

TENTH ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM OF THE FRIENDS OF THE GERMAN HISTORICAL INSTITUTE AND AWARD OF THE FRITZ-STERN DISSERTATION PRIZE

Symposium at the GHI, November 9–10, 2001. Convener: Konrad Jarausch (President, Friends of the GHI). Participants: Eva Giloi Bremner (Princeton University), Christof Mauch (GHI), Bernd Schäfer (GHI), Fritz Stern (Columbia University), Jonathan Zatin (Massachusetts Institute of Technology).

The Friends of the German Historical Institute convened in Washington on November 9–10, 2001, for their tenth symposium, chaired by Professor Konrad Jarausch, President of the Friends. The morning of November 9 featured the presentation of the Fritz Stern Dissertation Prizes, one of the GHI's most joyous occasions, thanks to the Friends, especially when it takes place, as it did this year, in the presence of Professor Fritz Stern. The Prize committee, composed of Professors James Brophy (University of Delaware), Elisabeth Heineman (University of Iowa), and Jonathan Petropoulos (Claremont McKenna College), who chaired the committee, awarded this year's Stern Prizes to Eva Giloi Bremner (Ph.D., Princeton University) and Jonathan Zatin (Ph.D., University of California at Berkeley).

A capacity audience enjoyed the presentation "Ich kaufe mir den Kaiser! Royal Relics and the Culture of Display in Nineteenth-Century Prussia" by Eva Giloi Bremner. In the words of the prize citation, Bremner's work presented a "highly creative combination of institutional history, the history of consumption, and the study of high and popular culture." This was followed by Jonathan Zatin's no less fascinating paper on "The Currency of Socialism: Money in the German Democratic Republic and German Unification, 1971–1989," a "financial history" as well as "a very serious and fundamental intervention into the social science of money." Questions from the floor concluded the morning program.

In the afternoon, Dr. Bernd Schäfer, Research Fellow at the GHI, made a convincing case for reclaiming historiography from the spin of contemporary political actors in his presentation on "Triangular Diplomacy Reconsidered: New Sources and American Foreign Policy, 1969–76." The archival paper trail of those years, combined with the careful evaluation of personal memoirs, promises to yield new insights and a fuller understanding of this still highly disputed subject.

The Friends convened again on Saturday to review programs and activities of the past year and plan for the coming year. Dr. Christof Mauch, and the Institute's fellows and staff are deeply grateful for the continued guidance and support provided by the Friends.

Malve Burns