Annual Lectures

The Annual Lecture series was initiated in 1987, and two historians, Bernard Bailyn of Harvard University and Heinrich August Winkler of the University of Freiburg, presented programmatic lectures in fields that were to become central to the future work of the GHI: the Germans’ role in the peopling of America, and the causes and historical consequences of the Nazi era. Since then, the Institute has invited prominent lecturers, primarily from Germany and the United States, who have covered a wide range of topics and time periods. All Annual Lectures given at the German Historical Institute have been published, first as independent publications and since 1998 as a feature in the *Bulletin of the German Historical Institute*.

November 20, 2003

Eric Foner, Columbia University

*The Idea of Freedom in American History*

Jürgen Kocka, Social Science Research Center, Berlin

*Comments*


November 18, 2004

Ute Frevert, Yale University
*Europeanizing German History*

David Blackbourn, Harvard University
*Comments*

November 17, 2005

Kenneth T. Jackson, Columbia University
*Transnational Borderlands: Metropolitan Growth in the United States, Germany, and Japan since World War II*

Adelheid von Saldern, University of Hanover
*Comment: The Suburbanization of German and American Cities*

November 16, 2006

Aleida Assmann, University of Constance
*Europe: A Community of Memory?*

Peter Novick, University of Chicago
*Comment*

November 15, 2007

James Sheehan, Stanford University
Hertie Lectures

Each year on or around October 3, the GHI holds a lecture and symposium to mark German Reunification Day, inviting important public figures to comment on changes in Germany and Europe since 1990. Since 2003, these lectures have been sponsored by Hertie.

October 3, 2003
Jens Reich
*My Germany: Reflections on my Country before and after 1989*

October 6, 2004
Markus Meckel
*The Role of Germany and Europe in the World: 15 Years after the End of the East-West Conflict*

October 3, 2005
Monika Maron
*Historical Upheavals, Fractured Identities*

October 3, 2006

Janusz Reiter and Gesine Schwan

Bridging the Oder: Reflections on Poland, Germany, and the Transformation of Europe

October 3, 2007

Bärbel Boley

Reflections on Unification

Spring and Fall Lecture Series

Each spring and fall, the GHI organizes a public lecture series held at the institute. The themes are usually chosen by the GHI’s research fellows, who play a central role in preparing the series. These lectures are regularly followed by lively discussions between the speakers and the audience.
Spring 2003
Germany’s America, 1945–Present

February 27
Richard Kuisel, Georgetown University
The Americanization of Europe: Fact or Fiction?

March 13
Bernd Greiner, Hamburger Institut für Sozialforschung
The Watershed Decade: Americanization and Anti-Americanism in East and West Germany in the 1960s: A Prelude to Current Controversies

March 20
Heidrun Kämper, Institut für Deutsche Sprache, Mannheim
The Language of the Victors: The Americanization of the German Language and German Identity after 1945

April 24
Klaus J. Milich, Humboldt-Universität, Berlin
Characters and Contexts: (Mis-)Understanding Cultural Perceptions in the German-American Sphere

May 8
Bess Rothenberg, Clemson University
Germany’s America/America’s Germany: Americans and Germans Speak about the Nation

Fall 2003
Narrating History—Memoirs and Memories

October 2
Georg and Wilma Igers, State University of New York at Buffalo/Canisius College at Buffalo
Two Sides of History—Two Lives in Dialogue

October 9
Martina Wagner-Egelhaaf, Münster University
Memory and Memories: The Art of Autobiography
October 23

Johannes Fried, Frankfurt University
*Remembered Facts: Bohr and Heisenberg in Copenhagen*

November 6

Peter Gay, Yale University
*A Personal German Question*

November 13

Raphael Gross, Leo Baeck Institute, London
*Memory—Morality—Guilt: Relegating Nazism to the Past in Postwar Germany*

December 11

Steven Muller, Johns Hopkins University
*My Journey from Hamburg to Hollywood: A Peripatetic Youth*

Spring 2004

**History in Film—Film in History**

March 22

Johannes von Moltke, University of Michigan
*Heimat, Heritage, and the Histories of German Cinema*
Followed by a screening of *Jewboy Levi (Viehjud Levi)*, Germany, 1998

April 5

Thomas Saunders, University of Victoria, British Columbia
*Hollywood’s Great War and Weimar Germany*
Followed by a screening of *What Price Glory?* USA, 1926

April 19

Piers Armstrong, Dartmouth College
*Cannibalizing History: Recastings of the European-Indigenous Encounter in Brazil*
Followed by a Screening of *Hans Staden*, Brazil, 1999

May 3

Christoph Strupp, GHI
*How the West Was Sold: Karl May’s America and the German Cinema*
Followed by a screening of *Apache Gold (Winnetou I)*, Germany, 1963
May 17
Sabine Hake, University of Pittsburgh
*At the Movies: Film Audiences in the Third Reich*
Followed by a screening of *Request Concert (Wunschkonzert)*, Germany 1940

**Fall 2004**  
**Science, Technology, and Culture in German History**

September 23
Thomas P. Hughes, University of Pennsylvania
*Engineering and Cultural Crises: Germany and America*

October 28
Cathryn Carson, University of California, Berkeley
*The German Idea of Natural Science: Heidegger, Habermas, Heisenberg*

November 11
Mark Walker, Union College
*Otto Hahn: Responsibility and Repression*

December 2
Kathryn Olesko, Georgetown University
*The Forgotten Past: Other Cultures of Science and Technology in German History*

December 9
Paul Lerner, University of Southern California
*Pathological Modernity? Psychiatry and Social Problems in Late Nineteenth-and Early Twentieth-Century Germany*

**Spring 2005**  
**Germany 1945: Liberation, Defeat, Reckoning**

February 24
Sybille Steinbacher, Ruhr University Bochum/Harvard University
*Auschwitz: The Liberation of the Camp and the End of the German Musterstadt*
March 17
Nicholas Stargardt, Magdalen College, Oxford University
*Play in Destruction: War Children in Nazi Germany*

March 31
Elizabeth Heineman, University of Iowa
*General of the Lustwaffe: Beate Uhse and Germans’ Experience of Sexuality over 1945*

April 21
Peter Longerich, Royal Holloway, University of London
*Confronting the End: Reflections on Nazi Leaders in 1945*

April 25
Richard Overy, University of Exeter
*Victors’ Justice? The Nuremberg Trial and the Invention of International Crime*

May 19
Eberhard Illner, Historical Archive of the City of Cologne
*The Iconography of Victory Reporting the American Occupation of Cologne*

Fall 2005
One Hundred Years of German Expressionism:
Painters and Patrons, Politics and the Public

September 8
Robert Rosenblum, Institute of Fine Arts, New York University
*German Expressionism: Nineteenth-Century Roots*

September 19
Laird Easton, California State University, Chico
*From Impressionism to Expressionism: Harry Graf Kessler on Modern Art and its Public in Imperial Germany*

October 6
Reinhold Heller, University of Chicago
*“A Non-Male German Talent”: Gabriele Münter’s Work Perceived through Wassily Kandinsky’s Eyes*
October 27
Shulamith Behr, Courtauld Institute of Art, University of London
Künstlergruppe Brücke and the Public Sphere: The Formation of the Modern Woman Patron and Collector

November 3
Annegret Hoberg, Städtische Galerie im Lenbachhaus, Munich
Franz Marc at the Lenbachhaus

November 10
Jonathan Petropoulos, Claremont McKenna College
Expressionism and the Third Reich

December 8
Christian Saehrendt, Humboldt University, Berlin
“Kunst der Freiheit” or “Phänomen spätbürgerlicher Dekadenz”? The Art of Die Brücke in the Cold War

Spring 2006
Competing Modernities:
Germany and the United States—1890 to the Present

February 16
Kathryn Olesko, Georgetown University, and Christoph Strupp, GHI
Knowledge: Science & Education in Germany and the United States

April 6
Anton Kaes, University of California, Berkeley
Cinema and the Urban Imagination in Germany and the United States

April 13
Manfred Berg, University of Heidelberg, and Dieter Gosewinkel, Berlin Center for Social Science Research
Modern Constitutional Law and Legal Culture in Germany and the United States

May 11
Eileen Boris, University of California, Santa Barbara, and Christiane Eifert, University of Bielefeld
Gender and the Family in Germany and the United States
May 18
Heinz-Gerhard Haupt, European University Institute, Florence, and Paul Nolte, Free University, Berlin
Markets and Consumer Culture in Germany and the United States

May 25
Christof Mauch, GHI, and Kiran Klaus Patel, Humboldt University, Berlin
Two Nations’ Natures: Environment in America and Germany

Fall 2006
Competing Modernities: Germany and the United States—1890 to the Present (continued)

September 21
Tobias Brinkmann, University of Southampton, and Ari Sammartino, Oberlin College
Migration in Germany and the United States

October 5
Fitzhugh Brundage, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and Konrad Jarausch, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
Mass Politics in Germany and the United States: Paradoxes of Participation

October 26
Dirk Schumann, GHI, and Judith Sealander, Bowling Green State University
Discipline: Schools, the Military, and the Shaping of Future Citizens in Germany and the United States, 1890–2000

November 2
Thomas Bender, New York University, and Michael Geyer, University of Chicago
Empire and Nation: Studies from the United States and Germany

November 9
Daniel Letwin, Pennsylvania State University; Gabriele Metzler, University of Tübingen
The Welfare State in Germany and the United States
November 30
Colleen Dunlavy, University of Wisconsin, Madison
*Labor and Industry in the United States and Germany*

December 7
Philipp Gassert, University of Heidelberg, and Christina von Hodenberg, Queen Mary College, University of London
*Media in the United States and Germany*

December 14
Simone Lässig, Georg-Eckert-Institut für Schulbuchforschung, Braunschweig, and Rainer Praetorius, Helmut Schmidt University, Hamburg
*Religion in the United States and Germany*

Spring 2007
**Empire in German and American History**

March 1
Sebastian Conrad, Free University of Berlin
*Globalization and Nation: The German Empire until 1918*

March 8
Charles Maier, Harvard University
*Among Empires: American Ascendancy and Its Predecessors*

March 29
Geoff Eley, University of Michigan
*Empire by Land or Sea: Germany’s Imperial Imaginary*

April 19, 2007
Victoria De Grazia, Columbia University
*Irresistible Empire? America’s Global Cultural Attraction*

May 10, 2007
Birthe Kundrus, Hamburg Institute for Social Research
*Colonialism and German Notions of Empire, 1918–1945*
Fall 2007
The “German Autumn” of 1977:
Terror, State, and Society in West Germany

September 27
Jeffrey Herf, University of Maryland
*Ideology and Terror in the Red Decade: Reflections on Communism, Anti-Zionism, and the Memory of Terrorism’s Victims*

October 25
Jeremy Varon, Drew University
*Refusing to be “Good Germans”: New Left Violence as a Global Phenomenon*

November 1
Klaus Weinhauer, University of Bielefeld
*Terror and Security: Law Enforcement, the Media, and Social Change in West Germany during the 1970s*

November 8
Detlef Siegfried, University of Copenhagen
*Militant Subcultures: The Origins of West German Terrorism in the Late 1960s*

November 29
Rebecca Witmann, University of Toronto
*Stammheim and Majdanek: Prosecuting Terrorists and Nazis in 1970s West Germany*

**Gerd Bucerius Lectures**

The Gerd Bucerius Lectures are made possible by a generous grant from the Ebelin and Gerd Bucerius ZEIT Foundation in Hamburg. Since 2001, the German Historical Institute has invited eminent German public figures to deliver a speech on current issues in transatlantic relations.

May 5, 2003
Rita Süßmuth, University of Göttingen/Former President of the German Bundestag
*People on the Move: The Challenges of Migration in Transatlantic Perspective*
September 17, 2003
Helmut Schmidt, former Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany
*The Global Situation: A European Point of View*

September 27, 2004
W. Michael Blumenthal, Director, Jewish Museum Berlin and Former US Secretary of the Treasury
*The Closest of Strangers: German-American Relations in Historical Perspective*

June 29, 2005
Timothy Garton Ash, University of Oxford
*What Future for the West? Reflections on an Enlarged Europe and the United States in the Twenty-First Century*

May 31, 2006
Kurt Masur, Musical Director, Orchestre National de France; Principal Conductor, London Philharmonic
*My Relationship to Beethoven*

May 22, 2007

Joschka Fischer, Former German Foreign Minister and Visiting Professor, Princeton University

*Between Kosovo and Iraq: The Process of Redefining the Transatlantic Relationship*

## Edmund Spevack Memorial Lectures

Edmund Spevack was a Research Fellow at the GHI from 1997–1999. He died on July 2, 2001, after a long battle with cancer. This lecture series was initiated to honor his memory. Each year through 2006, a lecture was held at Harvard University, where Spevack studied and lectured, in Adams House, with which Spevack had long been affiliated. The lectures pertained to German-American relations, Spevack’s area of specialization.
November 7, 2003, Adams House, Harvard University

Kathleen Neils Conzen

*Immigrants and the Republic: German Catholics in Nineteenth-Century America*

October 22, 2004, Adams House, Harvard University

Andreas Daum

*Happening with a Royal Touch: John F. Kennedy and the Germans*

November 22, 2005, Adams House, Harvard University

Robert Gerald Livingston, Senior Visiting Fellow, GHI, and former director, American Institute for Contemporary German Studies, John Hopkins University

*Amerian Presidents and the Germans, 1945–2005*

October 20, 2006, Adams House, Harvard University

Mack Walker, Johns Hopkins University

*Parsing Prussian Personality: Christian Thomasius and the Psychogram*
Other Lectures

In addition to the lectures listed above, the German Historical Institute hosts other lectures in connection with a variety of events.

2003

March 27, 2003
A. James McAdams, University of Notre Dame
_Transitional Justice after 1989: Is Germany So Different?_
Keynote address at the conference “Historical Justice in International Perspective: How Societies are Trying to Right the Wrongs of the Past”

October 16, 2003
Liliane Weissberg, University of Pennsylvania
_Reflecting on the Past, Envisioning the Future: New Perspectives in German-Jewish Studies_
First joint lecture of the Leo Baeck Institute, New York, and the German Historical Institute

December 4, 2003
David Blackbourn, Harvard University
_“Time is a Violent Torrent”: Constructing and Reconstructing Rivers in Modern Germany_
Keynote address at the conference “Rivers in History: Designing and Conceiving Waterways in Europe and North America”

2004

April 14, 2004, Goethe-Institut, Washington, DC
Steven Ozment, Harvard University
_A Mighty Fortress: A New History of the German People_

2005

March 3, 2005
Arif Dirlik, University of Oregon
_Performing the World: Reality and Representation in the Making of World Histor(ies)_
Keynote address at the “Teaching World History” conference at the GHI
December 1, 2005

Anne Whiston Spirn, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
_Urban Nature and Human Design_
Keynote lecture at the conference “The Place of Nature in the City in Twentieth-Century Europe and North America”

2006

February 20, 2006

Timothy Benson, Robert Gore Rifkind Center for German Expressionist Studies, Los Angeles County Museum of Art
_DADA—The Geographic Dimension_

May 15, 2006

Gerhard A. Ritter, Ludwig-Maximilians-University, Munich
_Meinecke’s Protégés: German Emigré Historians Between Two Worlds_

2007

March 21, 2007

Max Weber—A Passionate Thinker
Debate between Joachim Radkau (University of Bielefeld) and Lawrence Staff (University of California at Berkeley)

June 12, 2007

Matthew S. Witkovsky, National Gallery of Art
Lecture at the GHI in conjunction with the exhibit at the National Gallery of Art
_Foto and Modernity: An Overview_

June 26, 2007

Daniel H. Magilow, University of Tennessee
Lecture at the GHI in conjunction with the exhibit at the National Gallery of Art
_Here Comes the New Photographer!: The 1929 Film und Foto Exhibition and Photography’s Emergence as a Language_