The 35th Annual Jerome Nemer Lecture



The USC Casden Institute, USC Shoah Foundation and USC's Max Kade Institute

PRESENT A SPECIAL FILM AND LECTURE

Art was their weapon. Music, their resistance

DEFIANT REQUIEM

The USC Casden Institute for the Study of the Jewish Role in American Life, the USC Shoah Foundation Institute for Visual History and Education and USC's Max Kade Institute for Austrian-German-Swiss Studies proudly present the 35th Jerome Nemer Lecture and a film documentary, *Defiant Requiem*.

The film highlights a dramatic example of intellectual and artistic courage in Theresienstadt (Terezín) during World War II: the remarkable story of Rafael Schächter, a brilliant, young and passionate Czech opera-choral conductor who was arrested and sent to the camp in 1941. Schächter demonstrated moral leadership under the most brutal circumstances; his performance of the *Verdi Requiem* sustained courage and hope among his fellow prisoners.

This is a film about how a rare form of courage, hope, and survival sparked an entirely unique method of fighting Nazi oppression, enabling prisoners to maintain their dignity and humanity while battling the worst of mankind with the best of mankind. The legacy of Nazi brutality is well established, but the Terezín legacy remains virtually unknown and is told dramatically in Defiant Requiem.

in Detiant Requiem.



LECTURE BY AMERICAN DIPLOMAT AND ATTORNEY

Stuart E. Eizenstat

"How to Provide Imperfect Justice for Holocaust Victims in the 21st Century"

We must perpetuate the memory and lessons of the Holocaust after the eyewitnesses have gone, in ways that will honor the victims of Nazi brutality. This means focusing on Holocaust education in our schools and upholding tolerance and the rule of law in our own age. It requires confronting anti-Semitism in Europe today – the root cause of the Holocaust in the 20th Century – and coun-

tering efforts to delegitimize the State of Israel.

Commentary to follow by Wolf Gruner

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



Sunday, November 15, 2015
Film Screening – 2PM, at Norris Theater
Reception – 4:45PM, Lecture – 5:30PM, at Town and Gown

Reservations requested – Space is Limited — RSVP by November 10 RSVP online at usc.edu/esvp (code: NEMERLECTURE) or phone 213.740.1744 Parking \$12 in Parking Structure X

USC Dornsife

USC Casden Institute USC Shoah Foundation

This Lecture is the thirty-fifth in the Jerome Nemer Lecture Series, which explores the contributions of Jewish thinkers to Western intellectual life. It is made possible by the Jewish Community Foundation; the Swig Foundation; the Buchalter, Nemer, Field and Younger Charitable Foundtaion, and the many friends of Jerome Nemer.

SUPPORT PROVIDED BY THE MAURICE AMADO FOUNDATION