
Transnational Holocaust Memory

Monday 26 and Tuesday 27 January 2015 at the University of Leeds, UK

Confirmed keynote speakers:

Professor Marianne Hirsch (*The Generation of Postmemory, Family Frames*)

Professor Leo Spitzer (*Ghosts of Home, Hotel Bolivia*)

Eva Hoffman (*After Such Knowledge, Lost in Translation*)

Professor Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela (*A Human Being Died That Night*)

Professor Stef Craps (*Postcolonial Witnessing*)

Professor Lyndsey Stonebridge (*The Judicial Imagination*)

Professor Sue Vice (*Holocaust Fiction*)

Over the last decade, critics have drawn attention to the transnational forces that increasingly influence the circulation of what might be broadly defined as ‘Holocaust memory’. These include mass migration, the expansion of the global travel and tourism industries, economic globalization and the growth of digital media and the internet. People, ideas, information, capital, products and lifestyles travel more freely round the world than ever before. Identities and cultures no longer relate exclusively to fixed territories; they are mobile, hybrid or virtual. Critics such as Daniel Levy and Natan Sznaider have further noted that this diaspora of Holocaust memory carries with it a universal discourse about human rights and how to deal with difficult pasts.

This conference will consider how these transnational factors affect the way we remember the Holocaust now, and how they might influence the way it is remembered in the future. It will ask how tropes of Holocaust memory are being adapted in countries around the world while at the same time questioning whether Holocaust memory is quite as ‘universal’ as is often claimed. Are there other local, regional and national discourses that inflect the way the Holocaust is remembered — and forgotten — in different parts of the world? How do the structural inequalities that characterize modernity influence the reception, or non-reception, of Holocaust memory? As we approach the end of the period of living memory, does the Holocaust still provide a significant paradigm for global memory cultures or are we, as Alvin Rosenfeld claims, witnessing ‘the end of the Holocaust’ as other disasters and emergencies refocus the attention and imagination of new generations?

Possible topics for papers and panels include:

- Cultural representation (including popular culture)
- Transgenerational transmission
- Migration
- Dark tourism

- Multidirectional memory
- Digital memory
- The international language or grammar of Holocaust memory
- Memorial institutions

Please submit 250-word proposals for papers or panels, along with a short biographical note, to Dr Matthew Boswell (m.boswell@leeds.ac.uk) by 1 October 2014.

Registration will open shortly after the deadline for panels and proposals on 1 October 2014. The conference registration fee will be £50 and £20 for students (including postgraduates). Certain panels will be free and open to students and the public.

A limited number of bursaries (£100) will be made available to postgraduate students as a contribution towards the costs of travel and accommodation. In addition, postgraduate students from the Universities of Leeds, Sheffield and York who are members of the White Rose College of the Arts and Humanities will be eligible to claim costs through the Researcher Training Mobility (RTM) fund. Further details will be posted on the conference website once registration opens. Please see <http://arts.leeds.ac.uk/transnationalholocaustmemory/2015-conference/> for details.

The conference will feature a number of public engagement events, including a play produced with a local theatre company and the launch of a public exhibition developed with the South African Holocaust and Genocide Foundation about Germany's confrontation with its past. It will also include a masterclass on 'Engaging with non-academic partners' for postgraduates. Please contact Dr Matt Boswell if you would like further information about any of these activities.

For further details of the Transnational Holocaust Memory international network and associated projects visit <http://arts.leeds.ac.uk/transnationalholocaustmemory>. For updates on the conference, please follow @TransHoloMemory.

This conference is kindly supported by the Worldwide Universities Network and the White Rose College of the Arts and Humanities.