THE CONTRIBUTION OF ORAL TESTIMONY TO HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE STUDIES

Fortunoff Video Archive for Holocaust Testimonies

20TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE
October 6, 7, 8, 2002
YALE UNIVERSITY
This conference is dedicated to the memory of Alan M. Fortunoff, William Rosenberg, Laurel F. Vlock, and Dr. Sigi Ziering, who contributed so much to the establishment and development of the Archive.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6
Room 102, Linsly-Chittenden Hall, 63 High Street

9:30 AM
Welcome
Geoffrey Hartman, YALE UNIVERSITY
Hadassah Lieberman

10:00 AM
LISTENING
Chair James Young UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS
Lawrence L. Langer SIMMONS COLLEGE
Philip Gourevitch THE NEW YORKER
Sidney Bolkosky and Henry Greenspan UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

11:15 AM
TEACHING
Chair Paula Hyman YALE UNIVERSITY
Walter Reich GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
Mary Felstiner SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY
Betty Lou Blumberg HAMDEN HALL COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

12:30 PM
Lunch break

2:00 PM
TRAUMA
Chair Dori Laub YALE UNIVERSITY MEDICAL SCHOOL
Robert Kraft OTTERBEIN COLLEGE
Peter Balakian COLGATE UNIVERSITY
Patricia Yaeger UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

3:15 PM
HISTORICAL YIELD
Chair Deborah Dwork CLARK UNIVERSITY
Annette Wiewiorka CNRS, FRANCE
Dahlia Ofer HEBREW UNIVERSITY
Jan Gross NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
Sarah Timperman FONDATION AUSCHWITZ, BRUSSELS

Battell Chapel, Elm and College Streets

4:30 PM
KEYNOTE ADDRESS, ELIE WIESEL
The Imperative of Testimony: Speaking of Unspeakable Evil
Introduction Richard C. Levin, President, YALE UNIVERSITY
MONDAY, OCTOBER 7

Lecture Hall, Sterling Memorial Library

9:30 AM
PATHWAYS TO INTELLECTUAL ACCESS
Chair Alice Prochaska YALE UNIVERSITY
Robert Perks BRITISH LIBRARY NATIONAL SOUND ARCHIVE
Joanne Weiner Rudof YALE UNIVERSITY
Richard Szary YALE UNIVERSITY

10:45 AM
GENRES OF TESTIMONY
Chair Ben Kiernan YALE UNIVERSITY
Roger Simon UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
Ernst van Alphen UNIVERSITY OF LEIDEN
Marianne Hirsch and Leo Spitzer DARTMOUTH COLLEGE

12:00 PM
Lunch break

1:30 PM
SOCIOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES
Chair Kai Erikson YALE UNIVERSITY
Jeffrey Alexander YALE UNIVERSITY
Aleida Assmann UNIVERSITY OF KONSTANZ
Paul Gilroy YALE UNIVERSITY

2:45 PM
FIELD WORK
Chair Susan Suleiman HARVARD UNIVERSITY
Nathan Beyrak ISRAEL
Tony Kushner SOUTHAMPTON UNIVERSITY, U.K.
Henry Roussó INSTITUT D'HISTOIRE DU TEMPS PRÉSENT, CNRS, FRANCE

4:00 PM
Coffee break

4:30-5:30 PM
Summations and Discussion
Chair Geoffrey Hartman YALE UNIVERSITY
Alvin Rosenfeld INDIANA UNIVERSITY
Vivian Liska UNIVERSITY OF ANTWERP

7:30 PM
Witness: Voices from the Holocaust
Room 102, Linsly-Chittenden Hall, 63 High Street
Screening introduced by Associate Producer
Joanne Weiner Rudof

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8

Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

4:30 PM
Symposium Holocaust Literature: Freedoms and Responsibilities
Moderator Sidra Ezrahi HEBREW UNIVERSITY
Aharon Appelfeld, E.L. Doctorow, Irving Feldman
Thane Rosenbaum
ASSOCIATED EVENTS

4:00 PM  FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4
Comparative Literature Library, Bingham Hall, 8th floor
Leona Toker HE BREW UNIVERSITY
“A Comparison of Holocaust and Gulag Literature”

4:00 PM  WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9
Linsly-Chittenden Hall, Room 211
Susan Gubar INDIANA UNIVERSITY
“Poetry and Testimony”

8:00 PM  WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9
HGS 211
Graduate School Colloquium with Joanne Weiner Rudof and Geoffrey Hartman

2:30 PM  THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10
ISPS Conference Room, 77 Prospect Street
Patricia Klindienst INDEPENDENT SCHOLAR
“The Seed Remembers: Native American and Cambodian Genocide Survivors and their Gardens”

The Fortunoff Video Archive for Holocaust Testimonies, founded in 1982, is dedicated to the recording, collection and preservation of videotaped oral testimonies of survivors and witnesses. The Archive holds more than 4,200 testimonies and over 10,000 hours of videotape, recorded in cooperation with 37 affiliate projects in North America, South America, Europe, Israel, and the former Soviet Union. The Archive advises students, scholars, and educational associations; catalogs its testimonies to make them intellectually accessible; and loans programs of testimony excerpts to educators, schools, and community groups.

The 20th anniversary conference was made possible by a major gift from Darrell Ross (YALE, 1969).

Additional funding was provided by the Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library, the Charles H. Revson Foundation, James and Jacqueline Gordon (YALE, 1998), the Judaic Studies Program, the Edward J. and Dorothy Clarke Kempf Memorial Fund, Patricia and Robert Weis (YALE, 1941), and the Yale University Library.

For the Associated Events, special thanks to the Department of Comparative Literature, the Department of English, the Genocide Studies Program, and the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures.

Please visit the exhibit in the Memorabilia Room of Sterling Memorial Library (Wall Street entrance).

Conference Rapporteurs
Ulrich Baer NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
Michael Rothberg UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS/URBANA-CHAMPAIGN
Jared Stark COR NELL UNIVERSITY