

Speaking in Spite of All

German-Jewish Thought and its Afterlife



Conference

14-15 December 2022

Herzog-Friedrich Straße 3, Innsbruck

Organization: Stephanie Graf, Florian Pistol & Michaela Bstieler

in cooperation with the FWF-Project Membership Metaphors as ‚Doorkeepers‘

Program

14 December 2022

17:30-18:00 Welcome

Dirk Rupnow (Dean of Faculty)
Andreas Oberprantacher (Universität Innsbruck)
Stephanie Graf (Universität Innsbruck)

18:00-20:00 Book Presentation (German)

Prekäres Erbe. Deutsch-jüdisches Denken und sein Fortleben (Wallstein-Verlag 2021) in Anwesenheit der Autorin Vivian Liska

Chiara Caradonna (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

Birgit Erdle (Technische Universität Berlin)

Christine Ivanovic (Universität Wien)

15 December 2022

09:15-10:30 KEYNOTE

Vivian Liska (Universiteit Antwerpen)

A Tenous Legacy: Backward Glances, New Beginnings

Response: Michaela Bstieler (Universität Innsbruck)

10:45-12:15

PANEL 1 | Chair: Melinka Karrer

Benjamin Balint (Van Leer Institute Jerusalem)

Claiming Kafka: On German and Israeli Uses of Literature

Chiara Caradonna (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

*Voices (in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction):
Notes on the Tonal Legacy of German-Jewish Thought*

13:30-15:00

PANEL 2 | Chair: Noam Zadoff

Eli Schonfeld (Shalem College Jerusalem)

*Kafka and the Liminality of the Jewish Language: A
Reading of Kafka's Speech on the Yiddish Language*

Christine Ivanovic (Universität Wien)

*Das Verschwinden wiederholen - Vanishing Reloaded:
Ilse Aichinger's Poetics in the Context of German-Jewish
Thought since Modernity*

15:15-16:45

PANEL 3 | Chair: Florian Pistol

Laurin Mackowitz (Universität Graz)

Moses' Political Prefigurations

Birgit Erdle (Technische Universität Berlin)

*„Beim Grauen verweilen“: Hannah Arendts frühe Texte
über das Studium der Konzentrationslager*

18:00-19:30 KEYNOTE (online)

Robert Kaufman (UC Berkeley)

Poetry After... Fascism, Before Post-Democracy: Celan and the Americas

Response: Stephanie Graf (Universität Innsbruck)

Abstract

The German-Jewish tradition of thought is indispensable to the critical discourse of modernity. Working at the intersection of literature and philosophy, German-Jewish authors tried to grasp the shocking experiences of the twentieth century and to come to terms with the profound crisis of traditional systems of meaning. Franz Kafka, Walter Benjamin, Gershom Scholem, Theodor W. Adorno, Hannah Arendt, and Paul Celan were an inspiration to each other as well as partners in debate. Together they formed a fascinating constellation that helped modernist thought to a new self-understanding.

The conference traces the fault lines in and the various stages of this afterlife of German-Jewish thought. Its focus is on Vivian Liska's most recent book *Prekäres Erbe. Deutsch-jüdisches Erbe und sein Fortleben* (Wallstein-Verlag 2021).

Contact

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