



# Compromised Identities? Perpetration and Complicity, Past and Present

Institute of Advanced Studies, University College London  
Virtual Conference, 6-7 May 2021

## Programme

### Thursday 6 May

*Welcome: 1:00- 1:10*

#### **Panel 1. 1:10-2:10 Gender and genocide**

*Chair:* Bastiaan Willems

*Discussant:* Franziska Karpinski

Thomas Kuehne, 'Masculinity and the Dilemmas of Compromise During the Holocaust'

Stefanie Rauch, 'Gendering and Un-Gendering Transgressive Violence in Postwar Accounts'

Erin McGlothlin, 'Sex in the Shadow of Treblinka: Marital Relations and Culpability in Gitta Sereny's *Into That Darkness*'

#### **Panel 2. 2:30-3:30 Complicity and perpetration in Germany and eastern Europe**

*Chair:* Stephanie Bird

*Discussant:* Jan Burzlaff

Mary Fulbrook, 'Complicity, compliance, and mobilisation for violence'

Leonid Rein, 'Studying East European Perpetrators: The Case of Belarus'

A.C. Bobeldijk, 'Female experiences in Minsk; between victimhood, complicity and perpetration'

**Panel 3. 3:45-4:45 Complicity and perpetration in Germany and western Europe**

*Chair:* Mary Fulbrook

*Discussant:* Iael Nidam Orvieto

Nina Janz, ‘Ambiguities in biographies of Luxembourgish conscripts during and after WWII’

Robby Van Eetvelde ‘Local perpetrators and conflicting pasts. The profile and motivation of collaborators with the Gestapo in Nazi occupied Belgium’

Bastiaan Willems, ‘Public execution in your community: The summary courts of 1945 Germany’

**Panel 4. 5:00-6:00 Individual identities in context: Memory and representation**

*Chair:* Stefanie Rauch

*Discussant:* Piotr Oseka

Gaëlle Fisher, ‘A Compromised Man: Re-evaluating the Role and Legacy of Cernăuți’s / Czernowitz’s Wartime German Consul’

Ellen Pilsworth: ‘“I could have slapped myself”: Complicity and Resistance in Sebastian Haffner’s *Defying Hitler*’

Zoltán Kékesi, ‘Impetus Recovered: Fascist Memory and the Hungarian Exile in Argentina’

**7pm Public event: Pictures from Sobibor: Souvenirs of a death camp perpetrator**

In January 2020, a new photo collection on National Socialist crimes was presented to the public. Consisting of more than 350 pictures from the possession of SS man Johann Niemann, the collection offers new insights into the crimes of ‘euthanasia’ and the genesis of ‘Operation Reinhard’. The collection also helps us to understand how one of the central perpetrators of the Holocaust attempts to stage himself in his private photos, and how seemingly inconspicuous photos from the centre of a death camp function as souvenirs to remember his time in occupied Eastern Europe.

Dr. Andreas Kahrs (Berlin) is a historian and staff member of the Bildungswerk Stanislaw Hantz. He is co-author and co-editor of the book *Fotos aus Sobibor*. For more information, please visit [www.bildungswerk-ks.de](http://www.bildungswerk-ks.de)

The event will take place via Zoom on 6 May 2021, 7:00-8:30 pm BST. **Please register [here](#).** After registration, you will receive an email with further details on how to access this event.

This event is hosted by the UCL Institute of Advanced Studies as part of the AHRC-funded project [Compromised Identities? Reflections on Perpetration and Complicity under Nazism](#).

## Friday 7th May

### **Panel 5. 1:00-2:20 (Re-)constructing / representing compromised identities (i)**

*Chair:* Stephanie Bird

*Discussant:* Shirli Gilbert

Liat Steir-Livny, 'Onlookers, Gainers and Perpetrators in contemporary Israeli Documentary Cinema'

Sue Vice, 'Rethinking Complicity: Zygmunt Bauman and Claude Lanzmann'

Ditte Marie Munch-Juriscic, 'The Destructive View of Perpetrator Disgust'

Nina Fischer, 'Finding myself complicit: Noam Chayut's *The Girl Who Stole My Holocaust* (2013) between Military Service, Nationalized Holocaust Memory, the Silencing of the Nakba, and anti-Occupation Activism'

### **Panel 6. 2:40-4:00 (Re-)constructing / representing compromised identities (ii)**

*Chair:* Stefanie Rauch

*Discussant:* Susanne Knittel

Robert Eaglestone, 'The Public Secret'

Stephanie Bird, '"Compromised Identities?" and Compromising Forgiveness'

Raya Morag, 'Post-Cultural Revolution Chinese Cinema of Betrayal: The Figure of the Collaborator and the Doubling Paradigm'

Juliane Prade-Weiss, 'Complicities, Re-presented: Literary Portrayals in Totalitarianism and Neoliberalism'

### **Panel 7. 4:20-5:40 Institutions, organisations, and normative frameworks**

*Chair:* Bastiaan Willems

*Discussant:* [Kjell Anderson](#)

Adam Knowles, 'Categories of Complicity: Philosophy, Ideology and the Failure of Denazification'

Simon Lavis, 'The Normativity of Complicity: Law, Identity and Violence under Nazi Rule'

Cath Collins, Francisco Bustos and Francisco Ugas, 'Pinochet's "passive accomplices": complicity, perpetration, and economic, moral and criminal culpability in recent Chilean atrocity crime accountability'

Rhea Gretchen Abuso, 'Duterte Publics and the Perpetration of Violence in the Philippines'

**Panel 8. 6:00-7:00 Writing history, representing the past**

*Chair:* Mary Fulbrook

*Discussant:* Liz Harvey

Christina Morina, 'How do we as scholars and researchers relate to the subjects of our inquiry'

Stephan Jaeger, 'Challenging the Museum Visitor? Perpetration, Collaboration, and Complicity during and beyond the Second World War in Contemporary Museum Exhibitions'

Christoph Thonfeld, 'Excess and Normality: West German and Austrian Media and Nazi Crimes Trials from the 1960s to the 1980s'

**7:00-7:30 Concluding Round Table discussion**

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This conference is part of an AHRC-sponsored collaborative research project on *Compromised Identities? Reflections on Perpetration and Complicity under Nazism*. We are very grateful for the financial support of the UK Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) and the Pears Foundation, which have made the research and related activities possible.

*Research team:*

Prof. Mary Fulbrook, Prof. Stephanie Bird, Dr Stefanie Rauch, Dr Bastiaan Willems

See further: <https://compromised-identities.org/>