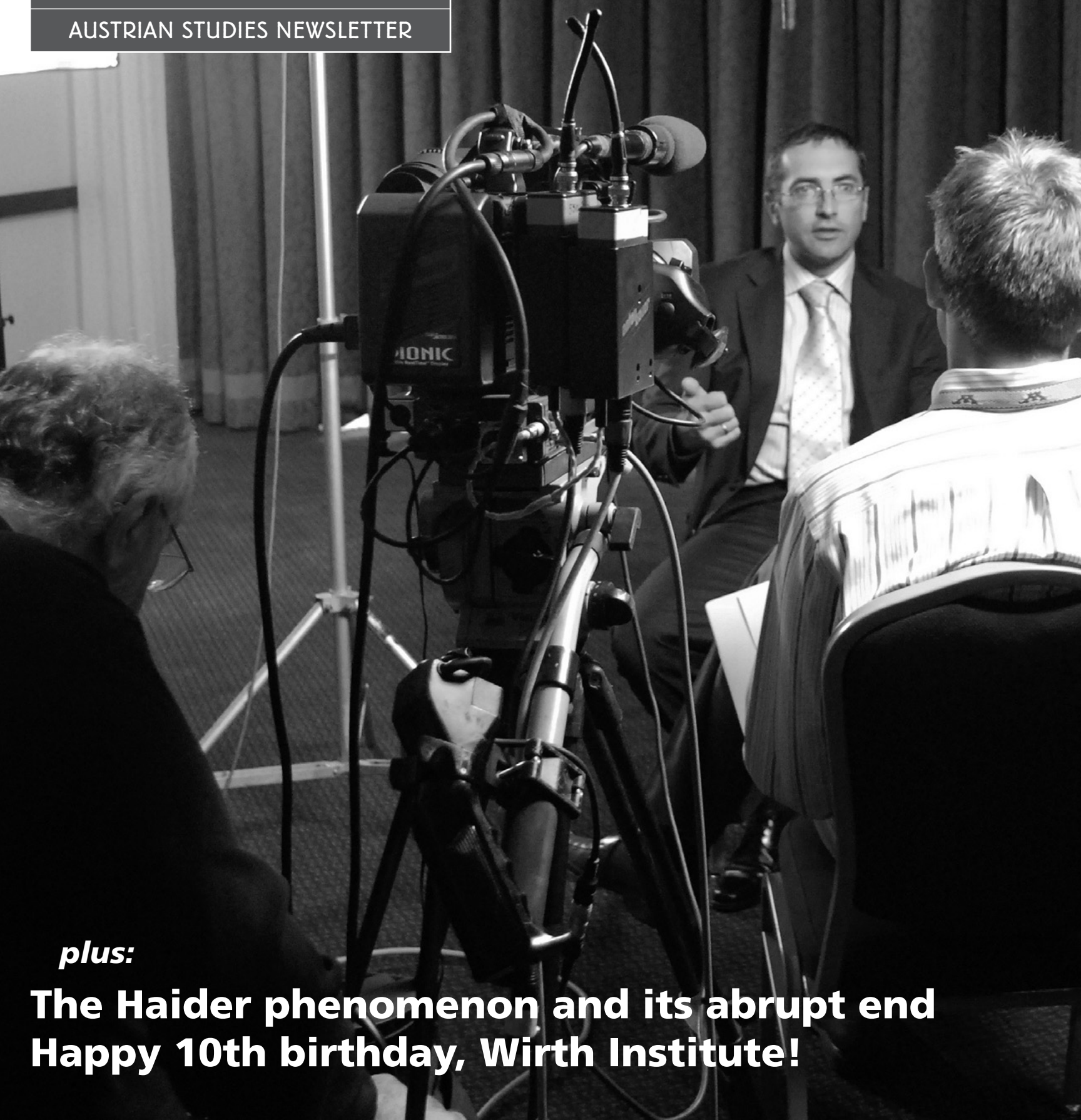


ASN

AUSTRIAN STUDIES NEWSLETTER

Center RA publishes book of plays from Terezín ghetto



plus:

**The Haider phenomenon and its abrupt end
Happy 10th birthday, Wirth Institute!**

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A FEW FALL FOTOS



On November 6, Austrian historian Siegfried Beer delivered the 2008 Kann Memorial Lecture, "A Second Chance: Allied Attitudes and Reconstruction Policies in Post-World War II Austria." Above, left to right: College of Liberal Arts Dean James Parente, Jr. and Siegfried Beer. Photo: Daniel Pinkerton.

ASN

Austrian Studies Newsletter

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Designed & edited by Daniel Pinkerton
Editorial Assistants: Linda Andread, Joshua Kortbein,
Thomas König, Katie Kraker, Lisa Peschel

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Director: Gary B. Cohen
Administrative Manager: Linda Andread
Editor: Daniel Pinkerton

Send subscription requests or contributions to:

Center for Austrian Studies
University of Minnesota
Attn: Austrian Studies Newsletter
314 Social Sciences Building
267 19th Avenue S.
Minneapolis MN 55455
Phone: 612-624-9811; fax: 612-626-9004
Website: <http://www.cas.umn.edu>
Editor: danpink@umn.edu

ABOUT THE COVER: Dr. Ewald Rametsteiner (center) is interviewed by Luke Heikkila (right), producer of the Twin Cities Public TV program, "Food, Fuel, and Climate Change," based on the fall ASN conference. Photo: Daniel Pinkerton.



On Monday, November 10, Austrian political scientist Anton Pelinka talked on the subject, "Austria, Europe, and the US: A New Honeymoon after the Presidential Elections?" Left to right: Gary Cohen, Anton Pelinka. Photo: Daniel Pinkerton.

spring 2009 calendar

IN ADDITION to its work in promoting and disseminating new scholarship about Austria and Central Europe, the Center for Austrian Studies has always maintained a strong commitment to advancing understanding of Austria and the new Europe among a broad public. Over the Center's nearly thirty-two years, its public educational functions have taken many forms. In the Twin Cities, we have hosted public symposia and arts events. We have made presentations for schools and Elderhostel gatherings. For twenty years, we have also published the *Austrian Studies Newsletter* for a large national and international audience.



This year the Center took a new step with the production of a documentary film, in cooperation with Twin Cities Public Television. It presents the findings of some of the leading international experts from Austria and Minnesota who participated in our September 2008 public forum on "Climate Change, Sustainable Agriculture and Bioresources." Generous support from the Horst M. Rechelbacher Foundation as well as the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science and Research, the University of Minnesota College of Food, Agricultural, and Natural Resource Sciences, the Institute on the Environment, the Institute for Global Studies, and the Center for German and European Studies made this film production possible.

Twin Cities Public Television will broadcast the film, entitled "Food, Fuel, and Climate Change: An Austrian-American Forum," five times in March on its statewide digital channels; on March 22, it will air on analog channel 17. It will continue to air from time to time as occasions arise. The film will also be available to schools as a DVD and will, we hope, be shown by other public broadcasting services.

When the Austrian and Minnesota experts came together during the public forum in September, their analytic approaches and policy suggestions for addressing the problems of climate change and longterm sustainability in agriculture complemented each other wonderfully. While each participant spoke from the perspective of his or her own research specialization, policy interests, and institutional vantage point, there was no mistaking the shared larger concerns and strong common international commitment to addressing the critical problems that everyone on the globe faces. In a thirty-minute compass, the film captures the synergy of the North American and Central European approaches as well as the energy and urgency that was so palpable during the live discussions last fall.

The film conveys important, though not always comforting, messages. There have been many cycles of climate change in geologic history, but scientific findings clearly show that the current phase of global warming is already well advanced. Like the polar ice caps which concern explorer Will Steger, the Alpine glaciers which Austrian climatologists study are retreating rapidly. If nothing is done, in thirty years' time, Minnesota will have summers like those familiar to Kansans now. Primarily deciduous forests will advance northward as conifer forests recede. Any further addition of greenhouse gases to the atmosphere from the burning of fossil fuels or other chemical processes only exacerbates existing trends.

Our experts from both Europe and North America argue, however, that reliance on the burning of fossil fuels can be sharply reduced by increases in the use of renewable resources such as wind and biomass, and that wasteful conventional production techniques in agriculture and manufacturing can be replaced with cradle-to-cradle methods which produce little or no waste. My colleagues and I at the Center are excited about this leap into a new medium, and hope that "Food, Fuel, and Climate Change" will have wide circulation and spark considerable discussion in the United States, Austria, and elsewhere.

Gary B. Cohen

Sunday, February 1, 3:00 p.m. *Sunday Series.* Marjorie Bingham, educator and consultant. "Women and the Warsaw Ghetto: A Moment to Decide." McNamara Alumni Center, Ski-U-Mah Room.

Saturday, February 7, 7:30 p.m. *Recital.* Florian Kitt, cello, and Rita Medjimorec, piano, Univ. of Music & Dramatic Arts, Graz, Austria. Sateren Auditorium, Music Bldg., Augsburg College, 22nd Ave. and Riverside Dr.

Wednesday, February 18, 3:30 p.m. *Lecture.* Anselm Wagner, art history, Technical Univ. of Graz; Fulbright Visiting Professor, Univ. of Minnesota. "Vienna 1900 and the Rise of the 'Sanitary Style' in Architecture: Otto Wagner, Adolf Loos, and Josef Hoffmann." 710 Social Science Building.

Tuesday, February 24, 4:30 p.m. Daniel Gilfillan, German studies, Arizona State Univ. "Sounding Out Austrian Radio Space: Tactical Media, Experimental Artistic Practice & the ÖRF Kunstradio Project." Room 128, Folwell Hall. *Cosponsored with the Dept of German, Scandinavian, and Dutch.*

Friday, March 13, 3:30 p.m. *Lecture.* Ruth Wodak, Linguistics, Univ. of Lancaster, and Michele Lamont, Sociology, Harvard Univ. "Racism vs. Xenophobia: Transatlantic Perspectives." Room 120, Andersen Library. *Cosponsored by European Studies Consortium Title VI Grant.*

Sunday, April 5, 3:00 p.m. *Sunday Series.* Gloria Kaiser, author, Graz, Austria. "Dona Leopoldina's 1817 Expedition from Austria to Brazil as Portrayed in the Art of Thomas Ender." McNamara Alumni Center, Ski-U-Mah Room.

Wednesday, April 15, 4:00 p.m. Andrej Rahten, University of Maribor, Slovenia. "Archduke Francis Ferdinand and the South Slav Question." Location TBA.

Thursday, April 16, 4:00 p.m. Andrej Rahten. "From the Habsburg Monarchy to the European Union: Evolution of National, Regional, and European Loyalties among the Slovenes in the 20th Century." Location TBA.

Monday, April 27, 3:30 p.m. Hanspeter Neuhold, law, Univ. of Vienna. "The Balkans as a Security Laboratory after the Cold War." Location TBA. *Cosponsored with the School of Law.*

Tuesday, April 28, 3:30 p.m. Monika Oebelsberger, Peter Krakauer, Thomas Nussbaumer, Mozarteum University, Salzburg. "Perspectives on Wind Music in Austria." Room 280, Ferguson Hall. *Cosponsored with the School of Music.*



photo by Daniel Pinkerton

Center RA amplifies voices from the Terezín ghetto

by Daniel Pinkerton

Lisa Peschel is furiously writing her dissertation for the University of Minnesota's Program in Theatre Historiography while working at the Center for Austrian Studies. As if that weren't enough, she has managed to accomplish something most of her peers have not: she has published a book.

It's a book whose influence will be felt for decades to come—a bilingual edition of scripts written and originally performed by Jewish prisoners in the Terezín (Theresienstadt) ghetto. The title is, simply, *Divadelní texty z terezínského ghetta 1941-1945 / Theatertexte aus dem Ghetto Theresienstadt 1941-1945* (Prague, 2008).

Like many books, it had a long period of gestation. Yet the idea would not have become reality without a major Austrian grant.

Peschel graduated with a B.A. in English literature from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and promptly headed to Spain to teach English. But when the Eastern Bloc dissolved in 1989, she took advantage of an opportunity to

teach in Czechoslovakia. It was there that she first learned about Terezín and the theatre scene that flourished in the camp. The subject, though controversial, fascinated her.

According to Peschel, "Terezín was originally established as a place to send the Czech Jews to separate them from the rest of the population. It was established in the fall of 1941, before the Wannsee conference, before the real decisions about the final solution had been made. But over time it gained more functions and all of them led to the conditions being *somewhat* better than in the other ghettos and labor camps. For one thing, it was designated as a ghetto for the privileged, for people well-known enough that international inquiries might start if they just disappeared. The Nazis let them maintain controlled contact with the outside world.

"The other thing that happened later in the war was that the Nazis decided to use it as propaganda and they allowed a commission from the International Red Cross to visit the ghetto, in order to claim that European Jews were being treated well, and that everything people were

saying about the death camps was just horror propaganda. Therefore, it had a very different kind of environment from Auschwitz, Treblinka, or even the Warsaw ghetto. There was still a high mortality rate—33,000 people died in the ghetto itself. But compared with the death camps, conditions were much more survivable."

After ten years of teaching, Peschel decided to pursue her longstanding interest in theater. She entered the rigorous, highly regarded playwriting program at the University of Texas, Austin. She also took classes in Czech from their Department of Slavic Studies.

At first, of course, she wanted to write a play about Terezín. But that wasn't such an easy task. "I wrote four or five separate plays about the ghetto while I was at Texas," she explained, "because I could not find the right approach. A realistic script, like a *Schindler's List*-style play, just did not speak to the audience. Because Terezín itself is so unfamiliar to an American audience, people were frankly kind of offended by it. When Terezín is framed in the wrong way, it can sound like Holocaust denial, because the conditions there were

so different from other camps. But I kept trying different approaches and eventually what worked was to have the play mediated by the survivors themselves. The final structure of the play was as a group of survivors meeting to tell the daughter of one of their friends about what it was like in Terezín."

While she was studying playwriting, Peschel got a FLAS grant to conduct her first interviews with survivors of Terezín. She incorporated these interviews into her play, but she became determined to do more with this oral history. After receiving an MFA from Texas, she came to the University of Minnesota to write a Ph.D. dissertation on the subject. The dissertation is not so much about Terezín itself as the recollections of the survivors, and how they reconstruct the ghetto and the performances in their memories.

In 2004-05, Peschel was awarded a Fulbright to conduct research in the Czech Republic. This involved some research in archives, but it also involved collecting more oral testimony. In the archives, she ran across some unpublished short texts of plays that had been performed at Terezín, and wondered if there were more.

"There's an organization of Terezín survivors called the Terezín Initiative," Peschel recalled, "and they have a meeting every year for all of their members. I asked if I could come and say a few words about the project. Their president, Dr. Dagmar Lieblová, has been a supporter of this project for a long time, so she gave me a few minutes. I explained my project and said I was very interested in any texts anyone might have.

"Two women approached me later, sisters who were in the ghetto together: Lilka Trojanová and Hana Lojínová. One of them, Mrs. Lojínová, had been a dancer in the ghetto and she still had a script from a show she was in. She showed it to me, and it turned out to be a full-length cabaret, hosted by a comic duo, Dr. Felix Porges and Vítěšlav Horpätzky. There are mentions of this cabaret in survivor testimony and in documents collected from the ghetto itself, but no one had any idea that it had been preserved. Through a series of coincidences, I ended up meeting the son of Felix Porges, Zdeněk Prokeš, and he had an earlier version of the same script as well as the original sheet music for the songs. He also had several other original texts from the ghetto that his father saved and no one knew had been preserved. So that formed the core of the new texts."

At this point, the newly discovered texts were simply a part of Peschel's dissertation research. Then her advisor, Margaret Werry, "planted the seed of an idea." She told Peschel that she should produce an annotated volume of the scripts one day. About a year later, Peschel was talking to a friend, who said there was a new grant available from Austria. "The organization was called the Austrian Fund for the Future (Zukunftsfonds der Republik Österreich)," Peschel said. "The money was originally from a

fund intended for compensation for Holocaust survivors, forced labor, and so forth. The money that was left after that administrative process was done was rolled into this fund that supports all kinds of projects related to the Holocaust and to tolerance.

"My friend told me that the fund wasn't getting any interesting applications from the Czech Republic, and actually asked me if I had some project I'd like to do. Margaret's suggestion came back to me and I thought the time to do this project is now, while we have a chance to get some support and the survivors who can interpret these plays for me are still alive. So I applied for the grant and we got it. Later, the project also received some funding from the Czech Ministry of Culture, the Institute for Czech Literature, and some smaller private contributions at crucial moments. But the Austrians awarded the first and by far the largest grant."

You might think that plays written in a concentration camp would be unbearably dark, but this isn't so.

Ultimately, Peschel settled on five original Czech-language texts and six original German-language texts. Dalibor Dobiáš, the friend who brought the grant to her attention, translated the German texts into Czech, and Michael Wögerbauer at the Institute for Czech Literature did the Czech to German translations. Peschel footnoted them extensively. "Some of the jokes were very obscure. I had to get survivors to explain to me why they were laughing so hard." The plays are published side by side, Czech on one page and German on the other. Peschel hopes that Czech and German schools will get together and perform the plays bilingually.

You might think that plays written in a concentration camp would be unbearably dark, but this isn't so. "There's very little tragic material from the ghetto," Peschel explains. "All the survivors say it was because their lives were so depressing, they could not stand to go into a theater and see something else depressing. They all needed to lift their spirits."

But there is one exception in the volume. "Zdeněk Eliáš and Jiří Stein wrote an absolutely astounding short drama. It was never produced, but several of their friends passed it around. One, Professor Jiří Franěk, told me to contact Zdeněk's widow, Kate. I thought, this script is completely unknown—if she finds it, this is going to be an incredible coup. But she said, 'I'm really sorry. I searched, but I don't see anything that looks like a script.' I was heartbroken. But she called me back a few weeks later and said, 'I think I found

it!' It was in his safe along with his legal papers.

"It's a historical drama about prisoners during the Thirty Years' War, and they talk about what they're going to do when they return home. But as they are being released, they find out that the area where three of them are from has been completely destroyed. The two young authors were trying, according to their friends, to warn ghetto inmates, because they all did the same thing. They all constantly said, I can't wait to go back to Prague or Brno, I can't wait to see this person or that place, but Eliáš and Stein had the foresight to see that perhaps things would be very different. Maybe the home you are planning to return to doesn't exist anymore. And, of course, very few survivors were united with the people they had dreamt of seeing."

English-language readers will have an opportunity to read these plays, too. Peschel has signed a contract with Seagull Press. It will appear as one of a series of books edited by Dr. Carol Martin from the Tisch School of the Arts at New York University. The series consists of collections of plays from specific countries or from specific locations. The book will be called *Plays from the Terezín Ghetto*. The plays will be in English translations only, and according to Peschel, the projected publication date is 2010.

"It's going to have lots of pictures," she says. "We have an unlimited budget for illustrations. We have no shots of the productions, but the families of some of the authors have been able to give me pre- and post-war photos and there's a huge collection of A4-paper size souvenir posters. A prisoner in the ghetto named Karel Herrmann became very interested in the cultural life. There were several artists working in the ghetto doing documentation and graphs and charts for the Nazis as administrative work, and he had one of them do posters from time to time. He survived and the posters were saved. They're all in a collection in the archive at Terezín, and they often include the names of the actors, so we can even trace who was in the show. Some are even signed by the actors, and one person even turned up *because* of this book. I got a small grant to give copies of the book to all the survivors who had contributed information to the volume, and one of them called me and said, 'I saw on this poster that someone named Jirka Horner was the musician for a show. I know him. He lives not too far from me. I'm probably going to talk with Horner tonight. Therefore, these posters are not only beautiful as illustrations, they're also valuable as research material."

Peschel is also working with a local arts organization to stage a production of one of the plays. "The problem, of course, is to make the material relevant, and to make sure that the sly, subversive jokes work for an American audience. But if we can find the funding and stage one of these plays, it would be a wonderful opportunity for Twin Cities audiences to hear, once again, voices from the Terezín ghetto." ♦



ELMAR RITZINGER:

nudging organic

Elmar Ritzinger is head of the Department for Investments and Market Structure, Directorate for Sustainability and Rural Development, Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment, and Water Management (Lebensministerium). He earned a Ph.D. at the Vienna University of Applied Life Sciences (BOKU), and embarked on a career with the Lebensministerium which has taken him around the world. Last fall, he came to Minneapolis, where, as part of the CAS American-Austrian public forum, “Climate Change, Sustainable Agriculture & Bioresources,” he appeared at a panel discussion on organic farming and presented a paper on the ways in which the Austrian federal government supports sustainable and organic farming.

interview & photo
by Daniel Pinkerton

ASN: *How did you get interested in agricultural economics?*

ER: I don't come from a farm background. I got interested at the age of 16, when I went to the UK on a scholarship. The program there was all about international understanding, with people from all over the world studying together. I got excited about doing something to feed the world, so I ended up studying agriculture and agricultural economics. At BOKU, I found out, by traveling to third world countries, that it's not agricultural production that is the problem, it's politics and distribution. The politics of food distribution is why people don't have enough to eat around the world.

ASN: *When did you start at the Lebensministerium?*

ER: About six months before graduation, I was looking for a job, and I got a call from the ministry, asking me if I wanted to start with them immediately. I said, “I'd like to graduate and start then,” and that was fine with them. Therefore, I knew before I even graduated where I was going to start. I have been at the ministry for the last 14 years, and here I am now, being sent over to Minnesota, to represent the Lebensministerium and speak about the issues of this conference.

ASN: *How long has the Lebensministerium existed in its present form?*

ER: Since the year 2000, when they merged what used to be the ministry of agriculture, forestry and water management with the ministry of environmental affairs. Putting environmental and agricultural affairs together in the same ministry might not seem like the natural thing to do, because they do have the occasional conflict of interest, which the minister then has to sort out. I think it has improved the working relationship of the two “sides”—the agricultural side and the environmental side—but sometimes I have the feeling the minister has to really change hats depending on what

issue he's talking about and working on. But we've been doing this for eight years now.

ASN: *There must be many issues that affect all the constituents of your ministry. Environmental quality issues and water management issues certainly enter into issues of agriculture.*

ER: And that has improved, because it's more difficult to get people from another ministry involved in a project. It requires going all the way up to the minister. It's a very different thing if you're under one minister, than having separate entities. It really helps to integrate policy issues. The whole sustainability debate is an excellent example of the Lebensministerium handling an issue much more efficiently because the necessary people were all in one ministry.

ASN: *When was the ministry's organic farming department founded?*

ER: That was a long time ago, by my standards, since I've “only” been there since 1994. Organic farming has been around for quite a while—since the end of World War II—but the government began giving financial support to organic farming and the organizations of organic farmers in the 1980s. The agricultural ministry decided it wanted to become involved in what was called at the time “eco-social market policy.” It integrated environmental concerns and ecological concerns into agricultural policy-making. Big changes came with European Union (EU) accession in 1995, when we were forced to create programs for rural development. Besides pure agricultural policy directed at market organization—that's what we now call the second pillar of common agricultural policy of the EU—policy initiatives also centered around environmental issues, less favored areas, investment, and rural development in general. This helped us to get more money back from the

EU. We pay a lot of money into the EU, being a relatively rich member state. But the EU pays for half the cost of these rural development programs; the member country funds the rest.

ASN: *How does a farmer go about applying for the organic program?*

ER: We created a structure with a relatively easy entry level. A farmer could qualify for funding by starting a process that culminated in organic agriculture. We could actually give support to farmers who entered into a five-year contract with the obligation to either become or stay organic. They got compensation for the price of converting, the difference in yields, additional labor costs and, in general, the higher cost of producing in a sustainable way. The cost difference was calculated and they got public support to actually stay in that contract. We also added just a little bit of an incentive on top, because we want people to convert to organic. We consider that a service to society that should be rewarded by society.

ASN: *This obviously reduces the risk for a farmer. Does it also reduce the price to consumers?*

ER: It will eventually. For now, the fact that organic produce generates a higher price on the market is taken into consideration when establishing the payments to farmers. We start with the normal, general agricultural price and production costs, and then establish the higher amount a farmer must invest, lower yields, income forgone, and additional costs of organic farming. Next we consider the higher market price for organic products. And in fact, with quite a few products, the higher price on the market is substantial, like meat, which is difficult to do sustainably or organically. On the other hand, the price difference for milk for example is hardly noticeable on the market. If you look at organic milk on the shelf right next to conventional milk, the price difference to the consumer is very, very low. One big reason for this is that for Austrian farmers, the switch in milk production from conventional to organic is not that great a step. It's much greater for example, with pork, where it's very difficult to convince people to start producing organic, and poultry, where we still cannot produce enough to meet demands. But we hope that eventually if we give support to the farmers, the price to the consumer will come down.

ASN: *You also fund organizations of organic farmers. Why?*

ER: We give support to the organizations of organic farmers in order to help them create stronger professional organizations, which are vital. We help support research conducted by these organizations. For example, the extension services now have their own branches dealing with organic agriculture, and that's paid for by the state. We also help in the general promotion of organic products, including campaigns that educate people and increase demand for organic food rather than advertise individual products. Partly because of this, major supermarket chains have picked up the issue and have generated their own brands of organic products, which you can now find on any supermarket shelf in Austria. It's a push-pull strategy from the government's side, and now the retailers have recognized the potential to draw customers and to increase their margins with organic products, so they have also become part of the story. Every Austrian supermarket carries organic products, even the really cheap discount chains where you mostly get the store's own brand—no Coke or Pepsi, just their own soda.

ASN: *Is the ministry's promotion of organic food merely an interim step?*

ER: No, it's ongoing. We give some support to Agrar-markt Austria, which is an agricultural marketing organization. It's financed by what you call parafiscal measures. This means that a small part of what a farmer gets for selling produce goes to that organization for the general marketing of agricultural products. Agrar-markt has also developed its own organic labeling system at the Austrian level, which certifies that it was produced according to certain standards. Austria follows—must follow—regulations at the EU level that clearly define organic production. People recognize that and in market surveys, they say they want to buy it. Obviously, not everyone does what they want to when it comes to the individual buying decision, espe-



Austrian organic farmers. Photo courtesy Lebensministerium Fotoservice.

cially at times when inflation is higher or we have a problem with increased prices. But in general, sales of organic foods are increasing steadily.

ASN: *Well, the interesting thing is that this has been taken up on a federal level, which isn't the case in the US.*

ER: Austria is so small that we can do it. Our population is only about the same as Minnesota's, and we have nine federal states with much less legal autonomy and legislative power than your states. However, a more accurate parallel might be between the US and the EU. The EU passed its first regulation on organic agriculture in 1991. There were 12 member states then, and Austria had not joined yet, so it's been an issue in Europe for quite a while. I'd like to point out that Austria has, because of its support programs, and perhaps because of our history of small farms, the highest proportion of organic producers in the whole EU. About 20% of Austria's farmers produce organically, and in terms of pure numbers we almost match Italy, even though Italy's percentage of organic farmers is much lower.

ASN: *Wow. Things really have changed in Austria.*

ER: They have. In the beginning, farmers who wanted to change were laughed at. If one farmer in a village started to say, "I'm going to stop using nitrogen fertilizer and pesticides, I'm going organic," he was considered an idiot to forgo yields and to think in other terms. Nowadays that's not a problem because it's become lucrative. Therefore, it's accepted, and there are actually big farms that have changed to organic.

ASN: *That means that there's a consumer demand out there and that the Austrian "push-pull" strategy really worked.*

ER: It did, and we are still using it. Some farmers are in a bit of a difficult situation. More than one organization is dealing with organics. There are organizations that have very strict rules, but there are others who would accept more of—not pesticides, but some kind of artificial plant protection. Wine is a very special product, for example. It's very difficult to make organic wine. First, there are diseases and fungi which affect the grapes, and the organic winemakers seem to quarrel among themselves more than they quarrel with conventional winemakers.

ASN: *Still, Austria is producing organic wines.*

ER: Oh yes, and forgive me, but a few of them are really horrible. *(laughs)* It's a difficult task—not just growing the grapes, but the processing of the wine, too. If you're talking organic, you can't stop with the grape. I admire those who are trying it. And to be fair, most of it is really excellent world-class wine. Best of all, good organic wine is not only a pleasure to drink, it has the added value of giving you the feeling that you've done something good for the environment. ❖

AUSTRIAN HISTORY

Y E A R B O O K

Volume XL · 2009



Center for Austrian Studies, University of Minnesota

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R. JOHN RATH PRIZE

The Rath prize is awarded annually for the best article published in the *Austrian History Yearbook*. It is funded by the estate of the longtime Habsburg scholar and founder of the *AHY*, R. John Rath (1910-2001), and by contributions in his memory.

The 2008 Rath Prize was awarded to Patrice M. Dabrowski (Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies, Harvard University) for her article, "Constructing a Polish Landscape: The Example of the Carpathian Frontier."

The jury noted, "This article is a remarkable attempt to apply various theoretical concepts to one specific research topic. The spatial turn, landscapes of identity, frontier, cultural history, tourism—all these elements are incorporated in Dabrowski's analysis. Therefore, it is a pleasure to declare Dabrowski this year's winner."

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Coen, Gerlach win 2008 ACF prizes

The winners of the 2008 Austrian Cultural Forum prizes for Best Book and Best Dissertation were announced at the January 2009 meeting of the Society for Austrian and Habsburg Historians.

Deborah R. Coen (History, Barnard College) won the prize for best book, for *Vienna in the Age of Uncertainty: Science, Liberalism, and Private Life* (University of Chicago, 2007). According to the jury, "Coen brings the fields of the history of science, intellectual and social history, and Austrian studies together through the intensive study of the lives, work, and times of three generations of a single family, the Exners. Coen's argument aims at contextualizing one distinguished strand of modern Austrian intellectual life: the liberal way of thinking in Carl Menger, F.A. von Hayek, and Karl Popper. Through a rich description and subtle analysis of the evolution of scholarly ideas, the liberal milieu, and the specifics of the Habsburg Austrian context, Coen creates a universe of compelling, if contingent, relations.

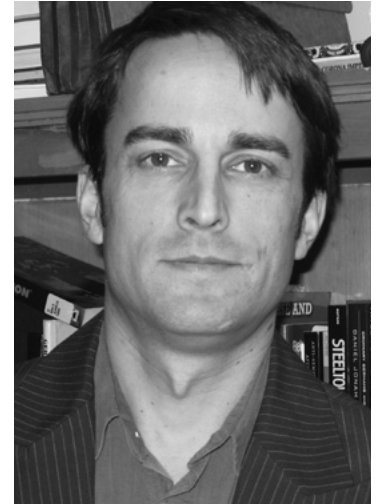
"Her account of the emergence and development of probabilistic reason shares some of the characteristics of that reasoning itself: an unlikely but compelling combination of scholarly precision, aesthetic intuition, and openness to the unexpected. This makes for a fascinating read, and one that promises to bring Austrian cultural and intellectual history into more nuanced contact with the history of science and education, providing a deeper, thicker description of the interaction of what subjects understood as private life and the scientific culture of the late Habsburg empire." The book has also been awarded the Susan Abrams Prize in the History of Science, and the Barbara Jelavich Book Prize.

David W. Gerlach (History, St. Peter's College, Jersey City, NJ) won the prize for best dissertation, "For Nation and Gain: Economy, Ethnicity and Politics in the Czech Borderlands, 1945-1948" (University of Pittsburgh, defended 2007). A portion of this dissertation was excerpted as an article and won the 2007 Rath Prize.

The ACF jury said of his work, "This dissertation stands out from other recent studies of the [Czech] expulsions through its focus on the economic



Deborah Coen



David Gerlach

forces that drove the expropriation and 'transfer' of three million Sudeten Germans, linking the expulsions to the complex processes of resettlement of the borderlands in postwar Czechoslovakia. It is also an exemplary social history, with a strong focus on the motivations and attitudes of ordinary Czechs, employers, workers, and local nationalist and Communist activists and officials on the ground. By focusing on competing Czech actors and their varied agendas, Gerlach's dissertation challenges conventional approaches to ethnic cleansing that focus primarily on nationalist ideology or desires for retribution rooted in the experiences of the war. The Committee expects that Gerlach's arguments will surely provoke further discussion of the expulsions in the Czech Republic as well as among scholars of East Central Europe and of ethnic cleansing more broadly."

Congratulations to the winners!



CAS Nikolaus Day Party '08



Left: Nikolaus with his bag and a hat two sizes too large. Above: Helga Leitner, professor of geography. (Photos: Daniel Pinkerton)

Gerald Stourzh: freedom's

not just another word



photo: Lisa Peschel

An interview with Vienna's distinguished globe-trotting historian by Lisa Peschel

ASN: While reading the introduction to your latest book, *From Vienna to Chicago and Back*, I was struck by the fact that at age 14, you assembled an example of a republican constitution from several documents and then concealed it in the stove.

GS: That happened in the war years around 1943 or so. My father, who had died of cancer at the age of 51 in 1941, had left an interesting library with many books and quite a few so-called Reclam booklets. To anyone not familiar with German-language literature, they were the predecessors of modern paperbacks. They were very cheap and made all kinds of classic literature available to virtually everybody. Among these booklets, there were constitutions: the constitution of the United States of America, I remember, the Swiss Confederation, Prussia—an old one, of course—and some others. I found these booklets and looked at them, and at some point I determined to put together a draft constitution of my own. I don't exactly know why, but it certainly had to do with the expectation or hope that an independent Austria would be resurrected after the end of the war. At that time—1944 above all—one could see that the war was lost for Hitler. So I put together this little draft, but there is nothing particular to be said about it. It certainly is a sign of my interest in constitutional and public law. I'm not a lawyer. I'm a historian. But I'm interested in the connection between law and public affairs—and politics, of course. And my strong interest in public affairs and my strong commitment to free democracy has to do with my childhood experience of the coming of the Nazis in 1938 and the war. I should add that from the earliest moment in which I was entitled to vote, I have not missed a single election—national, local, or even as a professor at the University, voting on various policy issues.

ASN: The percentage of the electorate that actually votes is rather low in the United States. I would imagine it's much higher in Austria.

GS: In most European countries, including Austria, the percentage of the electorate that votes is considerably higher than in the United States. However, it has been receding in Austria over the decades. I cannot give you exact figures. In the first years and decades after the Second World War, the percentage was very high—perhaps 90%, but it's definitely lower now.

ASN: Your career really began after the war when you went to the University of Chicago, didn't it?

GS: It was a bit more complicated than that. I started in Vienna in the fall of 1947 at the university, after having finished the *gymnasium* in June of that year. After three semesters in Vienna, I went for one semester to study in France at the University of Clermont-Ferrand. I did not really pick this school—obviously Paris would have been a more interesting place—but there was a family exchange with a family near Clermont-Ferrand, so I did that. Next, I got a scholarship to go to the University of Birmingham in England, where I spent a full year. I then returned to the University of Vienna for two more semesters and earned my *Doktorat* in the fall of 1951. I should add for a younger generation of readers that it was possible then to go directly to a doctoral degree without being obligated to pass intermediate degrees, be it bachelor's or master's. I really did receive my Ph.D. from the University of Vienna at the age of 22 in October 1951. The day I received it, I was already working in Chicago. In Vienna I had met Professor Hans J. Morgenthau, one of whose books, *Scientific Man versus Power Politics*, I had discovered in England the previous year. I had been very impressed by his work, and it was really an amazing accident that Morgenthau came to Austria at the time as a consultant to the State Department. And he did offer research assistantships to three young Austrians at the then newly founded Center for the Study of American Foreign Policy at the University of Chicago. Soon after my arrival in Chicago my research assistantship was changed into a research associateship. Simultaneously I pursued doctoral studies in history and political science. I served at the Center with various interruptions until 1958, holding in the meantime a Harper fellowship in the history department and working for some time in the American Foundation for Political Education, and also spending a few months in Europe in 1954 and 1955.

ASN: One thing that comes up in several of your essays is the notion that historical work has to consider what the language meant at the time. For example, the word "constitution" doesn't mean the same thing in every historical period.

GS: In my work, I try, without an extensive theoretical apparatus, to work

with words in their context. One of the terms that occupied me a good deal in the early years was the simple term “power.” Before I analyzed the terms “constitution” or “human rights,” I worked on the meaning of power. My first book on Benjamin Franklin and American foreign policy was concerned a great deal with the concept of power. In fact, the very first article that I published in America at the end of 1953, which became the first chapter of my book on Franklin, is called “Reason and Power in Benjamin Franklin’s Political Thought.”

ASN: *Are you concerned with the question of what legitimates power, or some more basic questioning of its meaning?*

GS: Both—what it means and how it is employed. But then, of course, there is also the question of the motivation for the exercise of power; it need not necessarily be “lust for power” or “the will to power;” it may be the search for security. And in order to be secure, to feel secure, you do need to exercise a certain amount of power. When I was studying in Birmingham, I came across a little book by an English historian, Herbert Butterfield, *Christianity and History*. He talked a good deal about what he called the Hobbesian fear and feeling of insecurity—the need for security and the need to develop a structure of power. I read this before reading Morgenthau.

ASN: *Why did you decide to go back to Vienna?*

GS: During my Chicago years, I went to Austria on two occasions for several months in the summer. I remained in touch with former friends, colleagues, students, and professors. My impression, strengthened by one particular case in which an eminent scholar had been dealt with very poorly by the authorities, convinced me that if I wanted to return to my native Vienna, which I really did, I should try to do it sooner rather than later.

ASN: *Did you ever seriously consider remaining in the United States?*

GS: No, but I did think about staying, let us say, for a longer period of time. I had some wonderful opportunities: I could have gone to the University of California as an assistant professor for a year. In fact, I had several offers for one-year “trial” appointments. If the first year went well, the job would be prolonged. The California deal was nearly completed, but when the opportunity of establishing a foreign policy institute in Vienna came up, I decided to go back home. But as you know, I maintained scholarly relations with America all along, even after my return to Austria. For a while I was busy with quite different things—developing this foreign policy institute and then spending slightly more than two years in the Austrian Foreign Office. That was quite a change from academics. In 1962, I also completed my Habilitation, which gave me the right to teach at the University. It doesn’t imply a job; it’s not an appointment with remuneration, but it’s a requirement to teach as a Dozent. I then started teaching in 1963.

ASN: *At the Freie Universität?*

GS: No, at the University of Vienna. However, I was asked soon afterwards to join the faculty of the Free University of Berlin as a professor. So I went to Berlin in the spring of 1964 and stayed there for five years before returning to Vienna, which had been my hope and expectation—but in the academic world, as you know, one’s hopes and wishes are not always fulfilled. I was fortunate. During my Berlin years I also had the great privilege of spending half a year at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton.

ASN: *And you were also at Cambridge later.*

GS: A little later, I was an overseas fellow of Churchill College in Cambridge for a brief time, and these were certainly two of the top institutions in the English-speaking world. I would say that Cambridge was stimulating and exciting, but Princeton is simply a scholar’s paradise. The conditions for working, researching, and writing are perfect. You have no other obligations. It’s an institute without teaching, and you have time, resources, and really interesting colleagues.

ASN: *Could you say something about the various academic trends you’ve seen in different places over your long career?*

GS: I can offer some personal observations, as seen from my native Vienna. I developed a “Western” orientation early in life. My father, who died young in 1941, wrote a little book in the 1930s against National Socialism, Italian fascism, and racism. This book was published in Switzerland at the time when the Nazis had already taken over Austria, and therefore the publisher chose a pseudonym, Sturzenegger, in order to protect my father, who had remained in Vienna. My father never saw this book, because it could not be shipped into Nazi-held territory—Großdeutschland, or greater Germany—and the book came to Austria only after the war was over. But I knew—after my father’s death, when I was older and my mother told me more—that the book had been published in Switzerland and that Switzerland was a free country. My father was very ill in the summer of 1941, and westerly winds often came to Vienna. My father said that these winds came from free Switzerland, so Switzerland was, in my young years, an opposing factor to Nazi Germany, and to Nazi rule. And I do remember that shortly after my father’s death, my mother and I took a cable car to a mountaintop in Vorarlberg, an Austrian province bordering Switzerland. We could look into Switzerland. I still remember what it was like to see a peaceful and a free country that was not at war from a country waging war and oppressing people. This made a strong, vivid impression on me. On another occasion, my father gave me an old book of pictures of Denmark. He had been there on various occasions, and he wrote in this book “A small country, but a free country.” These all were messages he was conveying to me, his son—possibly at a time when he knew he did not have long to live. I still have the book.

ASN: *Going to the West as soon as you could meant tasting freedom.*

GS: Exactly. After the end of the war, when I had finished gymnasium, I was able to go to Paris for three weeks on an Austrian-French student exchange. The French were one of the occupying powers of Austria, and they were culturally very active. They did not have as much money or as much food as the Americans had, but to be an 18-year-old in Paris was a wonderful thing, and it made a lasting impression. I only went to Germany much later.

ASN: *During the era of the Berlin Wall.*

GS: Yes. The wall went up in 1961 and I went to Berlin in 1964. The Cold War was at its height and the East-West conflict was much more visible in Berlin than it was in Vienna. Austria was a neutral country, after all. I visited East Berlin a few times, and the control mechanisms I encountered when passing from West Berlin to East Berlin were so unbelievably unpleasant that this left a considerable impression on me. I usually traveled by train, the S-Bahn train from West to East Berlin, going literally over the wall. There were no communications—you could not telephone from East to West Berlin or vice versa. You could only take the S-Bahn and the change of trains at the East Berlin station Friedrichstraße was most carefully and unpleasantly controlled. Years later, in a speech, I said, “I’ll tell you what symbolized Germany for me. It was that little train going over the wall from West to East Berlin.”

ASN: *It reminds me of your experience as a boy, standing in Austria and looking at Switzerland.*

GS: Yes, yes. I’ve had at least two experiences where a border that really defined an era was visualized concretely in front of me.

ASN: *At many points in your book, you mention your interest in the law and the notion of policy and the exercise of power. However, at the end you say it’s the great works of literature that have revealed the human condition and you close with your essay on—*

GS: Albert Camus. Yes. Well, I think that great novels and plays reveal more about human nature than the study of history, political science, or sociology. I do not wish to diminish the importance of my own field or neighboring

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CLIMATE CHANGE, SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE, AND BIORESOURCES



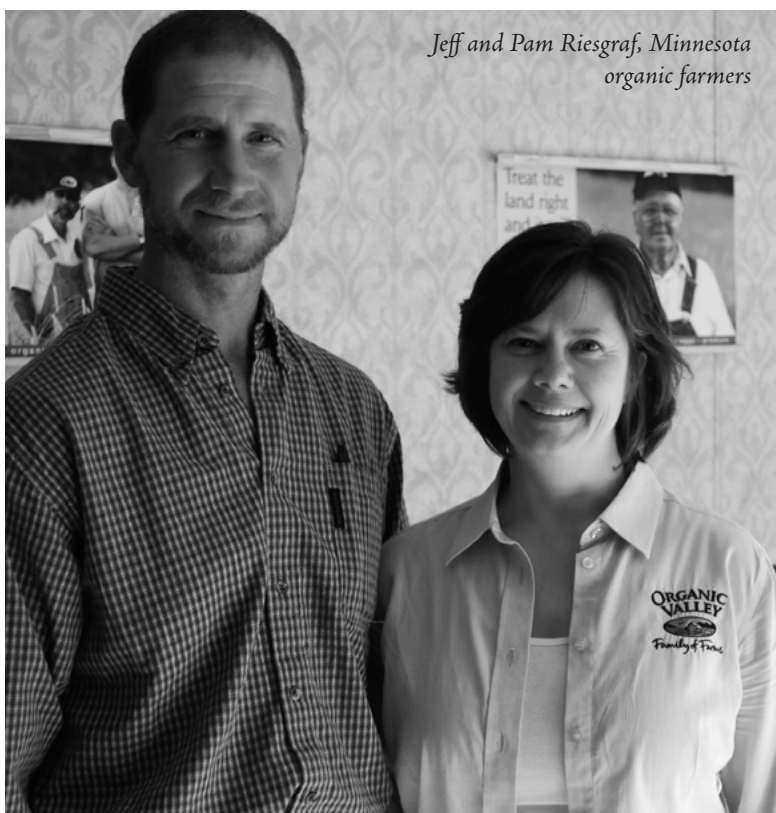
*Marian Bender, Executive Director,
Minnesota Waters*



*Andrea Gössinger-
Wieser, Climate
Alliance Austria.*

A PUBLIC FORUM

photographs by
Daniel Pinkerton



*Jeff and Pam Riesgraf, Minnesota
organic farmers*



*TPT makeup artist gets
Bernhard Freyer, University of
Natural Resources and Applied
Life Sciences, Vienna, ready for
his closeup.*

The Center and the Horst Rechelbacher Foundation presented a major public forum from September 24-26, 2008. This event was the first of its kind for CAS. Thanks to the staff and a number of organizations who gave support, the event was a huge success.

Part of what made the event a challenge was

the additional task of planning a television show based on the content of the forum. Experienced Twin Cities Public Television (TPT) employees managed to conduct interviews and capture the essence of a two-day event in a concise half-hour program entitled, "Food, Fuel, and Climate Change: An Austrian-American Forum."

The Austrian Federal Lebensministerium and the Will Steger Foundation also provided film footage. This program will be shown throughout the state of Minnesota. The "Director's Letter" on page 3 features details about its premiere. For other showings, see www.tpt.org.

Daniel Pinkerton

Opportunities for Giving

Honoring William Wright

In 2005 we established a graduate fellowship to honor our dear friend and founding director, William Wright, and to assist talented graduate students who are working toward degrees in Austrian or Central European history. Today I write to give you an update on the status of our fundraising.

As a reminder, the William E. Wright Graduate Fellowship in Central European History will be a permanent and long overdue tribute to a beloved retired faculty member who taught in the history department from 1957 until 1993. Wright was a renowned scholar and teacher of early modern and modern Habsburg history; his influence was felt by all the undergraduate and graduate students who attended his classes, many of whom have gone on to make significant contributions in their own right to the study of Austria and Central Europe.

But Wright's role in establishing the Center for Austrian Studies may well be his greatest legacy. In the mid-1970s, Wright spearheaded the successful effort to win the grant from the Austrian government and citizens that endowed CAS, raised additional funds through the years to support critical projects at the Center, and served with distinction as director of CAS from 1977–89. Under Wright's leadership, the *Austrian History Yearbook* and Robert A. Kann's personal library were brought

to Minnesota and the Kann Memorial Lecture was launched.

As of December 15, 2008, we have reached about 25 percent of our goal to endow this fellowship. While we wish we were further along, we are grateful for the many gifts we have already received, both large and small. It's obvious that your hearts are there. And the university is doing its part as well—as part of the president's 21st Century Match program, the U will match the funds generated by your donations as soon as the fellowship is completely endowed. That means that if our fund generates \$5,000 for a graduate student's support, it will be matched with an additional \$5,000; with graduate expenses at about \$38,000 in the history department, this fellowship will make an enormous difference in a future scholar's life.

When talented students who would like to study here end up elsewhere, it's most often because they've had a "better offer"—not of higher quality, but of more money. Faced with the challenges of paying for their education, those who are offered generous aid packages by other top universities simply take their dreams elsewhere.

Please join us in creating an endowment to continue the work that is most dear to Bill Wright's heart—the training of future schol-

ars of Austrian, Habsburg, and Central European history.

Diane R. Walters

With deep regret, CLA announces the departure of Diane Walters, who has accepted a position as director of development for health sciences at the University of North Dakota. This is a great professional opportunity for Diane, and one that will allow her to move closer to her family. We will miss Diane greatly, but wish her all the best in this new adventure. Her duties will be assumed by Eva Widder, associate development officer, College of Liberal Arts. E-mail: ewidder@umn.edu; phone: (612) 626-5146.

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Cambridge digitizes past AHY volumes

Cambridge University Press, current publishers of the *Austrian History Yearbook*, has completed its digital archive of all past volumes of the *AHY*. Volumes 1-38 (1965-2007), including some 1,900 articles and over 13,700 pages of research, are now available in an online, searchable format.

From the time Cambridge became the *AHY*'s publisher, the company made it clear that they wanted to make *AHY* back issues available online. This is an invaluable tool for scholars of Habsburg Central Europe and the successor states with a common Habsburg heritage.

For a price proposal for your institution or consortium, please contact USJournals@cambridge.org in the Americas or jnlsales@cambridge.org for the rest of the world.

And if you've been good . . .



Nikolaus (Thomas König) hands a treat bag to Elizabeth Painter, while her mother, School of Music faculty member Karen Painter, watches. Little sister Anne is still focused on Nikolaus! (Photo: D. Pinkerton)

Symphonies and National Socialism



Karen Painter. *Symphonic Aspirations: German Music and Politics, 1900-1945*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2007. 368 pp., tables. Cloth, ISBN 978-0-674-02661-2, \$49.95.

Despite the provocative cover photograph of Carl Goerdeler sitting beside Adolf Hitler at a 1933 concert at the Leipzig Gewandhaus, Karen Painter's *Symphonic Aspirations* is not primarily concerned with the politicization of music in Nazi Germany, but, rather, with the ways in which music criticism from earlier decades in the twentieth century made that politicization possible. Painter, an Associate Professor of Musicology at the University of Minnesota, has examined hundreds of reviews from German and Austrian publications, very few of which have been reprinted or translated, and describes a critical culture in which composers, genres, styles, and even individual musical elements like timbre, form, and counterpoint could become invested with cultural and political meanings. In particular, Painter argues that the genre of the symphony was an especially charged and contested space for this process. Due to the genre's identification with heroic individualism, stretching from

Beethoven to the intense subjectivity of Mahler and the monumentality of Bruckner, the symphony has been especially laden with the potential for political appropriation. The book is divided in three sections, with the first dealing with Mahler and Bruckner reception around the turn of the twentieth century, the second continuing that reception history into the interwar period, and the last examining the fate of the symphony under National Socialism.

Amongst the many strengths of this book are the sheer volume and rich variety of primary sources that Painter has marshaled, and the ways in which established narratives about German music are challenged and enhanced. For instance, the story of Anton Bruckner's adoption as a sort of unofficial symphonic mascot by the Third Reich is well known, from his 1933 installation in the Regensburg Valhalla to the many performances of his symphonies at politically important occasions. Painter not only fleshes out this story with data from period radio broadcast listings, but, more importantly, traces the narrative back to the Weimar Republic. She argues that critical responses that discussed Bruckner's symphonies in architectural terms (as cathedrals and citadels) were symptomatic of conservative reactions both against musical modernism and against liberal and socialist political elements and also part of a larger split between a liberal tendency to understand listening experiences through temporal metaphors and a conservative preference for spatial images. It is also illuminating to be reminded of how often pitched aesthetic debates were contested over rather crude musical distinctions. Painter convincingly demonstrates, for instance, that the vigorous turn-of-the-century arguments about the importance of adherence to Classical symphonic forms in practice boiled down to the disappointingly mundane question of whether a symphony had more than four movements.

Unfortunately, these arguments and examples are often difficult to tease out of the book. Individual sections are frustratingly discursive. Chapter Four, for instance, promises to reveal that "[l]istening to Mahler after World War I...was a different experience from sitting through the premieres or earlier performances of his symphonies in the 1900s," but wanders through a general discussion of the finale of Mahler's Sixth, performances of symphonies by Austrian Socialist organizations, the ideas of musical will and strength, and connections between rhythm and violence before finally reaching a postwar Mahler performance a few pages before the end of the chapter (125). These are all fascinating and relevant topics, but they fail to provide a real counterweight to the much more extensive discussion of interwar Bruckner reception in the following chapter. The book also seems to assume a fairly musically literate readership. The discussion of reactions to Paul Hindemith's *Mathis der Maler* Symphony near the beginning of Chapter Six, for example, is much more telling for a reader who knows that Hindemith had just adopted a new musical style in 1933, a shift that is not explicitly mentioned until the next section.

It is often difficult to tell how large a body of critical opinion a given excerpt from a review is intended to represent, and the political leanings of individual reviewers are rarely identified beyond brief labels ("aesthetic liberal," "political conservative," "socialist"). While Painter is absolutely correct to point out that it would not be practical (or, in many cases, even possible) to provide biographical information for all of the hundreds of reviewers that she cites, it would be helpful, for instance, to know that Hans Mersmann, who is mentioned twice in the text (but nowhere in the index) was a leading advocate for new music in the late 1920s and early 1930s, or to have a more rounded portrait of those critics who, like Paul Bekker, play a more substantial role in the narrative.

For the most part, Painter focuses on the reception of Mahler and Bruckner, with special attention to Mahler's Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh Symphonies (the subject of her dissertation). Richard Strauss and Hindemith also receive significant attention, and Carl Orff makes a cameo appearance in the final chapter. This relatively narrow focus is effective, but the occasional excursions to more distant realms, such as the citation of the Lutoslawski String Quartet (1964) are a little puzzling in the near absence of some more obvious topics. Karl Amadeus Hartmann, for instance, arguably the most important German symphonist of the twentieth century (with Hans Werner Henze the only real competition) is only mentioned once, although he would seem to be a counterexample to the assertion that, after the Second World War "[v]irtually no composer still in Germany...pursued the legacy of the symphony" (243). Moving to smaller matters, the index could be more complete, and there are a number of editorial glitches, ranging from punctuation marks to sentences that are difficult to parse

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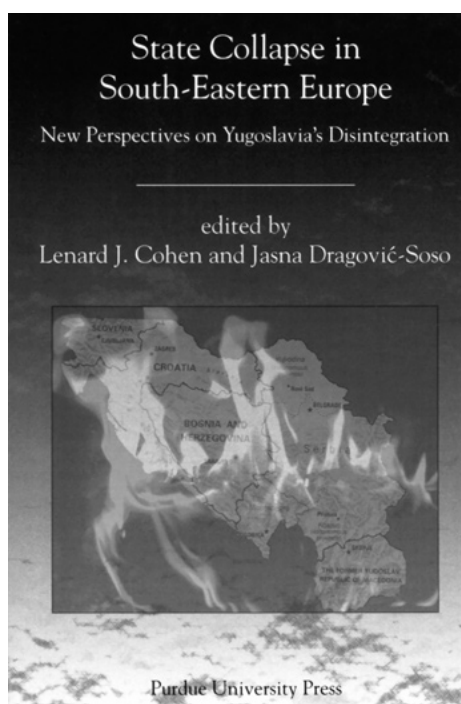
A fresh take on the Yugoslav disaster

Lenard J. Cohen and Jasna Dragović-Soso, editors. *State Collapse in South-Eastern Europe: New Perspectives on Yugoslavia's Disintegration*. Central European Studies. West Lafayette: Purdue University Press, 2008. ISBN: 978-1557534606. 413 pp. Paper, \$49.95.

This remarkable book of collected essays signals the maturing of the scholarly literature on the collapse of former Yugoslavia. Its origins lie in the Scholars' Initiative, a broad consortium of academics from the United States, Europe, and former Yugoslavia that has sought to reach consensus on some of the thorniest issues of the Yugoslav conflict. Lenard Cohen and Jasna Dragović-Soso, the editors of the volume under review, believed that the dissolution of Yugoslavia deserved not a working paper but a book that pushed analysis beyond the monochromatic hypotheses of the 1990s. As Dragović-Sosa usefully summarizes in her introductory essay, most of those works fall into five categories based on arguments that range from "civilizational" ones, through the "blame game," to considerations of individual themes such as communist ideology, the economy, national and regional institutions, and political structures. An essential ingredient missing from all work written close to the conflict was the failure to discuss "disintegrative synergies"—that is, the interaction of various factors, not just their discrete impact. The authors in this collection all move beyond partisan scholarship by examining the deep structures that created the dynamism of Yugoslavia's collapse.

The first section of the book, "The Historical Legacy," contains essays by historians Mark Biondich and Steven K. Pavlowitch, who center their essays conceptually on the shortcomings of the historiography of interwar Yugoslavia and engage the issue of whether that state was doomed. Pavlowitch, for example, repeatedly reminds readers that history unfolds without knowledge of the future, and both he and Biondich explore how the formulations of Yugoslav interwar history were later used to justify political and ideological agendas that emphasized victimization. Biondich, who focuses his essay on the nexus of Serb-Croat disagreements, argues that the interwar period demonstrates the difficulty of supplanting particularist identities with a Yugoslav one. But why, he asks, "were ideological positions seemingly nonnegotiable and political leaders so intractable in Yugoslavia's interwar period" (65)? Neither essay offers definitive answers, but the failure to secure broad democratic support for the state in 1918 empowered political leaders from quite different political cultures to continue to appeal to a regional constituency rather than develop a national one, despite the apparently broader ideological orientations of the political parties. Ultimately, as Pavlowitch most clearly states, citizens of the first Yugoslavia experienced and continued to experience communal life in different, not shared, ways.

The second part of the book, "The Socialist Legacy," has four stimulating essays by Audrey Helfant Budding, Dennison Rusinow, Jill Irvine, and Nick Miller. Budding's chapter, which sets the framework for the whole section, investigates the competing definitions of the term self-determination, "one based on the nation and the other on the republic," that dominated the entire post-1918 period. She argues that the solution after 1945 was to use both definitions interchangeably because the party itself was the supreme arbiter. This became problematic as communist leadership dissipated and republi-



can leadership assumed power in the 1980s. Irvine recasts the discussion by examining the debate over federalism in the context of Croatia. Unlike most interpretations, which promote the idea that economic decentralization led to a resurgence of nationalism, Irvine carefully traces the continuity of the Croatian struggle against federalism, from Andrija Hebrang's wartime formulations, through the Croatian Spring, to 1991. She concludes that the events of 1970-1971 and their aftermath thus "offer a chilling preview of what occurred when there was no Tito to intervene" (172). Miller's essay completes these examinations by exploring how the debate over federation diversely influenced intellectuals in the different republics in Yugoslavia, who found it easy to move from the collectivist identity of communism into the collectivist identity of nationalism. Thus, unlike in the rest of Eastern Europe, where intellectuals such as Vaclav Havel were "heroes," the voices of many heroic Yugoslav intellectuals were drowned out "by the din created by national grievances" (195).

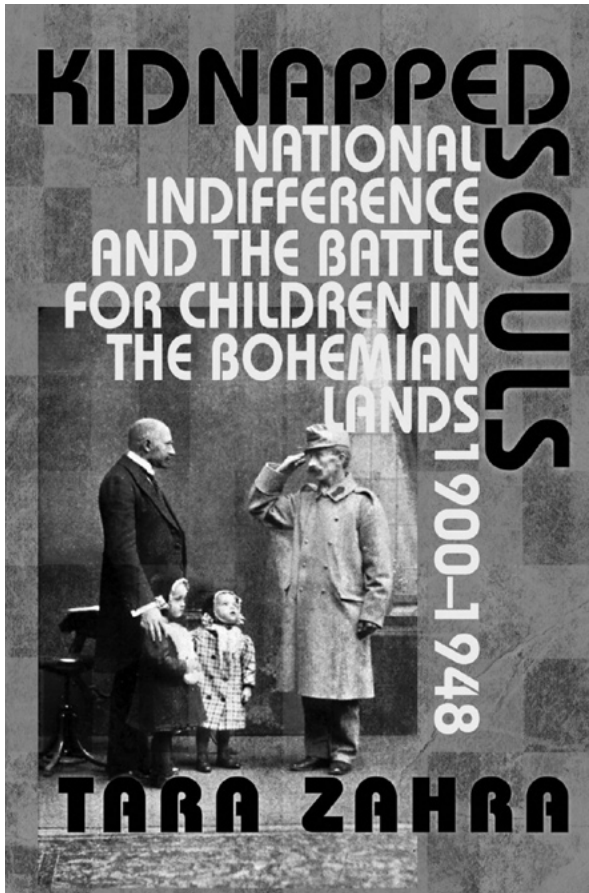
The third section has seven essays that engage specific aspects of the Yugoslav neuralgia in the 1980s: Andrew Wachtel and Predrag J. Marković discuss the failure to establish a common educational core in Yugoslavia in the 1980s; Michael Palairt examines the transfer of resources to Serbia during the hyperinflation; Dejan Jović engages in a close study of Slovene and Croatian motivation in promoting the idea of confederation in 1990; Eric Gordy engages the issue of the specific timing of the destruction of the Yugoslav state; Florijan Bieber examines the role of the Yugoslav National Army (JNA); and Paul Shoup examines the role of foreign diplomacy. Although these essays are a little more uneven in their scope and depth, all provide interesting reconsiderations of their central topic. Palairt's article is a fascinating, in-depth analysis of the economic mechanisms that Milošević used to transfer economic resources to shore up his regime in Serbia. Jović contextualizes the Slovene and Croatian proposal on confederation not just as a serious effort to avoid a violent dissolution of the state, but also as an effort whose viability was overcome by events. Bieber's essay on the JNA provides a nuanced reading of the decision of the JNA to back Serbia, not because of the composition of its officer corps but because of its increasingly weak position, both politically and ideologically, as the federation was undermined. The final essay of the collection, written by Lenard Cohen, broadens the significance of the entire volume by engaging the issue of Yugoslav exceptionalism and insightfully contextualizing the dissolution of former Yugoslavia in the collapse of the other communist federations.

A short review of an excellent volume of collected essays can never give ample praise to the achievements of the authors, but this volume lives up to its subtitle: all of the authors individually and collectively do indeed bring us "new perspectives" through their objectivity, their careful questioning of historiography, and their deep reflections on the meaning, sources, and interactive context of the dissolution of a communist federation that led to a prolonged and destructive war. Nonspecialists may find the book a difficult read, but they will be rewarded for their effort, and all scholars in the field should ponder this book and learn from it.

Sarah A. Kent
History

University of Wisconsin—Stevens Point

The battle for Bohemian children



Tara Zahra. *Kidnapped Souls: National Indifference and the Battle for Children in the Bohemian Lands, 1900–1948*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2008. ISBN: 978-0-8014-4628-3. 304 pages, maps, halftones. Cloth, \$39.95.

Many recent historical treatments of Habsburg history include colorful accounts of conflicts over statues and public space, *Katzenmusik*, student riots, fisticuffs in the Vienna Reichsrat and the Bohemian Diet, duels, and streetfights between German and Czech nationalists in the lands of the Crown of St. Wenceslaus.

For Tara Zahra, however, the main national conflict in Bohemia and Moravia from 1900 to 1948 was not the struggle of self-consciously nationalist Czechs against their German counterparts, but rather the increasingly fierce battle waged by nationalists of both stripes to convince or, if necessary, force parents to bow to the overriding claims of the nation on them and, most importantly, on their children. Tara Zahra's clearly written and powerfully argued new book explores the interaction between four regimes (Habsburg Bohemia, interwar Czechoslovakia, Nazi occupation, postwar Czechoslovakia), Czech and German nationalists, and the "linguistically neutral hermaphrodites" and "national amphibians" whose indifference to national belonging inflamed the passions of the self-appointed leaders of the German and Czech nations. Zahra's aim is "not to write the story of German-Czech relations 'from both sides.' It is rather to trace how those 'sides' were first constituted" (8).

As Zahra notes, the sources often used to study this region—maps and censuses—"obscure bilingualism and national ambiguity" (5). To avoid this pitfall, she employs a wide range of materials including trial records, surveys filled out by parents seeking to choose schools for their children, publications directed at women, major newspapers, memoirs, as well as letters and other records produced by the German School Association, the Czech National Council, and other nationalist organizations. Zahra illustrates the gap between the rhetoric employed by nationalist organizations and the actions taken (or not taken) by the population claimed by nationalists to belong to the organic national community. In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Czech and German nationalists organized in school associations and other organizations grew increasingly frustrated with parents who rejected claims about the obligation to raise their progeny in a purely German or Czech linguistic environment. Nationalist pedagogues denounced the confusion of bilingual education and asserted the need for a clear sense of national belonging in the early years. Yet, many parents who spoke Czech at home continued to view an education at a German-language school as advantageous for their children, either because they considered bilingualism valuable for social mobility or simply because the local German-language school offered a superior education compared to the available Czech-language options.

In Bohemia, the Czech National Council and the allied Prague city government could do little in the face of this frustrating reality. However, the 1905 Moravian Compromise created a legal framework for harnessing the power of the Habsburg state to enforce conformity on those insufficiently conscious of their obligations to the national community. Paragraph 20 of the Compromise—*Lex Perek*—stipulated that children could only attend an elementary school if they were "proficient in the language of instruction" (33). As a result, Czech and German school boards attempted to "reclaim" children by asserting that they were illegally enrolled in the other nation's schools. In one of the most interesting sections of this fascinating book, Zahra looks at some of the thousands of cases that arose from these "reclamations." Some parents claimed membership in a "nation" despite their own linguistic history in order to justify their choices for their children's education, while others asserted bilingual descent and thereby denied the applicability of inflexible national ascription.

As Zahra shows, the nationalist consensus (shared by German and Czech nationalists) across the 1918 historical divide viewed raising children as the collective responsibility of the national community to be fulfilled even in the face of parental resistance. Before World War I, nationalist organizations showed little faith in mothers and fathers to control the national destiny of their children, hence efforts to use *Lex Perek*, educational theory, welfare, etc. to claim children in the name of democracy and national rights. With the end of the monarchy and the establishment of the "nation-state" of Czechoslovakia, Czech nationalists now enjoyed the full backing of the power of the state to lay claim to as many children as possible for the Czech nation, against the will of the parents when necessary. In interwar Czechoslovakia, people were fined or given prison sentences for declaring themselves "German" on the census when government officials determined they were "objectively"—despite their own protestations—Czech.

Nazi occupation policies came up against this decades-long war for children and were themselves frustrated by "nationally indifferent or disloyal parents." As one Nazi official wrote, "It is indeed the legal situation that every *Volksdeutsche* will become a citizen of the German Reich, no matter what his personal opinion of the matter" (183). After Lidice, the Nazi need for Czech labor and the failure of efforts to Germanize Czech children led to the acceptance of Czech control over Czech-defined children in return for acquiescence to the needs of Nazi war production and the doctrine of "Reich-Loyal Czech nationalism." Czech nationalists now put the responsibility on families to ensure the continued Czechness of their children in the face of the Nazi threat. "Czech parents succeeded in keeping Czech children Czech during World War II. But they fought their battle against Nazism in a shared language of protecting ethnic purity" (250).

Zahra's brief epilogue traces conflicts within the postwar Czechoslovak government over how to ascribe nationality in the context of the expulsion of those deemed "ethnic Germans." Here again, children were central to nationalists' concerns, as the Czechoslovak government sought to recover "missing" children supposedly kidnapped from Czech orphanages and homes and farmed out to German families under Nazi occupation. In the postwar period, claims of collective rights over children were replaced by critiques of Nazi and communist interventions into the alleged protective sphere of the pre-World War II family. Zahra argues

continued on page 23

HOT OFF THE PRESSES

Diana Mishkova, ed. *We, the People: Politics of National Peculiarity in South-eastern Europe*. New York: CEU Press, 2008. 380 pp. Cloth, ISBN 978-963-9776-28-9, \$50 / €42.95.

Alan Sked. *Metternich and Austria: An Evaluation*. New York: Palgrave, 2008. 224 pp. Cloth, ISBN 1-4039-9114-6, \$99.95; paper, ISBN 1-4039-9115-4, \$31.95.

Rolf Steininger. *Austria, Germany, and the Cold War: From the Anschluss to the State Treaty, 1938-1955*. New York: Berghahn, 2008. 172 pp. Cloth, ISBN 978-1-84545-326-8, \$60.

David A. Norris. *Belgrade: A Cultural History*. New York: Oxford U.P., 2008. 280 pp., illus. Cloth, ISBN 9780195376081, \$74; paper, ISBN 9780195376098, \$16.95.

Kenneth Morrison. *Montenegro: A Modern History*. London: I. B. Tauris, 2009. 264 pp., illus. Cloth, ISBN 1-84511-710-7, \$49.95. Dist. Palgrave.

Christine Aumayr, Ruth Hierzer, and Franz Prettenhaler, eds. *Der österreichische Eisenbahnsektor. Forschung, Entwicklung, Wissensträger*. Vienna: Austrian Academic Press, 2008. 112 pp., illus., graphs. Paper, ISBN 978-3-7001-6112-7, €25.

Leszek Koczanowicz. *Politics of Time: Dynamics of Identity in Post-Communist Poland*. New York: Berghahn, 2008. 194 pages. Cloth, ISBN 978-1-84545-510-1, \$39.95 / £17.95.

Michael H. Kater. *Never Sang for Hitler: The Life and Times of Lotte Lehmann, 1888–1976*. New York: Cambridge U. P., 2008. 416 pp., illus. Cloth, ISBN 9780521873925, \$35.

Christopher Sandford. *Polanski: A Biography*. New York: Palgrave, 2008. 400 pp., photos. Cloth, ISBN 0-230-60778-0, \$29.95.

Péter György. *Spirit of the Place: From Mauthausen to MoMA*. New York: CEU Press, 2008. 286 pp., photos. Cloth, ISBN 978-963-9776-33-3, \$55 / €39.95.

Gustavo Corni and Tamás Stark, eds. *Peoples on the Move: Population Transfers and Ethnic Cleansing Policies during World War II and its Aftermath*. London: Berg Publishers, 2008. 256 pp. Cloth, ISBN 1-84520-480-8, \$109.95; paper, ISBN 1-84520-824-2, \$39.95. Dist. Palgrave.

Rita Krueger. *Czech, German, and Noble: Status and National Identity in Habsburg Bohemia*. New York: Oxford U., 2008. 304 pp. Cloth, ISBN 9780195323450, \$65.

László Kürti and Peter Skalník, eds. *Postsocialist Europe: Anthropological Perspectives from Home*. New York: Berghahn, 2008. 336 pp., illus. Cloth, ISBN 978-1-84545-474-6, \$85 / £42.50.

Dieter A. Binder, Eduard G. Staudinger, and Helmut Konrad, eds. *Die Erzählung der Landschaft*. Vienna: Böhlau, 2008. 368 pp., illus. Cloth, ISBN 978-3-205-78186-8, €39.

Hadwig Kraeutler. *Otto Neurath. Museum and Exhibition Work. Spaces (Designed) for Communication*. Frankfurt am Main: Peter Lang, 2008. 289 pp., fig. Paper, ISBN 978-3-631-55973-4, € 48.10 / US \$74.95.

Malcolm Spencer. *In the Shadow of Empire: Austrian Experiences of Modernity in the Writings of Musil, Roth, and Bachmann*. Rochester, NY: Camden House, 2008. 288 pp., illus. Cloth, ISBN 9781571133878, \$85 / £50.

Nicholas Parsons. *Vienna: A Cultural History*. New York: Oxford U. P., 2008. 304 pp., illus. Paper, ISBN 9780195376074, \$16.95.

Georg Friesenbichler. *Unsere wilden Jahre. Die Siebziger in Österreich*. Vienna: Böhlau, 2008. 266 pp., illus., facsimiles. Cloth, ISBN 978-3-205-78151-6, €24.90.

Peter Hames, ed. *The Cinema of Jan Svankmajer: Dark Alchemy*. 2nd edition. London: Wallflower, 2008. 224 pp., illus. Cloth, ISBN 978-1-905674-46-6, \$80; paper, ISBN 978-1-905674-45-9, \$25. Dist. Columbia U. P.

Günter Bischof and Fritz Plasser, eds. *The Changing Austrian Voter*. Contemporary Austrian Studies, vol. 16. Piscataway: Transaction, 2008. 355 pp., tables. Paper, ISBN 978-1-4128-0751-7, \$40 / £26.50.

Franz Hochededer. *Erinnerungen an ein vergangenes Jahrhundert. H.G. Adler (1910-1988)*. Vienna: Böhlau, 2008. 352 pp., illus. Cloth, ISBN 978-3-205-78152-3, €39.

Otmar Issing. *The Birth of the Euro*. New York: Cambridge U. P., 2008. 296 pp., fig., tables. Cloth, ISBN 9780521516730, \$90; paper, ISBN 9780521731867, \$29.99.

Rainer Maria Rilke. *Rainer Maria Rilke's The Book of Hours: A New Translation with Commentary*. Translated by Susan Ranson. Edited and with an introduction by Ben Hutchinson. Rochester, NY: Camden House, 2008. 288 pp. Cloth, ISBN 9781571133809, \$75 / £40.

Zoë Vania Waxman. *Writing the Holocaust: Identity, Testimony, Representation*. New York: Oxford U. P., 2008. 240 pp. Cloth, ISBN 978-0-19-954154-6, \$34.

János Kis. *Politics as a Moral Problem*. Translated by Zoltán Miklósi. New York: CEU Press, 2008. 318 pp. Cloth, ISBN 978-963-9776-22-7, \$44.95 / €34.95.

Bato Tomašević. *Life and Death in the Balkans: A Family Saga in a Century of Conflict*. New York: Cambridge U. P., 2008. 544 pp. Cloth, ISBN 978-0-231-70062-7, \$35.

Agnes Batory. *The Politics of EU Accession: Ideology, Party Strategy and the European Question in Hungary*. Manchester, UK: Manchester U. P., 2008. 192 pp. Cloth, ISBN 0-7190-7528-9, \$80.

Hugo von Hofmannsthal. *The Whole Difference: Selected Writings of Hugo von Hofmannsthal*. Edited by J. D. McClatchy. Princeton: Princeton U. P., 2008. 520 pp. Cloth, ISBN 978-0-691-12909-9, \$35.00 / £19.95.

J. Wilczynski. *The Economics of Socialism after World War II, 1945-1990*. Piscataway: Transaction, 2008. 253 pp., tables. Paper, ISBN 978-0-202-36228-1, \$29.95 / £19.95.

Kati Tonkin. *Joseph Roth's March into History: From the Early Novels to Radetzky March and Die Kapuzinergruft*. Rochester, NY: Camden House, 2008. 256 pp. Cloth, ISBN 9781571133892, \$75 / £40.

Wirth Institute turns ten!



Left to right: Peter Storer, director, Austrian Cultural Forum, Austrian Embassy, Ottawa; Ulrike Csura, Austrian Federal Ministry for Science & Research (BMWF); Florian Gerhardus, BMWF; Franz Szabo; Philipp Marxgut, director, Office of Science & Technology, Austrian Embassy, Washington, DC; Christoph Ramoser, head of Department for International University Relations, BMWF.

Our sister institute in Canada, the Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies at the University of Alberta, celebrated its tenth anniversary on Friday, September 5, 2008.

The Canadian Centre for Austrian and Central European Studies (as the Wirth Institute was originally called) was established by the Austrian Federal Ministry of the Sciences, the Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Austrian Conference of University Presidents. They selected the University of Alberta as the university most able and prepared to establish Austrian and Central European Studies as a clear university priority. A memorandum of understanding was originally signed between the Government of Austria and the University of Alberta on March 3, 1998. One of the highlights of the tenth anniversary celebration was the signing of a formal renewal of this memorandum.

The Centre subsequently began negotiations with the embassies of Austria's neighboring countries in order to win support for a broader program of Central European area studies. As a result the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia, and Slovenia all joined Austria as additional sponsors of the Centre. Over the next three years, ambassadors of each of these countries visited the University of Alberta, and in formal flag presentation ceremonies pledged the support of their respective countries for the Centre.

However, the largest single contribution to the Centre was a gift from Dr. Manfred and Dr. Alfred Wirth of nearly \$10 million. On October 29, 2003, the Centre was formally renamed "Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies" in recognition of this generous donation, which secured the future of the Institute with a permanent endowment.

Alfred Wirth, who attends many Wirth Center events, represented the Austrian Canadian Council, which had been instrumental during 1997-1998 in the original initiative to establish the Institute. The ACC continues to support its activities, and Wirth is its honorary chair.

Representatives of all the supporting governments attended the anniversary celebration. The Austrian minister of science and research, Dr. Johannes Hahn, who could not attend due to the Austrian elections, sent a video message of ongoing support, which was introduced by the Austrian ambassador, Dr. Otto Ditz. Other Austrian officials who came for the occasion included Dr. Christoph Ramoser, head of the Department for International University Relations, BMWF, and the director of the Austrian Cultural Forum at the embassy in Ottawa, Dr. Peter Storer. Dr. Hans Moser, former president of the University of Innsbruck, Prof. Arnold Suppan, head of the Institute of East European History at the University of Vienna, and others represented the Austrian university system.

Other countries were represented by equally high-ranking dignitaries. The Hungarian delegation was led by Dr. Katalin Bogyay, the secretary of state for education, and Dr. Pál Vastagh, Hungarian ambassador to Canada. Dr. Vlastimil Růžička, deputy minister of education, youth, and sports, headed the delegation from the Czech Republic. Tomaž Kunštelj, Slovenian ambassador to Canada, represented Slovenia. Pavol Svetík, minister counsellor and deputy head of mission of the Embassy of Slovakia, represented his country. Mr. Artur Michalski, chargé d'affaires of the Polish Embassy, attended on behalf of Poland.

The ACC chose to use this occasion to award its annual dissertation prize. This prize is awarded on the recommendation of an interdisciplinary selection committee appointed by the Wirth Institute, and is valued at \$1,000. Winner of this year's award was Dr. John Henry Wiebe for his 2006 dissertation submitted at the University of Alberta for the degree of Doctor of Music, "Carl Czerny – Mass No. 2 in C Major: A Biedermeier Composer in Life and in Practice."

The deputy mayor of Edmonton, Don Iveson, presented Franz Szabo with the mayor's proclamation of "Austrian and Central European Cultural

Week" in Edmonton. Within the university itself, the institution's commitment to Austrian and Central European Studies was mirrored by the participation at the anniversary ceremony of every level of the university administration.

In addition to the anniversary celebration as such, the Wirth Institute scheduled a whole day of special activities to mark the event. Pavol Svetik formally opened the special art exhibition, "Masterpieces of Graphic Art from the Slovak Republic." Dr. Otto Ditz did the same for a second exhibition, "Legacy of Empire: Treasures of the University of Alberta's Central European Library Collections," that highlighted the Austrian and Central European rare books and maps of the University of Alberta.

Another highlight of the day was a lively roundtable discussion, "Social Transformation in Central Europe and the Implementation of the Elements of a Society of Knowledge." Participants were Dr. Vlastimil Růžička, Dr. Katalin Bogay, Mr. Krzysztof Kasprzyk, consul general at the Polish Consulate General in New York, and Dr. Carl Amrhein, provost and vice-president academic of the University of Alberta.

World's Austrian centers meet in Alberta

In June 2007 the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science & Research (BMWF) organized the first annual convention of Austrian centers of the world at the University of Minnesota. To help celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Wirth Institute, the ministry convened the second annual meeting at the University of Alberta on September 7-8, 2008. The purpose of these meetings is to encourage closer cooperation among the Austrian centers. Thanks to the generosity of the BMWF, each institute can bring up to four graduate students who present papers and begin to establish networks for their future careers. The papers are subsequently published by the Institut für Osteuropäische Geschichte at the University of Vienna.

The institutions that are represented at these meetings are, in addition to the Wirth Institute, the Center for Austrian Studies at the University of Minnesota, CenterAustria at the University of New Orleans, the Center for Austrian Studies at the European Forum of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, the Institut für Osteuropäische Geschichte at the University of Vienna, and the Faculty of Central European Studies at the Andrassy University in Budapest.

The 12 student papers presented at the meeting covered a broad range of topics. Most focused on the history of Austria and the Habsburg Monarchy, but there were papers on literature and philosophy, one on eighteenth-century opera, and one on theatre in Theresienstadt.

University of Alberta welcomes new Austrian guest professor and research fellow

As part of the Austrian government's support for the Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies at the University of Alberta, the BMWF supports two important visiting positions: a visiting Austrian guest professor through the Austrian Academic Exchange program (ÖAD) for a period of three to five years, and a graduate student intern who receives a doctoral research fellowship at the Institute.

2008 marked the end of the five-year term of the previous Austrian visiting professor, Dr. Clemens Ruthner. The candidate selected by the University of Alberta to replace him was Dr. Irene Fussl. A native of Graz and a graduate of the Universities of Vienna and Salzburg, Fussl specializes in Jewish-Austrian literature. She wrote her Ph.D. thesis on the hermetic poems of Paul Celan and has previously taught at the University of Salzburg and at Bowling Green State University in Ohio.

The winner of the BMWF Doctoral Research Fellowship at the Wirth Institute for the academic year 2008-09 is Ms. Bernadette Allinger, a native of Melk, Lower Austria, and a doctoral student in the Department of Sociology at the University of Vienna. Her dissertation research focuses on international comparisons of the politics of work-life balance, with emphasis on Austria, Denmark, and Canada.

Marina Kovrig Post-Doctoral Fellowship

The position of Post-Doctoral Fellow and Assistant Director of the Wirth Institute has found a new sponsor. After a two-year hiatus, the Wirth Institute was once again able to engage a talented young scholar of Austrian and Habsburg history for the 2008-2009 academic year, thanks to Ms. Marina Kovrig.

Marina Kovrig is a senior manager and executive whose career has focused on government relations, public relations, and sustainable development in a Canadian owned, privately held multinational chemical manufacturing company. She is currently phasing into retirement and looking for new outlets for her energy.

The 2008-09 Marina Kovrig Post-Doctoral Fellowship has been awarded to Dr. Michael Chisholm. After studying at Carleton University and the University of Toronto, Dr. Chisholm completed his studies at Oxford University under the renowned Robert Evans, with a dissertation on the Habsburg Counter-Reformation in Tirol. Dr. Chisholm is currently assisting the Wirth



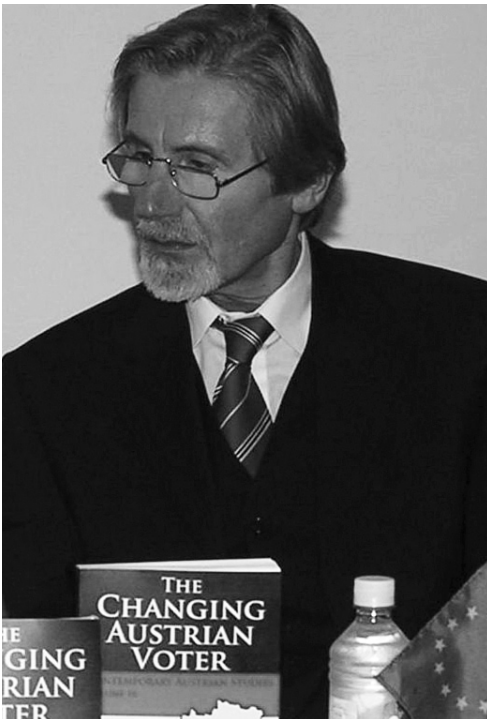
Dr. Irene Fussl



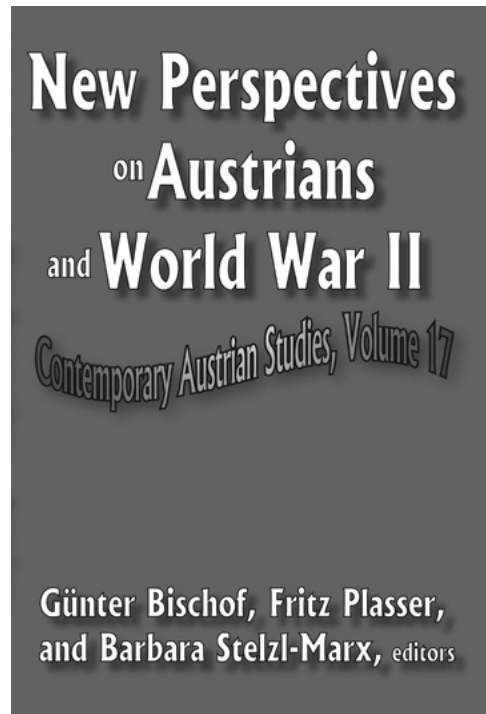
Bernadette Allinger

Institute in the organization of an international conference on the famous Habsburg emperor, Maximilian I (1459-1519). The conference will take place at the University of Alberta on October 2-3, 2009. ❖

Producing *Contemporary Austrian Studies*



Fritz Plasser



Günter Bischof

Maybe the most work-intensive assignment in my job as director of CenterAustria is the co-editing of *Contemporary Austrian Studies* (CAS). This is a job that is demanding and is never completed. At any given time we have to keep three CAS balls in the air: a volume in the final stage, a volume in the copy-editing stage, and a volume in the planning stage.

Currently, *New Perspectives on Austrians in World War II* (vol. XVII, forthcoming 2009) is at Transaction Publishers in New Jersey, ready to appear. This volume will try to summarize much of the new scholarship on World War II: daily life and anti-Nazi humor in Vienna, slave labor in the "Danube and Alpine Gaue," the deployment and mentality of Austrian Wehrmacht soldiers, resistance late in the war, and the liberation of Austria as well as postwar prosecution of war criminals. Gerhard Weinberg contextualizes the contributions with an introductory essay. Barbara Stelzl-Marx from the Boltzmann-Institut für Kriegsfolgen-Forschung is the guest editor.

The various essays for volume XVIII are now coming in and are in various editing stages. This volume due out in early 2010 is dedicated to a first historical assessment of the Schüssel years in Austria. Wolfgang Schüssel served in ÖVP leadership positions and various governments beginning in the 1980s and led a controversial coalition government with the FPÖ as chancellor from 2000 to 2006. While Austria does not engage in the popular American "Presidential Sweepstakes" of best and worst presidents in history, it is proper to ask after six years of Schüssel

as chancellor how he and his governments will eventually stack up in the history books. CAS has a tradition of taking a historical approach to recent Austrian governments. We have dedicated previous volumes to the "Kreisky Era" (II, 1994) and the "Vranitzky Era" (VII, 1999).

The outlines for a volume XIX, *Postwar: The Legacies of World War I on Interwar Austria* (2011), are completed too. Applying Tony Judt's post-World War II book *Postwar* as a model, this volume will investigate the long social, political, economic, and mental shadows of "The Great War" on an impoverished and unstable new state that lacked a clear identity. Essays will cover the economic and political dislocations after the war as well as the hardships suffered by the veterans and the families of "war widows" whose spouses did not return. Peter Berger from the Wirtschaftsuniversität Wien will serve as guest editor.

Since its inception in 1992, CAS has been shaped by the partnership agenda between UNO and the University of Innsbruck, with both partner universities contributing an editor. While I have served from the beginning, Fritz Plasser recently replaced Anton Pelinka, who co-edited fifteen CAS volumes. The combination of a historian and a political scientist as editors defines the social science orientation of the CAS series. Every year a specific topic is selected by the editors and approached from a multidisciplinary social science perspective. Part of this yearbook's mission is also to publish the new scholarship of a younger generation of scholars starting in

their respective fields, and CAS has assiduously tried to introduce fresh Austrian scholarship not available in translation to the English-speaking world.

CAS is also intent on contributing to an open and vigorous academic discourse. This discourse has taken the form of regular review essays, book reviews, and, perhaps most importantly, forums on "hot" topics such as art restitution and historiographical roundtables on important books such as Gerald Stourzh's magisterial history of the Austrian State Treaty.

Finally, an "Annual Review of Austrian Politics," summarizing election results and major political events, completes each volume. This review has now been written for many years by Reinhold Gärtner from the University of Innsbruck's Political Science Department.

The series could not succeed without the hard work of a staff on two continents. Jennifer Shimek from Loyola University of New Orleans has been the copyeditor for a dozen volumes, Ellen Palli from Innsbruck's Political Science Department has produced photo-ready copy for the publisher from the beginning, and Gertraud Griessner at UNO's CenterAustria has helped with management details. Given the minimal staff and budget, the production of a volume of approximately 350 pages every year is no small accomplishment, and I salute everyone who makes it possible: scholars, editors, and staff.

Günter Bischof, Director
CenterAustria
University of New Orleans

SalzFest 09: "Game of the Mighty"

by Daniel Pinkerton

The beauty and summer madness that is the Salzburg Festival is just around the corner. Director Jürgen Flimm has chosen "The Game of the Mighty" as this year's theme.

As Flimm writes, "Our 'Game of the Mighty' is a play about the mighty and a game with the mighty. Yet power and repression are not mere games, and the abuse of power is not a trifle. Repression is ubiquitous, everywhere, thousands of years ago and the day before yesterday, yesterday, today and—to our horror!—tomorrow too.

"Oh what joy, in the open air, the prisoners in *Fidelio* sing when they leave their cells to walk in the prison yard. The longing for liberation, for self-determination, is unquenchable, as literature, music and history have shown us often enough."

Fittingly, a sold-out concert version of *Fidelio* conducted by Daniel Barenboim and featuring Waltraud Meier as Leonora will be a festival highlight. Christof Loy will stage Handel's *Theodora*, about the martyrdom of two early Christians. Soprano Christine Schäfer will play *Theodora* and countertenor Bejun Mehta will play Didymus. Ivar Bolton will conduct.

Other new operatic offerings will include Luigi Nono's *Al gran sole carico d'amore* (In the bright sunshine, charged with love), with texts by Brecht, Gorky, Pavese, Rimbaud and others. Flimm calls the work "a great requiem for lost hopes and the failing of utopias." The "games" part of the theme will be on display in a new *Così fan tutte*. Adam Fischer will conduct Mozart's gem. Finally, a new production of Rossini's *Moïse et Pharaon* (Moses and Pharaoh) will be conducted by Riccardo Muti and staged by Flimm.

Revivals will include Handel's *Armida* and Mozart's *Marriage of Figaro*, the latter with Gerald Finley, who won praise for his portrayal of J. Robert Oppenheimer in John Adams's *Doctor Atomic*, as Count Almaviva.

Dramas will include *The Bacchae* by Euripides; *Judith*, a play by Friedrich Hebbel that incorporates parts of Vivaldi's oratorio of the same name; and *The Sounds of Silence*, a music theatre piece about life in Riga in 1968, with the songs of Simon & Garfunkel as its only text.

The concert program includes Paavo Järvi conducting the Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen in a cycle of all nine Beethoven symphonies and the violin concerto. Janine Jansen will be soloist on the latter. Joshua Bell, Steven Isserlis, the Emerson String Quartet, and Mitsuko Uchida will appear in chamber concerts. Pianists Martha Argerich, Maurizio Pollini, and Yevgeny Kissin will give recitals, as will soprano Anna Netrebko and baritone Matthias Goerne. Valery Gergiev and Sir Simon Rattle will be among the orchestral conductors. Amazingly, some tickets still remain—but not for long! ❖



Above: Paavo Järvi conducts. Photo: Julia Baier. Below left: Pianist Martha Argerich—sold out, but will she show? Photo: Emilio Zangiagomi Pompanin. Below right: Annette Dasch (*Armida*) and Michael Schade (*Rinaldo*) in an intense scene from Handel's *Armida*. Photo: Monika Rittershaus.



Gerald Stourzh from page 11

fields. But as a young person, I read many novels and I went to the theater often. Going to the theater is the great passion of my life. I first went to see a serious play at the age of ten, and have been going to the theater regularly since then. I also performed in a theater group when I was young, with a group of friends and colleagues in my class at school. We started performing when we were about 15 years old and continued through our first years at university. We were not professionals, but we were quite successful and for several years, that was my life. (laughs) Most of us were born in the same year, 1929. When we were

about 65 years old, one of our group, who was at that point a very well known surgeon, wanted to build a hospital in a city in Romania after the change of political regime because he had been so appalled by the sanitary and medical conditions he saw there. To raise money, he called together our theater group and as elderly, established doctors, lawyers, and professors, we performed a play that we had last performed when we were 16 years old. I found myself playing a role that I first did in December 1945 several times between 1995 and 2002, and then we gave it up. But we had a good time. ❖

Jörg Haider, 1950-2008

by Mirjam Marits

In late September of 2008, Jörg Haider staged another remarkable comeback. At the national elections, his party, BZÖ (Alliance for Austria) had won 10.7% of the votes, twice as much as in 2006. This was a sensational result, considering that Haider had founded the BZÖ after splitting with the FPÖ (Freedom Party) in 2005. When Haider arrived at the party's office that night to celebrate, he was welcomed with chants of "Jörgi! Jörgi!" Haider, with his characteristic triumphant smile, shook hands, got hugged. He left soon for a television interview. As always, he was on the run. "Today, the sun has shone

for us only," Peter Westenthaler, one of Haider's most loyal soldiers, told me that night. "We owe this success tonight only to him."

Less than a fortnight later, the party lost its leader. On October 11, Haider, the incumbent governor of Carinthia, died in a spectacular accident. After having had several vodkas in a club in Klagenfurt, he still thought himself capable of driving his car. His massive VW Phaeton smashed close to a spot where he had narrowly escaped death a few years before in another serious mishap. "In Carinthia, the sun has fallen from the sky today," Gerhard Dörfler, his successor as governor, said after Haider's death, a phrase that his supporters would repeat over and over again.

The sudden loss of one of the most controversial politicians in Austrian history put the nation into shock. Haider dead—this active, good-looking sportsman who still possessed an aura of boyishness despite his age of 58? It seemed unthinkable. The people in Carinthia, where he served as governor for twelve years (1989 to 1991, and 1999 to his death), mourned publicly in a way that reminded many of *Führerkult* (leader cult). But even in the rest of Austria, the obituaries in the media put Haider, the right-wing populist, in a surprisingly positive light. His aggressive rhetoric, his admiration for the Third Reich—had it all been forgotten due to his tragic death?

Apparently so. In the weeks after his death, those who dared to remind the public of Haider's negative side were criticized as disrespectful. One reason for this was probably his supposed status as an elder statesman—a role he had invented for himself for the last elections. "The other politicians didn't know how to react to this new, mild Haider," according to journalist Anneliese Rohrer, one of the most respected experts on Austrian domestic politics.



But even while he was the "new" Haider in television interviews, he had suggested asylum-seekers be transported to a former pension in the mountains. There, his party BZÖ said, the asylum-seekers would get a "concentrated placement" in a "special institution." This was perilously close to Nazi rhetoric. (The BZÖ later denied these words had been used).

Born in Upper Austria to parents who had been early supporters of Hitler's NSDAP, Haider's relationship to the Nazi era was always dubious. One of many examples would be his speech in front of SS veterans in which he honored their "character" and "conviction."

"One day he realized this policy wouldn't get him any further because many people opposed it," says Oliver Pink, editor at *Die Presse* from Carinthia, who interviewed Haider many times. In the last years, Haider hardly ever proclaimed pro-Nazi statements, yet it was too late for an image correction: to the outside world, he was the (in)famous fascist from Austria. Many Austrians were ashamed of him. Yet others saw him as a politician who, with stylish outfits and brash statements, made the other politicians (literally) look old, a man who brought change to Austria's old and dusty two-party system.

And he was the only one who took certain issues seriously. While the other parties underestimated how many Austrians saw the rising number of foreigners as a threat to their jobs and their culture, Haider's FPÖ won elections with campaigns like "Stop the foreign infiltration!"

"Haider knew perfectly well how to play parts of the population off against other groups," says Rohrer. It was "immigrants" versus "Austrians" or "Austria" versus the "European Union"—and the outsiders were always intent on "stealing" Austria's identity. Those and similar messages—usually backed with falsehoods or half-truths—

made Haider's rise possible. At its height of popularity in 1999, the FPÖ won 26.9% of the nationwide votes. It was that year that FPÖ and ÖVP formed a government. Although Haider himself was not part of it, international protests were strong. The EU imposed sanctions on Austria and stopped bilateral talks with the country.

For the FPÖ, its participation in the government brought about its eventual downfall for two reasons. First, Haider attracted many voters because he fought against Austria's "Grand Coalition" (a government formed by SPÖ and ÖVP) and its *Proporzsystem*. By this system, the ruling parties allocated a variety of posts from ministers down to head-

masters in schools according to party membership. When the FPÖ came to power, the party began to like the *Proporz* as well and installed people of their own. Thus, the party lost much of its credibility. Second, an intraparty fight sapped its strength and resulted in Haider leaving the FPÖ and forming a new party, BZÖ, in 2005. Since then, the so-called the right-wing vote has been split in two. Today, the FPÖ can be seen as the more xenophobic one. Its present leader Heinz-Christian Strache (who strongly imitates Haider while lacking the latter's intelligence) likes to fulminate against Muslim immigrants and Islam, something Haider never did. When Saddam Hussein was a pariah to Western countries, Haider visited him—another example of how Haider made worldwide headlines.

Although his actions made waves back then, Haider will not leave many traces behind, predict both Rohrer and Pink. The BZÖ might still win in Carinthia's provincial parliamentary elections in March 2009, but after that, it is assumed that it will dissolve eventually or reunite with the FPÖ. Its main problem is that it lacks a charismatic politician who could step into Haider's shoes. Stefan Petzner, his spokesman and friend, was installed as his political heir after Haider's death. Yet, the 27-year-old lacks support within the party and has by now stepped down from virtually all positions.

Haider's populism lives on only in the FPÖ's Strache. Another Grand Coalition now rules the country, and that "is the best proof that Haider failed in changing the political system in Austria sustainably," Rohrer concludes. The reason for this was, "Haider himself. He was not able to use his many victories. Due to his self-destructive tendency, he never achieved any lasting results."

Despite his ideology, even political opponents
continued on opposite page

ENNO E. KRAEHE, 1921-2008

For members of the historians' guild in the U.S. and Europe, Professor Enno E. Kraehe's death at age 86 on December 6, 2008, signaled the departure of an exemplary colleague.

Kraehe, who served successively on the faculties of the University of Kentucky, of the University of North Carolina, and finally of the University of Virginia where he held the Corcoran Professorship, excelled in teaching, research, and publishing. In the latter area, he expected so much from himself that it required decades of preparation before his principal work was published. The result, which continues to edify readers today, was the two volumes of *Metternich's German Policy*, published by Princeton University Press. The first volume is entitled *The Contest with Napoleon, 1799-1814* (1963), and the second is *The Congress of Vienna, 1814-15* (1983). These books, both of which were prizewinners, would not have been possible without Kraehe's tireless labor in his beloved Vienna's libraries and archives. He was helped by a Guggenheim Fellowship and a Fulbright Research Scholarship—and it was surely no hindrance that his aunt, Ruth Banks, lived in a Vienna penthouse.

The rigorous nature of Kraehe's scholarship, reminiscent of the great 19th- and early 20th-century German historians, was instilled during his doctoral studies at the University of Minnesota where he received a Ph.D. in 1948. His advisor was Professor Lawrence Steefel, whose brilliance as a scholar inspired Enno and other graduate students of the time, including myself. But Enno was not content only with research and writ-



ing. He served his profession in many ways, including enthusiastic support for the Center for Austrian Studies. From 1969 to 1973 he was a member of the *Austrian History Yearbook* editorial board. He was also active in other professional organizations, particularly the Southern Historical Association, where he helped to found the European History Section.

And then there was the Enno Kraehe whose delightful nature drew so many friends. Enno and I began an enduring comradeship in the early 1960's when we were faculty colleagues at the University of Kentucky and, with our growing families, resided as next door neighbors. I could write at length about Kraehe the humorist, who especially relished reciting limericks. It was Kraehe, the bon vivant, who invited friends to a glorious celebration on the day a letter arrived from Princeton University Press accepting the first volume of his *Metternich* study. And then there was Kraehe the family man, who so delighted in the company of his wife Mary Alice Eggleston, his daughter Claudia, and his son Lawrence.

But the Enno Kraehe I remember most fondly was the lover of German music. He brought me to appreciate his favorite composer, Richard Strauss. Together, we often enjoyed a Strauss tone poem or opera melody. When Enno was beset by blindness and cancer in final illness, Strauss was his solace. Thus, I suggest that when the career of Enno Kraehe is best remembered, it is by listening to *Ein Heldenleben*.

Paul C. Nagel

Haider *from previous page*

described him as a charismatic and intelligent man. "When talking to you, he gave you the feeling that your concerns were of the utmost importance to him," Pink remembers. This also explains his popularity in Carinthia, where, for example, he gave money to poor, elderly women. He handed the bank notes over to them personally, with hundreds of women lining up in front of his office.

"Journalists criticized this sovereign-like behavior," says Pink. "But the people liked it. They wanted to be close to him." Or as Florian Scheuba, a comedian and declared opponent of Haider, puts it, "He lived like a pop star and he died like a pop star as well."

Mirjam Marits, a former BMWF Fellow at the Center for Austrian Studies, is a Redakteurin (editorial journalist) at the Viennese newspaper Die Presse.

Symphonic Aspirations *from page 14*

to minor factual errors (the Regensburg Valhalla was built during the reign of Ludwig I of Bavaria, not Ludwig II; the German premiere of Alban Berg's *Wozzeck* was the 1925 world premiere in Berlin, conducted by Erich Kleiber, not the 1929 Oldenburg production conducted by Joseph Schüller). There is no bibliography.

The amount of research reflected by *Symphonic Aspirations* is impressive, and Painter's approach is promising. It is a shame, though, that the book does not more thoroughly fulfill that promise.

Derek Katz
Musicology

University of California, Santa Barbara

Kidnapped Souls *from page 16*

that such critiques mask continuities between pre-war German and Czech nationalists' views on claiming children for the national community and the claims on children put forth under the Nazi and communist regimes.

While *Kidnapped Souls* is a convincing work of scholarship, the book offers no comparative comments. The reader is left wondering to what degree indifference to nation applies elsewhere in the Habsburg and post-Habsburg lands. Also, while it seems clear from Zahra's work and those whose scholarship she builds on (Gary Cohen, Jeremy King, Pieter Judson, and Rogers Brubaker, among others) that national identity was more malleable than has often been recognized, it is less clear to what degree Zahra's "national hermaphrodites" denied the national community altogether as opposed to rejecting the totalizing agendas pushed by nationalist activists. The book deftly analyzes the theories of nationalist educators; however,

a few more pages detailing the numbers of German and Czech language schools and those attending them and, perhaps, describing the experience of being a pupil in one of these schools, would have strengthened Zahra's arguments.

Zahra has made profound contributions to the scholarship on Habsburg Bohemia, interwar Czechoslovakia, Nazi race policy, and postwar ethnic cleansing. *Kidnapped Souls* has ramifications that extend beyond its immediate subject in time and space. By placing the battle over children at the center of her study, Zahra challenges historians to rethink the relationship between the state, the "nation," democracy, and society, and complicates our understanding of continuity and rupture in modern European history.

Daniel Unowsky
History
University of Memphis



Left to right: Sissi Tax, Tom Pepper
Photo: Daniel Pinkerton.

SISSI TAX, editor, translator and prize-winning novelist, was born in Köflach, Austria. She studied in Graz and Berlin, earning her doctorate in philosophy and German literature from Karl-Franzens-Universität. She has lived in Berlin since 1982. In October, she gave a reading from her German translation of the book *Wittgenstein's Mistress* by American author David Markson. The next day, she was interviewed in German by Austrian BMWF fellow Thomas König, who then translated the interview into English. So this feature is, in both form and content, about translation!

Sissi Tax: found in translation

interview and translation by Thomas König

ASN: *How did you find your way into the translation business?*

ST: First of all: You can't speak of it as a business. To me, translation always was interesting because it offers a new perspective on my own mother tongue. Second, I am not a professional translator—luckily, I must add, because as you may know, they are the worst paid intellectual workers, or *Geistesarbeiter*, in German, which is close to *Geisterarbeiter*, ghost worker. I am currently translating this particular book, *Wittgenstein's Mistress*, by David Markson, purely by coincidence. The book fell into my hands through a friend of mine, Tom Pepper, a professor in the Department of Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature at the University of Minnesota. Through Tom I met Paula Rabinowitz, chair of the Department of English here at Minnesota. Paula sent me the book with Tom as a courier, since he was coming to Berlin. Paula must love Markson's novel, too, because she helped me get in touch with its current publisher, Dalkey Archive Press, which also initially showed some interest in translating some of my own work.

ASN: *Is this is your first translation?*

ST: No. It is my second, but the first really comprehensive one. The first translation was 20 years ago. It was a text by Gertrude Stein, *A Book Concluding with a Wife Has a Cow: A Love Story*. I did this together with Oskar Pastior, a poet. Working with him was a privilege, and I learned a lot from him. The title of the translation then was *Ein Buch mit da hat der Topf ein Loch am Ende eine Liebesgeschichte – Gertrude Stein In einer Lesart von Oskar Pastior und Sissi Tax*.

ASN: *This may seem like a trivial question, but how are you translating Markson's book? Is there a certain method to be followed?*

ST: Well, I would call it the method of a non-method. I started with the first sentence only, just to acquaint myself with the way the text functions. What is its structure, its texture? What actually keeps it together? My process is always unsystematically systematical, or systematically unsystematical. One would need to investigate which describes the direction of my work in this specific case more appropriately. I don't know right now. But an orientation towards the material, the text, the texture, is always central to my working process.

ASN: *This particular book consists of simple phrases, but once you have started reading and stick to the story, it gains this incredible depth, inviting the reader to use his/her own imagination. As a translator, isn't there a kind of temptation to impose your own interpretation? Do you resist it or give it free rein?*

ST: That's a good question. It's a balancing act, and it is difficult, because it needs to be applied at every moment of a reflexive opus, such as Markson's novel. I would call it a poetic novel, to begin with, although grammar and syntax are in order. The novel has sound and reasonable sentences. And then, I would refer to Walter Benjamin and his essay "Die Aufgabe des Übersetzers"—"The Task of the Translator"—in which he quotes a German philologist, Rudolf Pannwitz. Pannwitz says that translations of writings into German usually try to "germanize" those writings while they should, in his opinion, "anglicize" the German. This means that the translator should attempt to preserve the foreignness in the translated version. And I take this as my primary obligation when translating: considering the singularity of the foreign sound and of the foreign hand, its materiality, anything that lies outside of the language. On the other hand, I am working a bit with an Austrian touch, linguistically and semantically.

ASN: *I liked the way you played with language, and I had the impression that you handle words tenderly as a general rule. How did you, as an intellectual, find out about philology and develop a love of language?*

ST: I'm not certain if I am an intellectual. I know that Tom Pepper referred to me as one, but I do not know if you can count me as one. I'm probably a "free radical," and that's what Tom might have meant. I'd love to be an "egghead," but I think I'm too lazy to be one (*laughs*). How did I become an enthusiast of words, a philologist? Biographically, I was lucky to be born at the right time and at the right place. I was born in 1954 and started studying German studies in Graz in the early 1970s. The department was full of old professors, some of whom had dubious links to National Socialism, and the setup was also very patriarchal. But Graz in the 1970s wasn't just a community of conservative old men. There was a cultural center, *forum stadtpark*; an avant-garde community; *manuskripte*, the major magazine on contemporary literature in Austria; *steirischer herbst*; and lots of initiatives in the cultural sector. There was both an "art establishment" and an avant-garde. And there I was, a young hippie from Köflach, near Graz. You can imagine which side I felt more attracted to, and I quickly ended up at *manuskripte* for the next few years, where I was socialized literarily as well as intellectually. Alfred Kolleritsch, who is the current editor of *manuskripte*, had a great influence on me. In this surrounding, I developed my love for literature and words.

ASN: *Did any particular writings influence you?*

ST: In my last book, I thanked Roland Barthes, Tom Pepper, Fritz von Herzmanovsky-Orlando, Gwendolyn Leick, the Paris Bar, and the Jägerwirt. That was a bit of an attempt to demolish the academic idea of making formal references, yet there certainly are constants in my reading list. Very important for me were the writings of early critical theory: Adorno, Horkheimer, Marcuse, and Walter Benjamin. Later in Berlin, I got caught up in feminism and the debate of male and female art beyond the limits of biological determinism. Friederike Mayröcker, although never claiming to be a feminist, has developed a certain aesthetic beyond normatively organized, patriarchal world literature. Mainly, the idea of this politicized feminism meant that women should be seen as producers of art as well, not only as consumers. Until then, women had not been treated as equal, as everyone knows. In Berlin, at the Freie Universität, I also heard the name of Marieluise Fleißer for the first time, an important female writer of the 1920s who was forgotten and rediscovered in the 1960s. I had never heard of her in Graz. Her writing enchanted me so much that I wrote my dissertation on her. Another thing I learned in Berlin was a new way of reading the plays of Johann Nestroy. I name Nestroy on purpose, because his plays were decoded in a very politicized way in the 1970s. Stagings of his work were not as straightforward as they used to be in Vienna. Directors placed great importance on the political message and the social critique. Nestroy is one of my language heroes, by the way. It is so difficult to translate his plays into theater outside of Austria. That's part of the subversive character of Nestroy; something that is difficult to translate carries resistance in itself, and that's very interesting for me. My own minimalistic, puristic work on language is inspired by that. You can see that in my books, *Manchmal immer* (Sometimes always), *Je nachdem* (Depending on), and *Und sofort* (And so on). It's a resistance that is generated by language itself, and that fascinates me.

ASN: *Were these three books designed as a trilogy from the beginning?*

ST: I like the idea of a trilogy, but no (*laughs*). I started writing late. What interests me is this kind of transgression of poetry into prose. But also—and that is very unsystematically systematical again—the development of what has to be written. By that, I mean: What is achieved by writing, when you sit down with only a few words in your head, and you start pinning it down on the paper? In this respect, I go along with Pastior who once said: "Beschreiben kann ich nur Papier." ("The only thing I can write on is paper.") So, it was not supposed to be a trilogy until it was done. Only in retrospect can you gain a certain perspective on what you have accomplished. ❖

The Executive Committee of the Society for Austrian and Habsburg Historians held its annual meeting on Saturday, January 3 at the American Historical Association Convention in New York City. Everyone who subscribes to the *Austrian History Yearbook* automatically belongs to SAHH, and the Executive Committee offers advice and support to the *Austrian History Yearbook* (AHY) and to the Centers for Austrian Studies in North America. We also provide a line of communication for historians who would like to participate in panels on Austrian and Habsburg history at the AHA, as well as the German Studies Association and the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies. We are always looking for exciting new articles for the *Yearbook* and for interesting panels at the AHA and other conferences. This year we are particularly pleased to report that the *Neue Freie Presse* has now been digitized and is available online through the ANNO project.

This was my last meeting as Executive Secretary of SAHH, and Maureen Healy of Lewis and Clark has agreed to assume these responsibilities for the next two years. Mo is the author of *Vienna and the Fall of the Habsburg Empire: Total War and Everyday Life in World War I*, and her current work is on Austrian images of (and contacts with) Turks and Islam in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. There are three other voting members on the committee: Marsha Rozenblit of the University of Maryland, John Boyer of the University of Chicago, and Joseph Patrouch of Florida International University. Gary Cohen and Franz Szabo, the directors of the Austrian studies centers in Minneapolis and Edmonton, also attended our meeting in New York, as did Pieter Judson, editor of the *AHY*.

This year, SAHH sponsored panels at the AHA on "Anna Coreth's *Pietas Austriaca* Fifty Years After: At Home and Abroad," on "The World of Goods: Commerce, Commodities, and Cultures in the Balkans and Habsburg Central Europe," on "Colonial Fantasies and Nationalist Conquest on the Eastern (European) Frontier, 1848-1914," and on "Politics, Empire, and Nation-Building in Central Europe: From the Habsburg Monarchy to the Austro-Fascist State, 1861-1938." These titles give some idea of the range of interests of the *Austrian History Yearbook* and the Society for Austrian and Habsburg History.

In 2010 the annual meeting of the AHA will be held in San Diego on January 4-7. The theme for panels and roundtables is "Oceans, Islands, Continents," but the Program Committee welcomes proposals on other topics as well. I encourage subscribers to *The Austrian History Yearbook* to attend the SAHH panels at the AHA, GSA, and AAASS, and to contact us if you have questions or suggestions.

It has been a pleasure working closely with SAHH since 2004, and I hope to be more involved in the next few years in the Modern Austrian Literature and Culture Association and to work for closer relations between these key institutions for Austrian studies in North America. I thought it would be fun to give the last word in my report to Hugo von Hofmannsthal's formulation from 1914. It is a reminder of how difficult it has always been to see the Austrian and Habsburg world from Paris or London or New York: "Maurice Maeterlinck once asked me, as I spoke of the magnificence and diversity of the landscapes of our fatherland, 'whether there are also trains in these lands.' Sitting at the same table with the wife of our former ambassador, Countess Hoyos, a French minister asked whether as a Hungarian she felt especially glad to be in Western Europe because there she enjoyed the freedom to go about in the streets unattended and without a veil."

David S. Luft, Executive Secretary, SAHH
david.luft@oregonstate.edu

Announcements

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES & SYMPOSIA

United States. *Workshop.* Tenth Annual Czech Studies Workshop, May 1-2, Columbia University, New York City. In the past, this interdisciplinary conference has drawn participants from colleges and universities in the United States and abroad. Areas of interest have been: anthropology, architecture, art, economics, education, film, geography, history, Jewish studies, literature, music, philosophy, politics, religion, society, and theater. Some work in progress will be presented in the workshop format, and junior faculty and advanced graduate students are particularly encouraged to participate. The 2009 Czech Studies Workshop is supported by funding from the Harriman Institute for Russian, Eurasian, and Eastern European Studies at Columbia University.

Ukraine. *International conference.* "Sex in the Cities: Prostitution, White Slaving, and Sexual Minorities in Eastern and Central Europe," June 12-13, Lviv, Ukraine. The Center for Urban History of East Central Europe in Lviv, Ukraine, and the Wirth Institute for Austrian and Central European Studies of the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada announce a conference on social control and sexuality in the cities of Eastern and Central Europe during the long nineteenth century with a special focus on the practices and discourses of the "deviant." The conference is co-sponsored by the Center for Austrian Studies, University of Minnesota. Possible topics include, but are not limited to: homosexuality, prostitution, sex crimes, "crimes of passion," and white slaving. Conference will be held at the Center in Lviv. Graduate student participation is encouraged. Conference languages are English and Ukrainian. Contact: Center for Urban History of East Central Europe, institute@lvivcenter.org.

United States. *Conference.* Thirty-third annual German Studies Association Conference, October 8-11, Washington DC. This event brings together over 1,000 scholars in the areas of German history, literature, culture, and politics. Presentations range over the period between the Middle Ages and the present. Not only established scholars but also younger ones (including graduate students) are welcome. Conference hotel has not yet been announced; registration will open in the spring. For more information, visit the GSA website, www.thegsa.org.

United Kingdom. *Call for Papers.* "Social & Political Transformations in Germany and Austria pre- and post-1945," Swansea University, Swansea, Wales, July 3-5. The conference aims to explore the social and political transformations experienced by Germany and Austria during the period of National Socialist rule and quadripartite occupation. It will provide an opportunity to draw comparisons between the two countries and to consider the wider context of this period and subsequent legacy for Germany and Austria. Potential papers could cover (but are not limited to) the following themes: women and gender; social relations and everyday life; reconstruction (social, political, economic); politics, parties and regimes; propaganda, culture and media; National Socialist ideologies; and

occupation and division. This is a unique opportunity for postgraduates from the UK and Europe to meet, network and exchange ideas in a friendly and supportive environment. Keynote speeches from leading scholars in the field will complement the panels and stimulate discussion. We welcome submissions from postgraduate research students for papers that do not exceed 20 minutes. Please submit your name, department, university, conference paper title, and abstracts of no more than 300 words to: Helen Steele, 176398@swansea.ac.uk. **Deadline: March 6.**

JOURNALS & BOOKS

Call for Submissions. Special Issue of *Seminar: A Journal of Germanic Studies*, "Visions of Tomorrow: Science and Utopia in German Culture." Guest Editors: Peter M. McIsaac, Gabrielle Mueller, and Diana Spokiene (York University, Toronto, Canada). At the beginning of the 21st century, grand utopian thinking seems to have lost much of the cachet it once had. Yet as scholars such as Wolfgang Emmerich have observed, utopian modes of cultural production might nonetheless offer indispensable tools for thinking through the implications of rapid advances in the sciences and medicine. In asking whether science represents one area where utopian thinking might retain—or regain—critical purchase in today's world, this special issue seeks to broadly examine modern German-speaking cultural production (e.g. literature, film, music, architecture, photography) through the lens of science and utopia. Possible questions to address include: How might current cultural and scientific exigencies draw on or reshape past attempts to mediate and evaluate scientific ideas and advances? How do cultural discourses mediate and evaluate scientific ideas and advances? How do cultural representations of the natural sciences, the scientist, and scientific processes of knowledge production impact scientific discourses themselves? How do these texts articulate the tensions between the perceived credibility, reliability, and the limits of science on the one hand and the subjective intervention of the artist on the other? Are utopian modes evident in areas other than the sciences? Within this broad framework, we are especially interested in the intersections of scientific discourses and utopian thinking on society's changing social structure; racial, ethnic, and gender differences; generational relationships; urban spaces; natural environment; and education and knowledge. Manuscripts (max. 7500 words) may be submitted in German, English, or French and should conform to *Seminar* guidelines (www.humanities.ualberta.ca/Seminar/submissions.htm). Questions may be directed to Peter McIsaac (pmcisaac@yorku.ca), Gabrielle Mueller (gmueller@yorku.ca), or Diana Spokiene (spokiene@yorku.ca). **Deadline: September 1.**

Call for Proposals. "Nationalisms Across the Globe," a new book series from Peter Lang Verlag. Although in the 1980s the widely shared belief was that nationalism had become a spent force, the fragmentation of the studiously non-national Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, and

Czechoslovakia in the 1990s into a multitude of successor nation-states reaffirmed its continuing significance. Today all extant polities (with the exception of the Vatican) are construed as nation-states, and hence nationalism is the sole universally accepted criterion of statehood legitimation. Similarly, human groups wishing to be recognized as fully-fledged participants in international relations must define themselves as nations. This concept of world politics underscores the need for open-ended, broad-ranging, novel, and interdisciplinary research into nationalism and ethnicity. It promotes better understanding of the phenomena relating to social, political, and economic life, both past and present. This peer-reviewed series publishes monographs, conference proceedings, and collections of articles on this topic. It attracts well-researched, often interdisciplinary, studies that open new approaches to nationalism and ethnicity or focus on interesting case studies. The language of the book series is English, with authors/editors of proposed volumes responsible for meeting the Peter Lang copyediting style. All are requested to contribute to the cost of publication, with guidelines available on request. Proposals and queries should be forwarded to the series editors, Dr. Tomasz Kamusella (Trinity College Dublin, Ireland, and University of Opole, Poland), tomek672@gmail.com, and Dr. Krzysztof Jaskułowski (University of Wrocław, Poland), krzysztofja@interia.pl.

NEW ON THE NET

Online journals and e-books. In the last eight months, the Central and Eastern European Online Library (CEEOL) has added 37 new publications, especially on politics, culture and society, philology/linguistics, and literature. The library now offers 341 full-text humanities and social science periodicals from Central, Eastern, and Southeastern Europe, accessible via www.ceeol.com. In October 2008 the archive exceeded 70,000 documents. As a logical development of CEEOL, they now announce their new platform DiBiDo: eBooks on Central, East, and Southeast Europe, available at www.dibido.eu. DiBiDo offers access to more than 230 eBooks in full text PDF format, including text-based digital re-editions of monographs and similar publications that are out of print, but which are still important for the research on Central and East European topics. In the first phase, only individual users have access to the eBooks. A licensing model for institutional usage of the e-book collection is currently in development. For more information, visit the websites above.

FUNDING & STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

United States/Europe. *Fellowships.* Trans-Atlantic Summer Institute in European Studies, May 20-June 4, 2009, "Transitions in Central and Eastern Europe: Culture, Society, Politics." The DAAD Center for German & European Studies at the University of Minnesota invites applications to the 9th Trans-Atlantic

Summer Institute in European Studies (TASI). TASI will bring together 12 German or other European and 12 North American graduate students for an intensive two-week seminar in Krakow, Poland. Cooperating partners are the Institute of Geography and Spatial Management and the Institute of Sociology at the Jagiellonian University. The Institute will be taught by a multidisciplinary team: Francis Harvey (Geography, University of Minnesota), Tom Wolfe (History, University of Minnesota) and Annamaria Orla-Bukowska (Sociology, Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Poland). The Institute is intended for advanced graduate students from all recognized institutions of higher education. All selected students will receive full fellowships. Full details and application materials at www.cges.umn.edu/fellowships/tasi.htm. **Deadline: March 15.**

United States. Grants. Conference Group for Central European History. The Conference Group for Central European History (CGCEH) invites applications from North American doctoral candidates (ABD) and recent PhDs in Central European history for travel and research grants. CGCEH will award up to five grants at \$6,000 each. Funds are intended to support dissertation research and followup, and may be used for travel between May 1 and December 31, 2009. Applicants should be affiliated, or recently affiliated, with an accredited North American institution of higher education and a member of the Conference Group of Central European History at or near the time of application. Membership in CGCEH is automatic with an individual subscription to the journal *Central European History* (\$25 annually for graduate students and \$40 for others). Details about membership are at cssaame.com/cgceh/inner/membership.htm. **Deadline: March 15.**

Austria. Ernst Mach Grant. This grant is awarded by the ÖAD/ACM on behalf of the BMWF, which funds it. It is open to students from any country except Austria. Grants may be for either a semester or a full academic year. Eligible fields of study are natural sciences, technical sciences, medicine, agriculture and forestry, veterinary medicine, social sciences, law, economics, humanities, theology, and the fine arts. Eligible for application are a) postgraduates pursuing a doctoral/PhD program outside Austria; b) postgraduates and postdocs wishing to pursue research in Austria with a view to an academic career and who completed their studies (at a university outside Austria) after September 30, 2007; c) postdocs who are working as lecturers at a university outside Austria. Applicants under a) have to prove that they are pursuing doctoral/PhD studies, and applicants under c) have to prove that they are employed by a university. Applicants must not have studied/pursued research/pursued academic work in Austria in the last six months before taking up the grant. Maximum age: 35 years (born on or after Oct. 1, 1973). Grant benefits: Monthly grant rate for graduates, € 940; for graduates over 30 years old with a PhD degree, € 1040. Accident and health insurance and accommodation included. Good knowledge of German, particularly in the respective subject area, is a prerequisite. For projects to be carried out in English a good knowledge of English in the respective subject area is required. Proof of proficiency in German or English can be attached to the application. For more information: www.grants.at. Submit your application online at www.scholarships.at. **Deadline: March 1** for scholarships covering the whole academic year (March 1, 2009 for 2009-10, and so forth); **September 1** for summer semester scholarships only (September 1, 2009 for summer 2010, and so forth).

Austrian Cultural Forum Travel Fund in Austrian Studies

The Austrian Cultural Forum New York and the German Studies Association (GSA) are happy to announce the creation of a special travel fund in Austrian Studies, with a preference for those working in Contemporary Austrian Studies (since 1918). These funds are intended exclusively for scholars who are either completing an appropriate advanced degree or who have completed that degree within the past five years, and are to be used exclusively to offset the costs of participating in the annual meeting of the GSA. Scholars from North America and outside North America are eligible to apply for these funds. North Americans are eligible to receive US \$500 to offset travel costs to attend the GSA, while non-North Americans are eligible to receive a stipend of US \$1,000 for the same purpose. Please note that non-North American recipients of this stipend will continue to be eligible for GSA travel grants. Applications from Austria and elsewhere are encouraged, and must be submitted to Prof. David E. Barclay, executive director of the GSA. E-mail: director@thegsa.org. **Deadline: May 15.**

Working Papers in Austrian Studies

The Working Papers in Austrian Studies series serves scholars who study the history, politics, society, economy, and culture of modern Austria and Habsburg Central Europe. It encourages comparative studies involving the Habsburg lands and successor states and other European states, stimulates discussion in the field, and provides a venue for work in progress. It is open to all papers prior to final publication but gives priority to papers by affiliates of the Center and scholars who have given lectures or attended conferences at the Center. Current working papers are published online *only*. If you would like to submit a paper, contact Gary Cohen, director, CAS.

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