



MAKING GOOD AGAIN:

CULTURAL APPROACHES TO PAST HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES

An International Conference

18-19 November 2012

Beit Maiersdorf, Mt. Scopus Campus, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

In conjunction with the 60th anniversary of the Reparations Agreement between West Germany and Israel, known in German as the 'Wiedergutmachung' – "making good (again)" - the Minerva Center for Human Rights at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, in cooperation with the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, is holding an international conference to consider alternative cultural expressions of acknowledging harms due to past human rights abuses.

In recent years we are witnessing a radical transformation in cultural practices relating to past human rights abuses, conflicts and traumatic events. Artists, scholars, citizens, and activists are undertaking exciting actions that link visual, literary and other cultural image(s) to political and social struggles, often in unexpected ways. These projects do not venerate the past as a monument, but rather issue it as a point of departure for critical and alternative accounts on hegemonic and dominant forms. By bringing together cultural practitioners and scholars from Israel, Germany, Latin America and elsewhere, we will address issues that arise from these emerging projects and practices.

The conference will include not only academic presentations but also relevant visual presentations of theater, film, photography, dance and multimedia works.

The discussions will be in English. For registration and information, and to request campus entry/parking permits, please contact the Minerva Center for Human Rights at mchr@savion.huji.ac.il or 02-5881156.

Program:

Sunday, 18 November 2012

16:00-16:30 **Opening**

Greetings: Danny Evron / Executive Director, Minerva Center for Human Rights,

Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Ruthie Ginsburg / Past Angel Postdoctoral Fellow, Minerva Center for Human Rights, Hebrew

University of Jerusalem; Bezalel Academy of Art and Design, Jerusalem

Introductory Michael Mertes / Director, Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Israel

Remarks: "An obligation of honor": Some remarks about the meaning of "Wiedergutmachung"

16:30-18:00 Session I: New Politics of Memory: Artist-Activist's Practices in Post-Dictatorship Context

Chair: Ruth Fine / Director, Dept. of Romance and Latin American Studies and Institute of Western

Cultures, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Speakers: Federico Zukerfeld & Loreto Garín Guzman / Etcetera Collective, Argentina /Chile

Multimedia presentation and discussion:

"Through the mirrors: the Clio's amnesia and other symptoms"

18:30-19:45 Session II: Questions of Identity in the Process of Reparation

Chair: Sigall Horowitz / Faculty of Law, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Speakers: Ruthie Ginsburg / Bezalel Academy of Art and Design, Jerusalem

Screening and discussion of Yael Bartana's short film "Mary Koszmary (Nightmares)"

Iris Nachum / Minerva Institute for German History, Tel-Aviv University

"Examining the 'Germanness' of Israeli Holocaust Survivors: An Analysis of a Kafkaesque

Compensation Procedure"

Monday, 19 November 2012

09:00-10:45 **Session III:** Activation of Memory and Loss

Chair: Amos Goldberg / Dept. of Jewish History and Contemporary Jewry, Hebrew University of

Jerusalem

Speakers: Yochai Avrahami / Bezalel Academy of Art and Design, Jerusalem; Oranim Institute of Art

"The Skeletons Turn on Their Visitors: Center and Margins in National Disaster's Presentations"

Yifat Gutman / Dept. of Sociology & Anthropology, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

"Remapping the Land with our Feet: The Activist Tour as a Remaking of the Israeli National

Landscape"

Cornelia Siebeck / Dept. of Social Psychology & Social Anthropology, Ruhr University Bochum "Germany Proudly (Re-)Presents! On Post-Political National Memory and its Discontents"

11:15-12:45 **Session IV:** Theater Dealing with the Past

Chair: Regev Nathansohn / Dept. of Anthropology, University of Michigan

Speakers: Sinai Peter / Theater Director, Israel

"Making Theater About Our Wounds: The Case of 'Return to Haifa'"

12:45-14:00 *Recess*

14:00-15:45 **Session V: Efforts of Reconciliation**

Chair: Daphna Golan / Faculty of Law, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Speakers: Louise Bethlehem / Department of English and Program in Cultural Studies,

Hebrew University of Jerusalem

"Poetic Justice: Truth and Reconciliation in Poetry"

Miki Kratsman / Head, Dept. of Photography, Bezalel Academy of Art and Design, Jerusalem

"Around the Archive: Unwritten Documents"

Naama Meishar / Program in Cultural Studies, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

"Contradictions in the Israeli 'Making Good': a Study of Jaffa Slope Park"

16:15-18:00 **Session VI:** Other Forms of Reparation

Chair: Ruthie Ginsburg / Bezalel Academy of Art and Design, Jerusalem

Speakers: Hagit Keysar / Dept. of Politics and Government Ben Gurion University, Israel

"Open-sourcing Jerusalem: methods and tools for independent image and map making in the

contested city?"

Arkadi Zaides / Choreographer, Israel

"Quiet & Land-Research: A report on two choreographic productions involving both Jewish and

Arab collaborators"

18:00-18:15 Concluding Remarks