

September 2015

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**From the Director**

*Los Angeles, September 30, 2015*

On October 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, the Center will host an exciting series of events at USC. The program *Singing in the Lion's Mouth: Music as Resistance to Genocide* features an international workshop with distinguished scholars from Indonesia, South Africa, Europe and the United States, two documentary film screenings with the filmmakers present, and an evening concert, where USC student musicians perform music pieces that were used as resistance to mass violence and genocide. The center is co-hosting these incredible events together with the USC Thornton School of Music. The program is supported by the USC Vision and Voices program. Since the program is open to the public, I hope that some of you might be able to attend these exciting events. (see below)

The role of music in genocidal settings is also prominent in the film "Intore" that we present on October 13<sup>th</sup>. This documentary by film maker discusses how Rwanda copes with its genocidal past through music, dance, and the resilience of a new generation. The film features performances by Rwanda's top artists as well as interviews with survivors and perpetrators. The filmmaker, Eric Kabera, will join us for a Q&A after the documentary. (see below)

This month, we also welcome our 2015-2016 Center Fellow, Professor Kiril Feferman. Dr. Feferman comes to us from Russia, and will be staying at the Center for a four-month tenure. Feferman received his PhD from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in 2008. In 2009 he published the book *Soviet Jewish Stepchild: The Holocaust in the Soviet Mindset, 1941-1964*, followed in 2015 by the monograph *The Holocaust on the Russian Ethnic Frontier: The Crimea and the North Caucasus*. He edited or co-edited three more books, among them the diary of *Rabbi Chaim Stein* (2014), in Hebrew. In addition to that, he published the textbook *Black Years: Soviet Jewry between Stalin and Hitler, 1939-1953* (2010), in Russian. His current research, which he hopes to advance by using testimonies of the Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive, deals with a subject that is severely underrepresented in the field of Holocaust research: the role that religion played in the lives of Jewish and non-Jewish aid providers, aid recipients and survivors in the Soviet Union. (see below)

We are very much looking forward to this upcoming month, and hope you can join us for these events.

*Wolf Gruner*

*Director, USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research*

*Shapell-Guerin Chair in Jewish Studies*

*Professor of History*

**News**



Dr. Victoria Sanford (Cuny, New York) visited the USC Shoah Foundation Center for Advanced Genocide Research to prepare together with Wolf Gruner the international conference “A conflict? Genocide and Resistance in Guatemala” that will be hosted by the Center at USC in September of 2016. Presenters will come from Guatemala, Mexico, Spain and the United States.

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.

She also successfully presented the lecture, "Anthropological Methods for Documenting Human Rights Violations and Genocide," on September 15, 2015. This Center event was prominently covered on the front page of the Daily Trojan the following day. .

Watch the lecture [here...](#)

Check out the Daily Trojan coverage on the lecture [here...](#)

#### **CAGR co-sponsored events:**

- **September 17-19, 2015:** CAGR co-sponsored conference “Feuchtwanger & Judaism” (presented by the International Feuchtwanger Society) at USC. The conference consisted of three days of academic panels, paper presentations, and film screenings on USC's main campus.
- **September 16, 2015:** The Center co-sponsored event (hosted by the USC Armenian Studies Institute): The Presence of Absence: Photographing Loss and Violence. Armen Marsoobian's talk was on photography, memory, and the lost culture of Armenian Anatolia. Marsoobian is a grandchild of genocide survivors who, unlike most Armenians, has a collection of photographs from the late 19th century and early 20th century, since his family was in the photography business.

## **Upcoming Events**

## **Singing in the Lion's Mouth: Music as Resistance to Genocide**

International Workshop, Film Screenings and Student Concert, 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 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, and apartheid South Africa.

Finally, the two-day program will conclude with a concert of relevant music performed by USC Thornton student musicians.

For more details see [...](#)

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

## **2015/16 Center Fellow:**

### **Kiril Feferman (Moscow)**

Dr. Kiril Feferman, a senior lecturer at the Russian State University for the Humanities in Moscow and head of the educational and research department of the Russian Research and Educational Holocaust Center, is our 2015-16 Center Fellow. He will be in residence at the Center for Advanced Genocide Research from October 12, 2015 through February 12, 2016.

Feferman will be exploring the role that religion played in the lives of Jewish and non-Jewish aid providers, aid recipients and survivors in the Soviet Union during the Holocaust.



He will conduct research in the USC Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive for his upcoming book project. He will also give a public lecture on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016.

[Learn more..](#)

**Intore - A film screening followed by a Q&A with filmmaker Eric Kabera**  
Leavey Auditorium, October 13th, 2015, at 6:30pm

INTORE offers a powerful and rare look at how Rwanda survived its tragic past by regaining its identity through music, dance, and the resilience of a new generation. The 1994 genocide took a toll on Rwanda; the film uniquely portrays the effort to move forward.

The film features music performances from Rwanda's top traditional and commercial artists in music and dance, interwoven with poignant interviews from genocide survivors and perpetrators who sit side-by-side; plus Rwandan leaders, legends, and Hollywood elite.

The filmmaker, Eric Kabera, will join us for a Q&A after the documentary.

[Learn more..](#)



## 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](http://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](http://cagr.usc.edu)**

**To subscribe to the Center's mailing list, please email [cagr@usc.edu](mailto:cagr@usc.edu)**

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

**USC Dornsife**

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