



*Mural in Comalapa, Guatemala*

**USC Shoah  
Foundation**

*Center for Advanced Genocide Research*

*January 2017*

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The Center started the new year by welcoming a number of fellows who are incorporating testimonies from the Visual History Archive into their research and teaching. Texas A&M A.I. and Manet Schepps Foundation Teaching Fellow Tommy Curry visited the Center in order to prepare for introducing testimonies to his class on the criminalization and death of Black males. He plans to analyze sexual violence against men and boys during genocide in comparison to accounts of sexual violence against men and boys during slavery and Jim Crow. The Center also welcomed its inaugural Katz Research Fellow in Genocide Studies, Teresa Walch. Walch's dissertation project focuses in part on the exclusion of German Jews from their own homeland during the Holocaust. She discusses how space played a crucial role in the Nazi rise to and consolidation of power. Read more about these fellows below.

This month the Center also announced the first recipients of our most esteemed fellowship, two of the world's leading experts on the subject of the Holocaust. As the inaugural 2015-2016 Sara and Asa Shapiro Scholar we appointed David Cesarani (Royal Holloway London). Since he unfortunately passed away before he could come to Los Angeles, the Center hosted a symposium in his honor last semester, which you can read more about [here](#). Professor Omer Bartov (Brown University) will serve as the 2016-2017 Sara and Asa Shapiro Scholar in Residence. He will visit the Center in May. (Read more about Professor Bartov below.)

The 2017-2018 Center Research Fellowship has been awarded to Utrecht University's Geraldien von Frijtag Drabbe Künzel. Her research during her fellowship will focus on the impact of the Holocaust on ordinary people in the Netherlands. Through testimony, she aims to uncover how relationships between Jews and their non-Jewish neighbors developed or changed from the early 1930s until the late 1950s. Read more about her below.

With more research fellows arriving in February and March, we are eagerly anticipating another productive and exciting year.

Thank you all for your ongoing support of the Center and our activities to foster research on genocide, mass violence, racism and the resistance to it that is now more necessary than ever.

Sincerely,

Wolf Gruner

Founding Director of the USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research  
Professor of History and Shapell-Guerin Chair in Jewish Studies

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## Events

### Center Director Wolf Gruner Speaks on Nazi Propaganda at the University of Southern California

Center Director Wolf Gruner spoke on a panel about the Nazi propaganda film *Triumph of the Will* at a screening at USC's School of Cinematic Arts. The panel addressed the history of the film and its impact on World War II and modern media. Professor Gruner was joined by Michael Renov (Haskell Wexler Endowed Chair in Documentary, Professor of Cinema & Media Studies and Vice Dean for Academic Affairs at the USC School of Cinematic Arts) and Steven Ross (Professor of History and Director of the Casden Institute for the Study of the Jewish Role in American Life.)



Read more [here](#).

### Center Co-Sponsors Symposium on German-Jewish Activists

Center Director Wolf Gruner moderated a panel exploring the historical and cultural contexts of the works of Rabbi Joachim Prinz (1902-1988) and composer Kurt Weill (1900-1950) right before World War II. This panel was part of one-day symposium organized by UCLA called "Championing Civil Rights and Resisting Injustice". The entire day was devoted to putting the lives and works of Rabbi Prinz and Weill in conversation with one another by examining their shared historical foundation and their specific contributions to the arena of social justice in Nazi Germany and later as emigrants in the United States.

Read more [here](#).

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## Research

### Tommy Curry, Texas A&M Teaching Fellow 2016-2017

Professor Tommy Curry was awarded this year's Texas A&M A.I. and Manet Schepps Teaching

Fellowship, which invites the selected applicant to spend one week in residence at USC Shoah Foundation conducting research in the Visual History Archive in order to incorporate testimony into their teaching and research. His research interests focus on Africana philosophy and critical race theory, and specifically he studies the racialization of Black men and boys and their oppression as victims of rape, sexual abuse and sexual traumas. During his time at the Center, he used the Visual History Archive to find testimonies of male Holocaust and Armenian genocide survivors who describe experiencing or witnessing sexual abuse. Tommy Curry will incorporate some of these testimony clips into a graduate seminar he teaches at Texas A&M about Black male death and dying.



Read a profile of Professor Tommy Curry [here](#). Read more about his research and watch an interview with him [here](#).



### **Teresa Walch, Inaugural Robert J. Katz Research Fellow in Genocide Studies 2016-2017**

Teresa Walch, Ph.D. candidate in modern European history at UC San Diego and recipient of USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research's inaugural Robert J. Katz Research Fellowship in Genocide Studies, is using her month-long residency at the Center to incorporate the voices of individual survivors into her dissertation research on the reorganization of space in Nazi Germany. She is exploring testimonies in which Jewish survivors

describe their gradual exclusion from public spaces from the 1930s onwards. These testimonies will complement the wealth of governmental and institutional documents she has collected from archives in Berlin.

Read more about Teresa Walch and watch an interview with her [here](#).

### **Omer Bartov, 2016-2017 Sara and Asa Shapiro Scholar in Residence**

Professor Omer Bartov was awarded the 2016-2017 Sara and Asa Shapiro Scholar in Residence fellowship. Bartov is considered one of the world's leading experts on the subject of the Holocaust. His research has covered such topics as the Nazi indoctrination of the Wehrmacht and the crimes it

committed in World War II, the links between total war and genocide, antisemitic stereotypes in cinema, and interethnic relations in the borderlands of Eastern Europe. During his residency, Bartov intends to conduct research in the Visual History Archive on his newest project: the experiences of Holocaust survivors who immigrated to Palestine after World War II. He is interested in what survivors say about how they communicated with the locals, the communities they formed, and what they thought about their new home.

Read more [here](#).



## Geraldien von Frijtag Drabbe Künzel, 2017-2018 Center Research Fellow

Geraldien von Frijtag Drabbe Künzel was awarded the 2017-2018 Center Research Fellowship at USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research. Professor von Frijtag's residence will begin in August 2017. During her four-month residency, she will focus on the impact of the Holocaust on ordinary people in the Netherlands, using testimony to uncover how relationships between Jews and their non-Jewish neighbors developed or changed from the early 1930s until the late 1950s. Using testimonies as part of her microhistorical approach will enrich Dutch Holocaust historiography by providing historical accounts "from below," from the level of the individuals, focusing on the thoughts, feelings, interactions, and experiences of ordinary people in five major cities in the Netherlands.

Read more [here](#).



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## Outreach

### Center Staff Attends the Association for Jewish Studies Annual Meeting

In December, at the annual meeting of the Association for Jewish Studies (AJS), held this year in San Diego, California, the Center hosted a booth to provide information to attendees about the Visual History Archive, the Center, and the USC Shoah Foundation. The Center's Research Program Officer Martha Stroud played testimonies on an ongoing basis, answered questions, introduced the Visual History Archive to many scholars, assisted some researchers with complex searches, and supported others in refining their searches to improve their success with research results. Throughout the three days of the exhibition, scholars from fields other than Holocaust and Genocide Studies were able to discover the power and relevance of the Visual History Archive for their research and teaching in Jewish Studies on a global scale. Center director Wolf Gruner also chaired a panel at the AJS, and gave a talk on individual Jewish resistance.

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## Upcoming Events

**February 9, 2017**

[Teresa Walch's lecture: "Excluding Jews from Their Homeland and Erasing 'Jewish Spaces' in Nazi Germany"](#)

**February 21, 2017**

[Lee Ann Fujii's lecture: "Everyday Forms of Resistance: Evidence from the Killing Fields of Bosnia, Rwanda, and the United States"](#)

**March 7, 2017**

[Katja Schatte's lecture: "Between Scholarship and Community Engagement: Exploring Pre- and Post-Reunification Jewish Life in East Berlin"](#)

**March 8, 2017**

[Bogdan's Journey \(Film Screening\)](#)

**April 4, 2017**

Save the date for an event featuring the Center's USC Summer 2016 research fellows

**May 8, 2017**

Save the date for a lecture by 2016-2107 Sara and Asa Shapiro Scholar Omer Bartov

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## Opportunities

### Call for Applications

### Third Workshop for Advanced PhD Candidates from North American Universities and Israel who are working on the Holocaust: Due March 15th, 2017

Yad Vashem's International Research Institute and the USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research encourage PhD candidates from the United States, Canada, and Israel to submit their applications for this joint workshop that will bring together graduate students to present their dissertation projects on the Holocaust, including its antecedents and aftermath, to exchange ideas, and conduct research in the Yad Vashem Archives. The workshop will take place from 25-29 June 2017 at Yad Vashem, The World Holocaust Remembrance Center, in Jerusalem, Israel. All topics on the Holocaust and proposals from all disciplines are open for consideration.

For more details, click [here](#).

### International Teaching Fellowship 2017-2018: Due March 31st, 2017

The International Teaching Fellowship provides support for university and college faculty to integrate testimonies from the USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive (VHA) into new or existing courses. The fellowship is open to all disciplinary and methodological approaches. It is available to faculty at universities and colleges worldwide that subscribe to the USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive.

For more details, click [here](#).

In addition, click below to read about an opportunity for a teaching fellowship at:

[Texas A&M University \(A.I. and Manet Schepps Foundation Teaching Fellow Program\)](#)

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## Call for Applications: Deadline Extended!

### Greenberg Research Fellowship

### Katz Research Fellowship in Genocide Studies

### Breslauer, Rutman, & Anderson Research Fellowship

**Due February 15th, 2017**

The Center has extended the deadline for its three research fellowships for advanced-standing PhD candidates. These month-long fellowships will be awarded each to an outstanding advanced Ph.D. candidate from any discipline for dissertation research during the 2017-2018 academic year with innovative approaches focusing on testimony from the USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive and other USC resources.

For more details, click [here](#).

## Center Postdoctoral Research Fellowship

**Due February 15, 2017**

This fellowship for the 2017-2018 academic year will be awarded to a postdoctoral scholar from any discipline who will advance digital genocide research through the use of the USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive. Proposals should emphasize the use of innovative digital methodologies to approach the testimonies of the Visual History Archive.

For more details, click [here](#).

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## Donate to Special Collections

Please consider donating private papers, documents, photographs or films regarding the Holocaust and other genocides. The Center works with USC Libraries Special Collections to preserve private collections and make them accessible for academic research worldwide and student investigation at USC.

To find out more about donating materials, email us as [cagr@usc.edu](mailto:cagr@usc.edu) or call 213-740-6001.

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For more information about the USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research and its work, please visit our website at: [cagr.usc.edu](http://cagr.usc.edu)

To subscribe to the Center's mailing list, [click here](#).



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