

# Archives in / of Transit: Historical Perspectives from the 1930s to the Present

**Workshop, June 28 & 29 2024, Los Angeles**



Conveners: German Historical Institute Washington; USC Shoah Foundation; Holocaust Research Institute, Royal Holloway; University of London; Queen Mary, University of London; Wiener Holocaust Library, London; USC Dornsife Center for Advanced Genocide Research

Partners: Thomas Mann House, Los Angeles; Villa Aurora, Los Angeles; Feuchtwanger Memorial Library, University of Southern California, Los Angeles



# Program

**Friday, June 28, 2024**

**Location: USC Shoah Foundation Offices**

8:30 am – 9:15 am    Registration / Coffee and pastries

9:15 am

**Welcome**

Jennifer Rodgers

(USC Shoah Foundation)

Simone Lässig

(German Historical Institute Washington)

9:30 – 11:30 am

**Panel 1: Silence and Experience**

*Chair: Simone Lässig (German Historical Institute Washington)*

Phi Nguyen (Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne): Where Did the Boats Go? Silenced Tales of Vietnamese Repatriated Refugees from Hong Kong

Atina Grossmann (Cooper Union, New York): What Remains of the “In-Between”: Tracing Experience and Afterlife of Refuge in the Orient

11:30–12:30 pm

**Lunch**

12:30–1:30 pm

**Archives session:** *Feuchtwanger Memorial Library*, University of Southern California, Los Angeles

1:30 – 3:00 pm

**Panel 2: Knowledge and Networks**

*Chair: Swen Steinberg (Queen’s University, Kingston, Ontario)*

Eliyana Adler (Penn State University): Networks of Knowledge: Polish Jewish Holocaust Memorial Books as Archives in/of Transit

William Pimlott (Holocaust Research Institute, Royal Holloway, University of London): YIVO’s Foreign Sections: Building Transnational Immigrant History Before, During and After the Holocaust

3:00 – 3:30 pm

**Break**

3:30–5:00 pm

**Panel 3: Music and Fashion**

*Chair: Dan Stone (Holocaust Research Institute, Royal Holloway, University of London)*

Svenja Bethke (University of Leicester): Making Clothes, Designing Fashion: Jewish Migrant Knowledge between Nazi-Occupied Europe and the British Mandate for Palestine

Andrea Orzoff (New Mexico State University, Las Cruces): Music as Migrant Archive: European Musical Refugees in Latin America, 1935–1945

7:00 pm

**Reception** at the *Thomas Mann House* followed by a **Discussion** with Julia Franck (Thomas Mann Fellow) and Andrea Orzoff (New Mexico State University, Las Cruces) on “Exile and Archives in Literature and Music”

**Saturday, June 29, 2024**

**Location: Villa Aurora**

10:00–10:30 am

**Breakfast:** Coffee and pastries

10:30 am–12:30 pm

**Panel 4: Solidarity, Gender, and Activism**

*Chair: Jane Freeland (Queen Mary, University of London)*

Christopher Neumaier (Leibniz Centre for Contemporary History, Potsdam): Gender Roles in Transit: Impact of Immigrant Background on Work and Housekeeping in West Germany, 1970s–1990s

Tori Martinez (Linköpings Universitet): Lost Knowledge in a Hidden Archive: Ludwika Broel-Plater’s Agency and Activism as a Forced Migrant in Sweden

Robert Andrejczyk (Józef Piłsudski Museum, Sulejówek): Refugees in Need – Museum in Action. Case Study of Józef Piłsudski Museum in Sulejówek

12:30–1:30 pm

**Lunch**

1:30–2:30 pm

**Tour** of the *Villa Aurora*

2:30–4:00 pm

**Panel 5: Collections and Agency**

*Chair: Jennifer Rodgers (USC Shoah Foundation)*

Charlotte Lerg (Ludwig Maximilian University, Munich): When Libraries Take Flight. Migrating and Re-assembling Destructed Archives of Cultural Knowledge in Times of War

Miriam Chorley-Schulz (University of Oregon, Eugene): The Making of the We Refugees Archive

4:00 – 4:15 pm

**Break**

4:15 –5:45 pm

**Panel 6: War and Violence**

*Chair: Christine Schmidt (Wiener Holocaust Library, London)*

Elissa Mailänder (Science Po, Paris): The Archives in our Attics: Material Hermeneutics of Vernacular Wehrmacht Photography

Jadzia Biskupska (Sam Houston State University, Huntsville): Settlers, Partisans, and Expellees: Framing the Consequences of the SS Colony in Zamość

5:45 –6:00 pm

**Final discussion**

*Chairs: Jennifer Rodgers, Simone Lässig and Swen Steinberg*

**Workshop Location:**

**USC Shoah Foundation**

650 USC McCarthy Way  
Los Angeles, CA 90089

**Other Locations:**

**Feuchtwanger Memorial Library**

University of Southern California  
205 Doheny Memorial Library, Los Angeles, CA 90089

**Thomas Mann House**

1550 San Remo Drive  
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

**Villa Aurora**

520 Paseo Miramar  
Pacific Palisades, CA 90727

**Photo Credit:** German loot stored in church at Ellingen, Germany found by troops of the U.S. Third Army, April 24 1945, source: [Wikimedia Commons](#)