

June / July 2015

cagr.usc.edu

From the Director

Los Angeles, August 3rd, 2015

I hope you have been enjoying the summer thus far. I have appreciated the opportunity of spending the past two months with a fellowship of the German Academic Exchange Service in Berlin, conducting research about individual Jewish defiance and protest against the Nazi persecution. During my tenure, I gave talks at two academic conferences and one keynote evening lecture about my current research. I introduced German students and scholars to the testimonies of the USC Shoah Foundation with a workshop and held a seminar about my research on the Holocaust with students of the International Leo Baeck Summer School in Berlin. During the two months, I discussed with fellow scholars and representatives of several academic institutions future cooperation and the exchange of scholars and students between Los Angeles and Germany.

During June and July, we were also busy planning our upcoming program at the Center for the 2015-2016 academic year. For the Fall Semester, the Center will be hosting a variety of exciting events that frame issues of genocide and resistance in both scholarly and humanistic lights. At the beginning of September, documentary film director and historian Walter Manoschek will join us for a screening and ensuing discussion of his latest work "If That's So, Then I'm a Murderer." The film explores the life of Adolf Storms, a former SS man and Hitler youth leader who participated in murdering 57 Jewish slave laborers in the small Austrian town of Deutsch Schützen in March 1945 (for more details see below).

Later in the month Victoria Sanford, Professor and Chair of Anthropology and Founding Director of the Center for Human Rights and Peace Studies at Lehman College, City University of New York, will visit us as co-organizer to prepare with me our upcoming conference on Guatemala in 2016 ([find call for paper here](#)). She will also deliver a lecture on her experiences documenting human rights violations through anthropological methods in Guatemala (for more details see below). Together with the USC Thornton

School of Music and USC Visions and Voices, we are excited to host a two-day event in October that will examine resistance to genocide through an inventive, powerful method - music composition and performance (for more details see below).

Finally, the Center has joined forces with La Fundación de Antropología Forense de Guatemala (FAFG), a Guatemalan organization for forensic anthropology, to collect video testimonies of survivors and witnesses of the Guatemalan Genocide, which killed some 200,000 mostly Mayan civilians in the early 1980s. We hope this additional collection of oral histories will not only preserve memories of eyewitnesses, but also advance public awareness and academic understanding. ([learn more here...](#))

With a new and exciting academic year to look forward to, I wish you a pleasant remainder of your summer.

Wolf Gruner
Director, USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research
Shapell-Guerin Chair in Jewish Studies
Professor of History

Upcoming Events

Film Screening: "If That's So, Then I'm a Murderer:" Adolf Storms and the Massacre on Jews in Deutsch Schützen

September 1st, 2015, 4 pm

USC Main campus, Doheny Memorial Library (DML), room 240

Through interviews and historical footage, the documentary film focuses on the story of Adolf Storms as a young Hitler youth leader and SS man who is suspected of participating in the murder of 57 Jewish slave laborers during the spring of 1945 in the small Austrian town of Deutsch Schützen.

The screening will be followed by a Q&A with the director Walter Manoschek.

For more information please click [here...](#)





"Anthropological Methods for Documenting Human Rights Violations and Genocide:" a Lecture with Victoria Sanford, Ph.D

September 15th, 2015, 4 pm

USC Main campus, Doheny Memorial Library Herklotz Room G 28

Drawing on 25 years of experience investigating human rights violations and genocide in Guatemala, Dr. Sanford will discuss the theory and practice of forensic

exhumations, victim identification, archival and testimonial research, and their interplay in legal processes and community desires for justice. She will explore the ways in which science, law, and justice complement and collide with one another as investigations move forward from the field to legal courts and the court of public opinion.

Dr. Victoria Sanford is Professor and Chair of Anthropology and Founding Director of the Center for Human Rights and Peace Studies at Lehman College, the Graduate Center, City University of New York.

Learn more [here...](#)

Singing in the Lion's Mouth: Music as Resistance to Genocide International Workshop

October 10th-11th, 2015

This two day event will feature screenings of the feature-length documentary films *Screamers* (2006), and *Following the Ninth* (2013). *Screamers*, a film by the Armenian-American director Carla Garapedian, explores how the rock band "System of a Down" employed their songs and did advocacy work to raise awareness of the Armenian Genocide. Kerry Candaele's *Following the Ninth* examines how Beethoven's "Ode to Joy" has historically been used to resist dictatorships,



as for example in Chile and China. The second day will feature an international workshop with speakers from Australia, Indonesia, Germany, the UK, and the United States. They will offer a variety of diverse and innovative presentations on music as resistance to mass violence in the context of the Holocaust, the Indonesian communist purges, apartheid South Africa, and the aftermath of the Armenian Genocide. Finally, the two-day program will conclude with a concert of relevant music performed by USC Thornton student

musicians.

[Learn more...](#)

This event is presented in cooperation with USC Visions and Voices and the USC Thornton School of Music

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 and student investigation.

To find out more about donating materials, please visit our website at cagr.usc.edu or call 213-740-6001.

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

To subscribe to the Center's mailing list, please email cagr@usc.edu

USC Shoah Foundation
The Institute for Visual History and Education
Center for Advanced Genocide Research

USC Dornsife
Dana and David Dornsife
College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

©2014 USC Shoah Foundation
University of Southern California
Leavey Library
650 West 35th Street, Suite 114
Los Angeles, CA 90089
213-740-6001 •
cagr@usc.edu

Share this email:



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt out](#) using **TrueRemove™**

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

650 West 35th Street LVL 114

Los Angeles, CA | 90089 US

This email was sent to soehn@usc.edu.

To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

