

## CHGS News | June 2017

### On "Scaffold": Atrocity-Art and Its Limits



Controversial "Scaffold" by artist Sam Durant, at the Walker Art Center's Sculpture Garden

In March 2006, performance artist Santiago Serra constructed a homemade gas chamber inside a former synagogue in the Cologne area and invited Germans to be symbolically gassed. The Jewish community reaction was furious.

The understandable outcry from Serra's exhibit was very similar to the one we

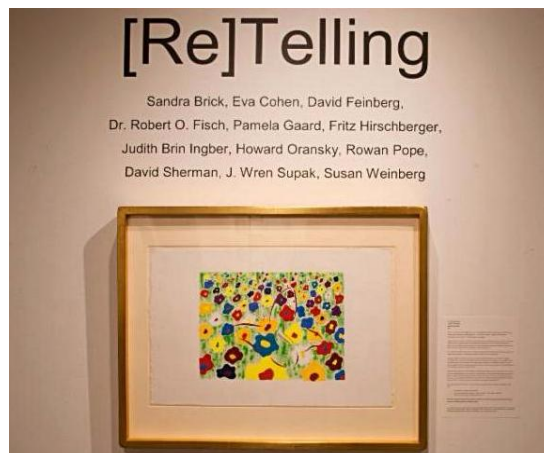
are witnessing this week from the Dakota community in response to the gallows-like artwork recently installed for the refurbished Walker Art Center's Sculpture Garden.

[Read full article by Alejandro Baer and Joe Eggers on the CHGS Blog](#)

### "[Re]Telling" Exhibition Featuring Artwork from the CHGS Permanent Collection

As part of the events recognizing its 20th anniversary, CHGS partnered this Spring with the Sabes Jewish Community Center on [\[Re\]Telling](#), an exhibition of Holocaust art, narratives, and contemporary response, held in the Tychman Shapiro Gallery at the [Sabes JCC](#).

[\[Re\]Telling](#) features paintings by survivor [Fritz Hirschberger](#) selected from the [CHGS permanent collection](#). Hirschberger was an artist of strong conviction, who painted in response to his experiences and events of the Holocaust. Each of the paintings in the show directly references poetry or other texts



Artists participating in "[Re]Telling:" Sandra Brick, Eva Cohen, David Feinberg, Dr. Robert Fisch, Pamela Gaard, Judith Brin Ingber, Megan McClellan, Howard Oransky, Rowan Pope, David

### Support CHGS

Your [generous support](#) is key to maintaining the work of the Center. Gifts help to fund public events, student research, and academic conferences and exhibitions.

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### In the News

that the artist chose to Sherman, J. Wren Supak, Susan Weinberg drive his points home to the viewer ([such as this one](#)).

Eleven local artists exhibited a piece of their work in association with one Hirschberger painting, and are installed in these groupings. Some of the artists made work in response to the literature that Hirschberger himself selected, or were directly inspired by his paintings or themes and subject matter.

This process of reflection and artistic transmission represented the process of carrying personal narratives forward through generations. No artist replicated Hirschberger's work, but each valued his testimony through the lens of their own expression.

In CHGS' 20th year, this is an appropriate recognition of CHGS' legacy, and a visible reminder of our mission to further the study of genocide through remembrance, responsibility, and progress.

[Images of the exhibition](#) are going to be available online. Please check out CHGS' [entire collection](#), including [past exhibitions](#).



"Indifference" by Fritz Hirschberger. Response pieces by artists Eva Cohen, Rowan Pope, and David Sherman

[TCJewfolk Interview with Demetrios Vital, CHGS Outreach Coordinator](#)

[After outcry and protests, Walker Art Center will remove 'Scaffold' sculpture](#)

[Donald Trump accused of writing 'outrageous' Holocaust memorial note](#)

[Promises, Promises: The Strange History of Film and the Armenian Genocide](#)

[News feature on Upper MN River Valley WWII & Holocaust Museum](#)

[The Genocide of Brazil's Indians](#)

## CHGS Survey

**We'd love to hear from you!**

CHGS is conducting a survey to learn about our relevance to the communities we serve. Please take 2 minutes to answer some brief questions:

[z.umn.edu/surveychgs](http://z.umn.edu/surveychgs)

## Welcome to New Fellows



### Meet the New Badzin Fellow in Holocaust and Genocide Studies: Moritz Meutzner

Moritz is currently working on his dissertation project on the history of German and German-Jewish philologists exiled from Nazi Germany to Turkey during the 1930s. Focusing on the case of the literary historian Erich Auerbach (1892-1957), who wrote his most influential works on European literature while in Turkish exile and later in the US, Moritz's research examines the intellectual and institutional network of German-

Jewish émigrés and Turkish scholars in Istanbul during the 1930s and 1940s. Examining Turkey as a place of German-Jewish exile during the country's phase of Westernization, Moritz's work discusses exile as a process of transnational exchange and explores the conflation of Holocaust and postcolonial memory, as it is discussed since the transcultural turn in memory studies. In 2017-18, Moritz will conduct research abroad in

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Germany and Turkey and work towards his graduation in the spring of 2019.

[Find more information about the Badzin Fellowship here.](#)

### Visiting Summer CHGS Fellow: María Jesús Fernández-Gil

María Jesús is an assistant professor at the Department of Modern Philology at the Universidad de Alcalá (Spain) and her main field of research deals with the Holocaust and Translation Studies. She obtained a PhD in English Philology and an MA in Translation and Intercultural Mediation from the University of Salamanca in 2011.



Her Ph.D. thesis, titled *Towards a Poetics of Memory: Charlotte Delbo's and Cynthia Ozick's Representation of the Holocaust Experience*, received the *Best Dissertation Award*. María Jesús continues to be interested in representations of the Holocaust in art, literature, and film and, specifically, in the role of translation in cultural memory and remembrance politics. She will spend the three summer months at CHGS, using its library and exploring Center collections with the goal to further her post-doctoral research.

## CHGS Receives Awards

CHGS affiliates and programs were given awards at the [Sociology Research Institute](#), an annual event by the Department of Sociology that celebrates achievements in research, teaching, and service.

CHGS received the [Public Sociology Award](#) for its [Genocide Education Outreach](#) (GEO) program.



Sociology PhD graduate student, Brooke Chambers, with students from Highland Park Senior High School at a GEO workshop on campus in April 2017.



Sociology PhD Candidate Wahutu Siguru received the **Engaged Scholarship Award**.



Alejandro Baer, CHGS Director, receives the **Faculty Mentoring Award**. From Left to Right: Miray Philips, Alejandro Baer, and Amber Powell.

## CHGS at the 112th Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association

CHGS affiliated graduate students and faculty will present their work at the 112th [Annual Meeting of the ASA in Montreal](#) (August 12-15, 2017)

- "From the 'Sioux Massacres' to the 'Dakota Genocide': Transitional (In)Justice and Collective Memory in Minnesota (1862-2012)," Alejandro Baer, Brianna Petersen, Joe Eggers and Wahutu Siguru
- "The Politics of Representation: Wire Agencies & Local News Organizations in the Coverage of Darfur," Wahutu Siguru, UMN PhD Candidate, former Badzin Fellow
- "Emerging Narratives by Diasporic Copts in Response to Sectarian Conflict in Egypt," Miray Philips, Badzin Fellow and UMN PhD Student
- "FaceTiming the Nation: Art of Mobilizing Citizens in the Age of Fiber-optics through Collective Memory," Yagmur Karakaya, former Badzin Fellow and UMN PhD Candidate
- "Human Rights and Law from Above and Below: Comparative Perspectives" session organized by Joachim Savelsberg, CHGS affiliate faculty and Ohanessian Chair

## Summer and Fall 2017 UMN courses relevant to Holocaust and Genocide Studies

### Summer 2017:

#### American Indian Studies

1003: Alex Ghebregzi - **American Indians in Minnesota**

#### History

3721: Jesse Dorst - **Studies in 20th-Century Europe From the Turn of the Century to the End of World War II: 1900-45**

### Fall 2017:

#### American Indian Studies

1003: McKay / Ghebregzi / Bendickson - **American Indians in Minnesota**

#### German

1601: Rick McCormick - **Fleeing Hitler: German and Austrian Filmmakers Between Europe and Hollywood**

3633: Leslie Morris - **The Holocaust: Memory, Narrative, History**

#### Global Studies

3900/5900: Artyom Tonoyan - **Armenian Genocide in the Age of "Alternative Facts"**

#### History

3727: Orry Klainman - **History of the Holocaust**

8900: Helena Pohlandt-McCormick - **Topics in African History: Global Apartheid**

#### Music

1914: Karen Painter - **Music in Nazi Germany**

#### Sociology

4461: Ron Aminzade - **Ethnic and Racial Conflict**

8190: Alejandro Baer - **Genocide & Mass Violence: Causes & Consequences**

## Fall 2017 Preview

[Reframing Mass Violence: Genocide and Memory Studies in Dialogue](#)

As a sequel to the 7-day Summer Institute at the University of Bayreuth in 2016, this workshop will convene former participants and UMN PhD candidates who bring interdisciplinary commitments and concerns in the fields of genocide and memory studies, and who are interested in sharing their work with their peers internationally.

The Transatlantic Institute is coordinated by Alejandro Baer (UMN, CHGS/Sociology) and Bernt Schnettler (U. Bayreuth, Sociology) and made possible through the UMN [Center for German and European Studies](#).

**Truth, Trials, and Memory: An Accounting of Transitional Justice in El Salvador and Guatemala**

University of Minnesota, November 1-3

The Human Rights Program, in partnership with CHGS, other centers, and faculty, will convene a diverse set of key actors to reanimate questions of truth and justice related to the internationally-sanctioned Truth Commissions on El Salvador and Guatemala that took place 25 and 20 years ago, respectively. This event will examine the social, political and cultural impacts of the post-civil war search for truth and justice in Central America and the lingering effects not only of these destructive conflicts but of the accountability processes themselves.

**Peace-Making in Post WWII Europe and Germany: Successes, Failures, and Future Prospects**

***A lecture series presented by the UMN Center for German and European Studies in collaboration with CHGS.***

How did European nation-states transition from millennia of war to adopt non-violent conflict resolution in the last 70 years? What role has Germany played in complex reconciliatory processes? Can European peace last? And is the European experiment in peace-making of any relevance for conflicts on other continents?

All events start at **5 pm** and are free to the public thanks to the generous support of the [Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst \(DAAD\)](#).

**Thursday September 7**

**Making Peace by Transforming Economic Relations and Political Culture: Is this European Experiment Sustainable in the 21st Century?**

Catherine Guisan is Visiting Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, UMN, and coordinator of the lecture series.





**Thursday September 14**

**Working Out the Past: Post WWII German relations with France, Israel, Poland and Czechoslovakia and their Relevance to Asian Debates on Reconciliation**

Lily Gardner Feldman is Harry & Helen Gray Senior Fellow and Director of the Society, Culture and Politics Program, American Institute for Contemporary German Studies, Johns Hopkins University, Washington DC.

**Monday October 9**

**Youth as Peace-Makers: From France and Germany to the Western Balkans**

Nicolas Moll is a Franco-German historian who has directed programs of European cultural studies at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques, Paris, the French-German Youth Office, Berlin, and the French Cultural Center, Sarajevo.



**Thursday October 19**

**Comparing Reconciliation Struggles: The Cases of Northern Ireland and Colombia**

Joachim Savelsberg, Professor of Sociology and Ohanessian Chair, UMN, and Michael Soto, PhD graduate student in Sociology, UMN.



**Thursday November 9 (tbc)**

**Divergent Italian and German Models to Confront the Holocaust: How Do these Models Impact European Identity? (Kristallnacht Commemoration Lecture)**

Aline Sierp is Assistant Professor, Maastricht University, Netherlands.

**CHGS Blog and YouTube New Releases**



Graffiti in Aleppo, Syria: "We shall return, love. 5/12/2016."

Visit the [CHGS Blog](#) for opinion pieces, scholar interviews, film and book reviews and research findings of scholars and students. Recent posts include an article from Henning Schroeder about the [changing nature of American patriotism](#), a discussion about photographing [everyday life under conflict](#) and a reflection about the [Nazi war crime at Guernica](#) by CHGS Director Alejandro Baer. Check back weekly for updates.

The [CHGS YouTube channel](#) has a playlist of filmed talks from our



recent International Symposium on "Genocide Studies and the Holocaust: Conflict and Convergence," including the 2017 Ohanessian Lecture and keynote address by historian Timothy Snyder on "The Politics of Mass Killing: Past and Present" (left).



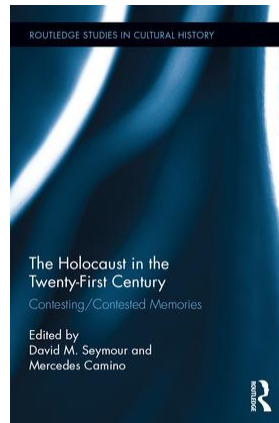
Philip Spencer (left) and Andrew Woolford (right) giving introductory lectures on the field of Holocaust and genocide studies.

## Book of the Month

### [The Holocaust in the Twenty-First Century: Contesting/Contested Memories](#)

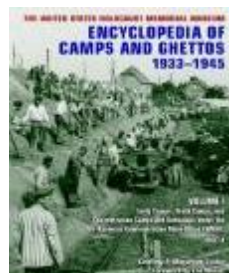
Edited by David M. Seymour, Mercedes Camino, 2017

This volume locates and explores historical and contemporary sites of contested meanings of Holocaust memory across a range of geographical, geo-political, and disciplinary contexts, elucidating the political, social, and cultural underpinnings and consequences of these meanings, and offering interventions that suggest ways forward for the future. Articles included in the volume cover themes such as Holocaust Globalization and Anti-Semitism, Monuments and Sites of Memory, Media and Education, and Familial and Collective Remembrance.



Two resources are now available online for research in Holocaust and genocide studies:

[Susan Gangl](#), the UMN Holocaust and Genocide Studies Librarian, has a [recent blog post](#) describing Archives Unbound, a research collection accessible through UMN Libraries.



[The United States Holocaust Memorial and Museum](#) has made the [Encyclopedia of Camps and Ghettos, 1933-1945](#) freely available on their website.

## Community Events

# P'Chotchka - A Sampling of Rimon-Supported Artists

Monday, June 5, 6 PM

[Metropolitan Ballroom](#)

[Purchase tickets here](#)

[Northern Starz Children's Theatre](#) will be performing an excerpt of "I Never Saw Another Butterfly," at [P'Chotchka](#), an arts showcase and benefit for [Rimon: The MN Jewish Arts Council](#).



Nourishing Jewish life through the arts

"I Never Saw Another Butterfly" is a play based on the well-known poem written in the concentration camp at Theresienstadt by Pavel Friedman, a child who was ultimately killed in Auschwitz. Northern Starz put on this play with support from Rimon. ([Here is a clip from rehearsal from the Northern Starz' Facebook page.](#))

You are cordially invited to  
**Rimon: The Minnesota Jewish Art Council's**

**P'Chotchka**  
A Fast-Paced Evening of  
Art, Food, & Ideas

**Monday, June 5, 2017**  
6:00 PM

at Metropolitan Ballroom  
5418 Wayzata Blvd.,  
Golden Valley, MN

HeARTY Refreshments

**\$54 per person**  
(\$22 Tax Deductible)

**8 Artists x**  
**18 Images x**  
**18 Seconds**

**Featuring:**

Puppet Artist  
**Shari Aronson**

Filmmaker  
**Michael Forstein**

Chef/Community Activist  
**Michelle Horovitz**

Visual Artist  
**Avigail Manneberg**

Theater Producer  
**Northern Starz Children's Theatre**

Musician  
**Yoni Reinhartz**

Fused Glass Artist  
**Bonnie Rubenstein**

Photographer  
**Anna Zirkes**

**Online registration at**  
**www.rimonmn.org**  
**Register by May 26**

**MINNEAPOLIS**  
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