



New Director

Wisconsin, Melbourne and the Ben Gurion University of the Negev. His teaching expertise includes courses on the History and Legacy of Weimar Germany, Jews and the Modern European Economy, Modern Jewish History, and Holocaust Controversies.

His publications have highlighted certain themes that tend to be overlooked by mainstream research, notably Jewish Consumerism, Advertising and Jewish Ethnic Marketing, German Public Libraries, the Sale of Newspapers in Weimar Germany from Railway Station Bookstalls, Everyday Life in Nazi Germany, and Sport and the Militarization of Jewish Society. His study of *Reading Germany: Literature and Consumer Culture in Germany before 1933* has been published both in English and in Hebrew, and he has co-edited a series of further ground-breaking books, including *Jüdische Geschichte lesen*, *The Economy in Jewish History*, and *Emancipation through Muscles: Jews in European Sport*.

As the University of Sussex celebrates its fiftieth anniversary this autumn, we are delighted to welcome the newly appointed Director of the Centre for German-Jewish Studies, Gideon Reuveni. He will also hold the post of Reader in Modern Jewish History in the School of History, Art History and Philosophy.

Dr Reuveni took a BA in Philosophy and Political Science in 1991 at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, followed by an MA with a thesis on German Historiography after the First World War. He earned his doctorate there (*summa cum laude*) in 2001 with a dissertation on Reading Culture and Consuming Culture in Germany before 1933.

Gideon is fluent in Hebrew, German, English and Yiddish. He will be able to draw on a wide range of previous experience researching and teaching at the Universities of Munich and Leipzig, Madison-

At Sussex, where he will initially benefit from the continuing support of Christian Wiese as visiting professor, Gideon will be able to build on his wide range of experience as a conference organizer. During recent years he has co-organized international conferences on 'Diaspora, Migration and Jewish Memories of China', 'Shopping Ideas, Trading Theories and Hawking Cultural Histories', 'Jewish Humour', and 'Jews in European Sport'.

Asked what attracts him about the new opportunities at Sussex, Gideon replied that he is most excited to be joining colleagues whose work he has long admired. Christian Wiese has shown that specialized research groups can become major players in Jewish studies. Building on these achievements, Gideon hopes we will be able to strengthen the study of Jewish History at the University and extend the activities of a dynamic, outreaching Centre that will combine the highest standards of teaching with cutting-edge research.

Haskalah and Religion – International Conference in Frankfurt



Prof Shmuel Feiner and Prof Christian Wiese in the Casino Building at the Goethe University, Frankfurt am Main

importance for an understanding of the modernization of Jewish identity in Europe since the 18th century.

International research on the Haskalah has flourished in recent years, particularly in the USA and in Israel, and has produced a variety of detailed studies specialising on different aspects of the intellectual development and social context of the Haskalah as well as new approaches to the interpretation of Jewish Enlightenment in West and East Europe. One of the most complicated and contested questions regarding the intellectual character of the Haskalah is its relationship to the process of secularization. Were the *maskilim* advocates of a secular culture, inclined to question the influence of religious tradition for the sake of promoting the autonomy of reason? How did they refer to religious authority and the sources of Judaism such as the Bible, the Talmud or the Kabbalah?

Twenty-five leading scholars from Europe, Israel and the USA as well as fifteen doctoral students explored the relationship between Haskalah and religion in July 2011 during the 'Fourth International Conference on Jewish Enlightenment: Haskalah and Religion' that took place at the Goethe University Frankfurt am Main, organised by Prof Christian Wiese on behalf of the Martin Buber Chair in Jewish Thought and Philosophy in Frankfurt and the CGJS as well as by Prof Shmuel Feiner (Bar Ilan University). The first in a series of planned joint Frankfurt/Sussex events, the Haskalah conference succeeded in bringing different areas of research into dialogue, including new perspectives on the relationship between Haskalah and Orthodoxy, Haskalah and Hasidism, Haskalah and secular philosophy as well as Haskalah and Jewish nationalism in a variety of European cultural settings. A particular feature of the conference was the attempt to overcome the traditional separation between the historiography on Jewish Enlightenment and the European Enlightenment(s) in general – phenomena that are indissolubly linked to each other and need to be interpreted in more detail in order to understand the complicated relationship between religion and modernity.

The Jewish Enlightenment is a phenomenon that comprises a period of about 120 years (from the 1770s to the 1890s) in a variety of very different Jewish communities – from London and Amsterdam in the West, Copenhagen in the North to Vilnius and St. Petersburg in the East. The Haskalah, as it is called in Hebrew, is a fascinating example of one of the multifaceted European 'Enlightenments'. At the same time it embodies a unique chapter of European Jewry's intellectual and social history that is of crucial

Max and Hilde Kochmann Summer School in Frankfurt 2011



PhD students in European-Jewish History participating in the Max and Hilde Kochmann Summer School at the Goethe University in Frankfurt.

Since the first Max and Hilde Kochmann Summer School for PhD Students in European Jewish History and Culture was held in July 2009 in Oxford, 70 young scholars from ten European countries as well as Israel and the USA have been given the opportunity to present and discuss their research in an interdisciplinary setting. Several members of this growing network of historians, philosophers and literary scholars have now finished their doctoral projects, others are presenting their work at international conferences – a young generation of talented scholars for whom the Centre for German-Jewish Studies at Sussex has become an important place on the map of Jewish Studies in Europe.

Created by Christian Wiese and generously funded by Dr Kurt Hellman, this tradition of young scholars' conferences will be continued in the coming years, with meetings being held alternately at Sussex and at other European universities. In July 2011 the meeting took place at the Goethe University in Frankfurt and brought together twenty PhD students whose projects are devoted either to German-Jewish or European-Jewish history. The senior scholars who had been invited to respond to their presentations – Prof Christian Wiese (Frankfurt), Prof Andreas Gotzmann (University of Erfurt) and Prof Stefanie Schüler Springorum (Zentrum für Antisemitismusforschung, Berlin) – were impressed by the diversity and quality of the research that is currently being done in the field.

Research on a variety of facets of modern Jewish history in Central and Eastern Europe, particularly in Poland, seems to be increasingly flourishing, with projects exploring new insights, for instance, on the history of the Reform Movement in Warsaw and Krakow, of the Jewish communities in Stettin, Gdansk and in Upper Silesia as well as the Polish Jewish experience from World War II to the present. Further new areas of research include the history of Scandinavian Jewry, the relationship between Soviet Russia and the World Zionist Organization, the interaction between Jews and non-Jews in different European contexts (including the question of intermarriage or the role of Jews in Freemasonry), Jewish nationalism as well as projects devoted to gender relations.

Students thoroughly enjoyed the opportunities they were offered during the week in Frankfurt – apart from discussing their projects they were invited to attend the international Haskalah conference and explored the different aspects of local Jewish culture, including the exhibition on Nelly Sachs currently hosted by the Jewish Museum in Frankfurt. Natalia Verzhinina, a young historian from Tyumen University in Siberia, said during the final discussion: 'It was wonderful to meet so many students from other countries and to get to know their projects and methods. I learned so many things that I wouldn't find out on my own and I feel inspired and motivated to continue my work at home'.

International Conference in Jerusalem on 'Moses Hess between Socialism and Zionism'

The philosopher, journalist and revolutionary activist Moses Hess (1812-1875), an early proponent of socialism and friend of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels as well as a forerunner of Jewish nationalism, is one of the most fascinating and colourful intellectuals of nineteenth-century German Jewry. Contemporaries called Hess, who had received a traditional religious education and later became a convinced Spinozist and an influential socialist thinker, the 'Communist Rabbi'. Whilst Hess had originally advocated Jewish integration into the universalist socialist movement, he was profoundly disillusioned by the rising tide of German anti-Semitism in the late 1850s and early 1860s. In this period he apparently returned to religion in the form of Spinoza's pantheism, which he did not find incompatible with orthodoxy.

In 1862 he published his famous book *Rome and Jerusalem: The Last National Question* in which he contemplated the rise of Italian nationalism and the German reaction to it and from this arrived at the idea of Jewish national revival. His book calls for the establishment of a Jewish socialist commonwealth in Palestine, in line with the emerging national movements in Europe and as the only way to respond to anti-Semitism and assert Jewish identity in the modern world. Hess's contribution to Zionist ideology did not stimulate any political activity or discussion during his own lifetime and became important only in retrospect, as the Zionist movement began to crystallize and to generate an audience in the late nineteenth century. When Theodor Herzl first read *Rome and Jerusalem* he wrote that 'since Spinoza, Jewry had no bigger thinker than this forgotten Moses Hess'.

Together with the Martin Buber Chair in Jewish Thought and Philosophy at the Goethe University in Frankfurt, the Leo Baeck Institute Jerusalem and the Israel Office of the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, the Centre for German-Jewish Studies will hold an international conference dealing with various aspects of the ideas and activities of Moses Hess, to mark the 200th anniversary of his birth and the 150th anniversary of *Rome and Jerusalem*. The multi-faceted personality and thought of Hess is like a prism that reflects various political and cultural facets of German Jewry. The challenges, tensions and contradictions characterizing modern culture in general, and nineteenth-century German Jewry in particular, are represented in the numerous areas of Hess' activity. Beyond their historical significance, the issues that Hess raised in his writings are more relevant than ever in the post-communist and post-national era of today. The conference will be held in Jerusalem on March 19-20, 2012, with a keynote lecture by Shlomo Avineri.

A Tale of Two Hildas

Excerpt from the Address by Prof Edward Timms at the Austrian Embassy Reception on 20 July 2011 to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Association of Jewish Refugees

The opening chapter of my memoirs, *Taking up the Torch*, recalls that in the late 1930s there was one response to Nazism in which anyone could join – supporting refugees. When events in Europe after the annexation of Austria forced Jewish families to flee, the British government responded with a scheme that allowed approximately ten thousand German-speaking women to enter the country as domestic servants. My own parents made room at the Surrey Parsonage where we lived for a young Jewish woman. This Hilda I only half-remember, but a photo taken in January 1939 shows me in her arms beside a giant snowman, with my brother and sister in the foreground. I believe that my interest in German-Jewish studies must have begun at that moment (she would sing me to sleep with German cradle songs like 'Schlaf Kindlein Schlaf').

Actually, my memoirs could be described as a Tale of Two Hildas, for the very first page recalls a meeting with another refugee far more recently. This was Hilde, née Kohn, who later became the wife of Max Kochmann. For years they were leading members of the AJR, and they will be well remembered by many people today. My first meeting with Max and Hilde Kochmann is described as follows:

Sitting in my office at the Arts Building in the summer of 1994 were two visitors from London, Max and Hilde Kochmann. They had heard about the proposal to create a Centre for German-Jewish Studies at the University of Sussex and wanted to know more.

'We understand your interest in political history,' Max began, 'but why focus on German-speaking Jews?' To answer this question would require a whole book, but my reply had to be succinct.

A Tale of Two Hildas continued

'This is not to be a centre for Holocaust studies,' I said. 'The idea is to go back beyond Hitler to explore the creative interactions between Germans and Jews, between Lessing and Moses Mendelssohn, Goethe and Heine, Wagner and Mahler. My research has explored those tensions in the light of *Die Fackel* (The Torch), the journal published in Vienna by the satirist Karl Kraus.'

'What was so important about Vienna?' Max asked. He was proud of his links with Berlin, where he had spent his schooldays before being forced as a Jew to flee to England.

'Vienna,' I replied, 'exemplified the contribution of German-speaking Jews to modern civilization. Think of Sigmund Freud and Theodor Herzl, Arnold Schoenberg and Ludwig Wittgenstein. It was in Vienna that Hitler spent his formative years. Austria, as Kraus remarked on the eve of the First World War, became an experimental station for world destruction.'

With the help of Max and Hilde Kochmann, the Centre for German-Jewish Studies was launched at Sussex almost twenty years ago, aided by a London Support Group, some of whose members, like Hella Pick and Ralph Emanuel, are here at the Embassy tonight. You can read more about the projects we have developed in the later chapters of my memoirs, as well as in the regular newsletters circulated to Friends of the Centre.

Copies of the paperback edition of *Taking up the Torch: English Institutions, German Dialectics and Multicultural Commitments*, published by Sussex Academic Press, can be ordered from Diana Franklin, price £25 (with free postage and packing).



His Excellency the Austrian Ambassador, Dr Emil Brix, speaking at the Reception in London on 20 July 2011 to mark the 70th anniversary of the Association of Jewish Refugees, followed by the launch of *Taking up the Torch* (photo by Julia Winckler).

Joint Research Project on the 'Kindertransport'

The Centre for German-Jewish Studies has joined forces with Aberystwyth University to deliver a project on the 'History and Memory of the Kindertransport to Britain, 1938/39'. The two-year project funded by the Conference on Jewish Material Claims against Germany in New York and by Aberystwyth University, and organised through the Centre (with Christian Wiese as principal investigator), will enable Andrea Hammel, who is Lecturer in German at Aberystwyth University, to write a monograph on the war-time experiences and post-war lives of Kindertransportees. Special emphasis will be placed on the way the events have been remembered in Britain and abroad and the project will include a comprehensive analysis of the reunion movement, memoirs, films, books and other memory projects that were undertaken during the last three decades.

Dr Hammel will be working on the project until the end of January 2013 for an average of two days per week. From autumn 2011 onwards she will travel to Austria, Germany, Israel and the US to consult public and private archival collections. Andrea Hammel has formerly written on Kindertransport memoirs and is currently co-editing (with Bea Lewkowicz) a volume on 'The Kindertransport 1938/39: New Perspectives' to be published by Rodopi as the 13th volume of the *Yearbook of the Research Centre for German and Austrian Exile Studies* at the end of this year. If anyone would be willing to share his or her experiences, especially relating to post-war life and the way the Kindertransport is remembered, please contact Dr Andrea Hammel, Department of European Languages, Aberystwyth University, Hugh Owen Building, Penglais, Aberystwyth SY23 3DY. E a.hammel@aber.ac.uk

Publications, Conference Papers and News

Rose Holmes

Rose Holmes has been continuing her research into the rescue work of British Quakers with refugees from fascism in the 1930s. She has been delighted with the information and support received from Friends of the Centre. Alongside her research, she will start work as an Associate Tutor in the History department in October.

Romy Langeheine: Conference Paper

'Hans Kohn's Importance for the Zionist Movement', paper given at the international workshop for doctoral students and post doctoral scholars on 'New Research on German and Central European Zionism' at the Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Beer Sheva, 31 May-2 June 2011

Leena Petersen

Conference Paper

'Reconsidering Utopia. On the Entanglement of 'The Modern Loss of Subject Transcendental Structure. On the Law and Linguistic Critique in Fin-de-Siecle', paper given at the conference on 'The Letter of the Law: Law Matters in Language and Literature', The 8th International Conference of the Hellenic Association for the Study of English (HASE), University of Athens, Greece, May 2011

Publications

'Reconsidering Utopia: On the Entanglement of Mind and History', in *Studies in Social and Political Thought* 18 (Winter 2010), 14-28

'Aniconism and Negative Aesthetics in German-Jewish Thought in the 19th/20th Century', in a special issue of *Jewish Culture and History/Parkes Wiener Series monograph* (forthcoming 2011)

Edward Timms

Conference papers

'Das Wissen der Wiener Moderne: Dynamik der Kreise, Resonanz der Räume', paper for the November 2011 conference in Vienna to mark the 25th anniversary of the Vienna Circle Institute

Publications

(with Diana Franklin) 'A German-Jewish Experience' in *The Board of Deputies of British Jews: Celebrating 250 Years and Beyond* (London, July 2011), 46-7

(with Saima Göksu) *Romantik Komünist* (new edition, Istanbul: Yapi Kredi, August 2011), 450 pages

(edited with Naomi Segal) *Freud in Exile: Psychoanalysis and its Vicissitudes* (Chinese translation, Wu-Nan Book Inc, 2011), 387 pages

'Coffee-Houses and Tea Parties: Creative Dynamics in Freud's Vienna and Woolf's Bloomsbury', in *The Vienna Café as a Site for Urban Cultural Exchange*, ed. Charlotte Ashby (Berghahn, forthcoming autumn 2011)

'Karl Kraus and the Transformation of the Public Sphere in Early Twentieth-Century Vienna', in *Changing Perspectives of the Public Sphere*, ed. Christian J. Emden and David Midgley (Berghahn, forthcoming autumn 2011)

'Refugee Children and Evacuees', in *Yearbook of the Research Centre for German and Austrian Exile Studies*, vol. 13, *The Kindertransport 1938/39: New Developments in Research*, ed. Andrea Hammel and Bea Lewkowicz (forthcoming 2011)

'From the Hapsburg Empire to the Holocaust: *Die Fackel* (1899-1936)

and *Der Brenner* (1910-54)' in *The Oxford Critical and Cultural History of Modernist Magazines*, ed. Peter Brooker and Christian Weikopp (Oxford University Press, forthcoming 2011)

Current research

Edward Timms is working on a book to be published by Polity Press under the title *Freud and the Aesthetic of the Dream: Psychoanalysis and the Modernist Imagination*. It will include chapters on Female Authors from the School of Freud and the Crisis of Masculinity.

Christian Wiese

Conference papers

'Jüdische Gelehrtenetzwerke in Europa im Spiegel der Korrespondenz Markus Mordechai Branns, 1890-1920', paper given at the International Conference on the Occasion of Leopold Zunz's 125th anniversary at the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, 14-16 March 2011

'Judaism's Universal Role in the Modern World: Samuel Hirsch's Religious Philosophy in the Post-Enlightenment Era', paper given at the conference on 'The Philosophy of the Enlightenment' at the University of Sussex, 29-31 March 2011

'Ethical Monotheism: The Rhetoric, Politics and Theology of a Protestant Concept in 20th-Century German-Jewish Discourse', paper given at the International Conference on 'Rhetorics of Religion in Germany, 1900-1950' at Princeton University, 31 March to 2 April 2011

'Messias, Judentum und der Prozeß Jesu von Nazareth', paper given

Publications, Conference Papers and News continued

at a conference organized by the Hamburg Symphony Orchestra on the occasion of a concert devoted to Jerusalem, 17 April 2011

'Pluralität und Dialogizität als Thema jüdischer Religionsphilosophie', Professorial Lecture at the Goethe University, Frankfurt, 5 May 2011

'Widerstand aus den Quellen des Judentums: Leo Baeck als Gelehrter und Repräsentant des deutschen Judentums in der Weimarer Republik und in Nazi-Deutschland', paper given at the Institute for the History of German Jewry in Hamburg, 24 May 2011

'Transnational Jewish Scholarly Networks and Identity Politics as Reflected in the Monatsschrift für Geschichte und Wissenschaft des Judentums and the Correspondence of Markus Mordechai Brann', paper given the International Summer Research Workshop 2011 at the Leo Baeck Institute, Jerusalem, 17 July to 5 August

'Cohen im Umkreis jüdischer Reaktionen auf Harnacks *Wesen des Christentums*', paper for a conference on 'Religion aus den Quellen der Vernunft: Hermann Cohen und das Evangelische Christentum' at the University of Tübingen, 18-21 September 2011

'Imago Dei and Human Responsibility: Theological Anthropology and Ethics in Post-Holocaust Jewish Thought', paper for the International Conference on 'Ethics of In-Visibility: *Imago Dei*, Memory, and the Prohibition of Images' at the University of Copenhagen, 25-26 October

'No Love for the Jewish People? Hannah Arendt's 'Eichmann in Jerusalem' Revisited', paper to be given at the Central European University, Budapest on 8 November 2011

Publications

'Heros, Ikone, Gegenbild: Abraham Geiger aus der Perspektive der Reformbewegung in Amerika', in *Jüdische Existenz in der Moderne: Abraham Geiger und die Wissenschaft des Judentums*, ed. Christian Wiese, Walter Homolka and Thomas Brechenmacher, Berlin 2011 (forthcoming)

Current Research

Christian Wiese is the editor of a newly created book series entitled *Mar'ot: Die jüdische Moderne in Quellen und Werken* (published by Walter de Gruyter) that will start in 2012 with a new edition of Ahad Ha'am's collection of essays (*Am Scheidewege*, originally Berlin 1923).

Christian Wiese has been awarded a Thyssen Foundation grant for a project on 'The Academic Study of Jewish Mysticism in the Modern Period (1830-1941)'.

Forthcoming Events

Sussex Lecture Series

Monday 26 September 2011

Prof Stephen J. Whitfield (Brandeis University), 'American Jews in the Shaping of Black Culture' (in cooperation with the Marcus Cunliffe Centre for the Study of the American South)

In the struggle for racial justice that has come to be understood as central to the experience of the twentieth-century US, the radiant power of black culture helped to accelerate the realization among American whites of the talent and even the humanity of a despised minority. How this culture came to be showcased and projected, especially in the interwar period, was partly the achievement of some individual Jews who, however inadvertently, demonstrated how the civic, artistic and economic roles of these two groups should be appreciated as intertwined.

Stephen Whitfield holds the Max Richter Chair in American Civilization at Brandeis University. His most recent publications are *The Culture of the Cold War* and *In Search of American Jewish Culture*.

5pm, University of Sussex, Arts A 155
All welcome, booking not required

Thursday 3 November 2011

Dr Bernhard Rieger (University College London), 'From the Third Reich to Postmodernity: The Global History of the Volkswagen Beetle' (in cooperation with the History Department 'Work in Progress Seminar')

Bernhard Rieger is Senior Lecturer in History at University College London. His area of interest includes nineteenth and twentieth century Europe, especially the societies, economies and cultures of Britain and Germany. His publications include a comparative book on British and German attitudes to technology between 1870 and 1945 (2005) as well as a co-edited volume on British modernity during that period. At present, he is completing a global history of Volkswagen Beetle for Harvard University Press, a project that traces the car's journey from failed National Socialist prestige project to iconic prominence in Western Europe, the United States and Mexico.

4pm, University of Sussex, Arts A 155
All welcome, booking not required

Monday 5 December 2011

Dr Shirli Gilbert (University of Southampton), 'Forgotten Letters: A Refugee from Nazism in Apartheid South Africa'

Rudolph Schwab was a Jewish refugee who fled Nazi Germany and came to South Africa in 1936. For the next 34 years, until his tragic death in 1971, he corresponded with friends and family across the world, including a close friend who became a Nazi official. His substantial archive of 2500+ letters, which was recently discovered in a garage in Johannesburg, is extraordinary not only for its wide scope but also because Schwab kept copies of his own letters in addition to those he received. His

correspondence offers rich insights into the experiences of Jewish victims and refugees, as well as relationships between Jews, 'ordinary' Germans, and Nazis. It also has much to tell us about Nazism's impact on perceptions of racism under apartheid.

Shirli Gilbert is Karten Lecturer in Jewish/non-Jewish relations at the University of Southampton. She obtained her D.Phil. in Modern History at the University of Oxford and was a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Society of Fellows at the University of Michigan. She is currently working on a book about Rudolph Schwab's letters, as part of a larger research project on Holocaust memory in apartheid and post-apartheid South Africa. Her book *Music in the Holocaust: Confronting Life in the Nazi Ghettos and Camps* (Oxford University Press, 2005) was a finalist for the 2005 National Jewish Book Award.

4.30pm, University of Sussex,
Arts B 127 (tea at 4pm)
All welcome, booking not required

Thursday 2 February 2012

Prof Mark Roseman (Indiana University), 'The Rescue of Memory: Wartime Experience and Postwar Claims of a Group of German Rescuers' (in cooperation with the History Department 'Work in Progress Seminar')

4pm, University of Sussex, Arts A 155
All welcome, booking not required

Monday 27 February 2012

Dr. François Guesnet (University College London), 'Is there a Jewish Political Tradition? The Jewish Intercessor (shtadlan) in Modern History as Case Study'

The paper investigates whether one can identify a specifically Jewish political tradition. Taking a closer look at the institution of intercessor; an ubiquitous communal function in the early modern and modern Jewish community, it discusses the impact of Jewish history and of non-Jewish political contexts.

François Guesnet teaches at University College London. His research includes a project on Jewish intercession in Europe in a comparative perspective (18th and 19th centuries), a project on Jewish self-government in Poland from its inception until the present, and a comparative project on anti-Semitism in Eastern Central Europe after 1989.

4.30 pm, University of Sussex,
Arts B 127 (tea at 4pm)
All welcome, booking not required

Thursday 2 May 2012

Dr Gideon Reuveni (University of Sussex), 'The Politics of Jewish Consumption' (in cooperation with the History Department 'Work in Progress Seminar')

4pm, University of Sussex, Arts A 155
All welcome, booking not required

Holocaust Memorial Day

Wednesday 25 January 2012

For many years the CGJS has organized Holocaust Memorial Day on behalf of the University of Sussex. The theme for 2012 is 'Speak Up, Speak Out'.

Speakers will include Baroness Dr Julia Neuberger DBE (London) and Marion Blumenthal Lazan (New York). Baroness Neuberger is a rabbi, social reformer and member of the House of Lords. In 2011

she took the role of Senior Rabbi at the West London Synagogue.

Marion Blumenthal Lazan, a Holocaust survivor born in Hoya, Germany, has published her autobiography under the title *Four Perfect Pebbles: A Holocaust Story* (1996). In her memoir she describes how, following Hitler's rise to power, the Blumenthal family – father, mother, Marion, and her brother, Albert – were trapped in Nazi Germany. They managed eventually to get to Holland, but soon thereafter it was occupied by the Nazis. For the next six and a half years the Blumenthals were forced to live in refugee, transit, and prison camps that included Westerbork in Holland and Bergen-Belsen in Germany. It took three more years of struggle and waiting before Marion, Albert, and their mother at last obtained the necessary papers and boarded ship for the United States. Their story is one of horror and hardship, but it is also a story of courage, hope, and the will to survive. Proceedings will include the screening of the documentary *Marion's Triumph: Surviving History's Nightmare* (2003) that is based on Marion Blumenthal Lazan's story.

1.45pm, University of Sussex,
Chowen Lecture Theatre, Medical School
All welcome, booking not required

Conferences

Friday 3 February 2012

Workshop on 'After 70 Years: The Wannsee-Conference Reconsidered' (in cooperation with the Centre for Modern European Cultural History)

Speakers will include Prof Mark Roseman (Indiana University) and Prof Stefanie Schüler-Springorum (Zentrum für Antisemitismusforschung, Berlin)

2-5pm, University of Sussex (venue to be announced)

19-20 March 2012

International Conference in Jerusalem on 'Moses Hess between Socialism and Zionism' (in cooperation with the Martin Buber Chair in Jewish Thought and Philosophy at the Goethe University, Frankfurt, the Leo Baeck Institute, Jerusalem, and the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation).

Discounts on publications associated with the Centre

Publications by researchers at the Centre for German-Jewish Studies may be purchased at a discount by Friends of the Centre.

<http://www.sussex.ac.uk/cgjs>

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