in history, accurately reporting that Loos was considered a minor figure up until the 1960s, when he became subject to a dramatic reappraisal. Long comprehensively reviews prior efforts to evaluate Loos as a theoretician and designer before proceeding to articulate his own conclusions: Long describes Loos as having "relied on his conviction that architecture should express reality: the architect's task, as he saw it, was not to invent a modern language but to interpret modern life, to discern the inner nature of the new culture and reproduce it in a manner that was tangible and truthful."

Christopher Long has written an excellent, meticulously researched book that identifies and resolves multiple narratives. It is an achievement in reconciling diverse and seemingly contradictory views. Long remains true to the invitation in his preface: the book unfolds to explain the Looshaus as an interpretation of Viennese culture.

*Cynthia Jara
School of Architecture, University of Minnesota*



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