AROUND ARTHUR SYJK

Berkeley Scholars on Art and History

In the course of the 2018-2019 academic year, Berkeley historians, art historians, media, and Jewish Studies scholars will present insightful research and commentary Around Arthur Szyk in a series of programs at The Magnes.

Tuesday, November 27, 2018
5:30 PM–7:00PM
The Magnes
2121 Allston Way, Berkeley

People, Community, and Visual Culture: Photography as National Socialist Political Practice

ISABEL RICHTER, GERMAN AND HISTORY, UC BERKELEY

Photography occupies an important place within the study of the intersections of visual culture and propaganda during the "Third Reich." This talk will discuss two photographers who had high print runs in Nazi Germany. Heinrich Hoffmann (1885-1957) was well known as Hitler’s official photographer, and as a member of the Nazi inner circle. Erna Lendvai-Dircksen (1883-1962) documented the "faces of the German People (Volk)" in multiple volumes issued during the Nazi era. The analysis of their work will lead to a broader discussion of what photography represents in documenting Nazi crimes and how anti-Nazi caricatures, such as those created by Arthur Szyk, can be understood in their attempt to contrast with Nazi visual culture.

Isabel Richter is DAAD Professor at the Department of History and the Department of German at the University of California Berkeley. She received her Ph.D. from the Technical University of Berlin and her Habilitation from the University of Bochum. Her research interests include cultural history and cultural anthropology, the history of National Socialism, and popular cultures and youth cultures in the 20th century. Her most recent research deals with the boom of traveling overland to India in the 1960s and 1970s.

The Magnes Collection of Jewish Art and Life, University of California, Berkeley
2121 Allston Way, Berkeley, CA 94720-6300 | magnes.berkeley.edu