



THE CONTRIBUTION
OF ORAL TESTIMONY
TO HOLOCAUST AND
GENOCIDE STUDIES

Fortunoff Video Archive for
Holocaust Testimonies

20TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE

October 6, 7, 8, 2002

YALE UNIVERSITY

*This conference is dedicated to the memory
of Alan M. Fortunoff, William Rosenberg,
Laurel F. Vlock, and Dr. Sigi Ziering, who
contributed so much to the establishment
and development of the Archive.*



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6

Room 102, Linsly-Chittenden Hall, 63 High Street

9:30 AM

Welcome

Geoffrey Hartman, YALE UNIVERSITY
Hadassah Lieberman

10:00 AM

LISTENING

Chair James Young UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS
Lawrence L. Langer SIMMONS COLLEGE
Philip Gourevitch THE NEW YORKER
Sidney Bolkosky and Henry Greenspan UNIVERSITY OF
MICHIGAN

11:15 AM

TEACHING

Chair Paula Hyman YALE UNIVERSITY
Walter Reich GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
Mary Felstiner SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY
Betty Lou Blumberg HAMDEN HALL COUNTRY DAY
SCHOOL

12:30 PM

Lunch break

2:00 PM

TRAUMA

Chair Dori Laub YALE UNIVERSITY MEDICAL SCHOOL
Robert Kraft OTTERBEIN COLLEGE
Peter Balakian COLGATE UNIVERSITY
Patricia Yaeger UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

3:15 PM

HISTORICAL YIELD

Chair Deborah Dwork CLARK UNIVERSITY
Annette Wieviorka CNRS, FRANCE
Dahlia Ofer HEBREW UNIVERSITY
Jan Gross NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
Sarah Timperman FONDATION AUSCHWITZ, BRUSSELS

Battell Chapel, Elm and College Streets

4:30 PM

KEYNOTE ADDRESS, ELIE WIESEL

The Imperative of Testimony: Speaking of Unspeakable Evil

Introduction Richard C. Levin, President,
YALE UNIVERSITY

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7

Lecture Hall, Sterling Memorial Library

9:30 AM

PATHWAYS TO INTELLECTUAL ACCESS

Chair Alice Prochaska YALE UNIVERSITY

Robert Perks BRITISH LIBRARY NATIONAL SOUND
ARCHIVE

Joanne Weiner Rudof YALE UNIVERSITY

Richard Szary YALE UNIVERSITY

10:45 AM

GENRES OF TESTIMONY

Chair Ben Kiernan YALE UNIVERSITY

Roger Simon UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Ernst van Alphen UNIVERSITY OF LEIDEN

Marianne Hirsch and Leo Spitzer DARTMOUTH COLLEGE

12:00 PM

Lunch break

1:30 PM

SOCIOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL
PERSPECTIVES

Chair Kai Erikson YALE UNIVERSITY

Jeffrey Alexander YALE UNIVERSITY

Aleida Assmann UNIVERSITY OF KONSTANZ

Paul Gilroy YALE UNIVERSITY

2:45 PM

FIELD WORK

Chair Susan Suleiman HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Nathan Beyrak ISRAEL

Tony Kushner SOUTHAMPTON UNIVERSITY, U.K.

Henry Rousso INSTITUT D'HISTOIRE DU TEMPS
PRÉSENT, CNRS, FRANCE

4:00 PM

Coffee break

4:30-5:30 PM

Summations and Discussion

Chair Geoffrey Hartman YALE UNIVERSITY

Alvin Rosenfeld INDIANA UNIVERSITY

Vivian Liska UNIVERSITY OF ANTWERP

7:30 PM

Witness: Voices from the Holocaust

Room 102, Linsly-Chittenden Hall, 63 High Street

Screening introduced by Associate Producer

Joanne Weiner Rudof

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8

Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

4:30 PM

Symposium Holocaust Literature: Freedoms
and Responsibilities

Moderator Sidra Ezrahi HEBREW UNIVERSITY

Aharon Appelfeld, E.L. Doctorow, Irving Feldman

Thane Rosenbaum

ASSOCIATED EVENTS

- 4:00 PM FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4
Comparative Literature Library, Bingham Hall, 8th floor
Leona Toker HEBREW UNIVERSITY
"A Comparison of Holocaust and Gulag Literature"
- 4:00 PM WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9
Linsly-Chittenden Hall, Room 211
Susan Gubar INDIANA UNIVERSITY
"Poetry and Testimony"
- 8:00 PM WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9
HGS 211
Graduate School Colloquium with Joanne Weiner Rudof
and Geoffrey Hartman
- 2:30 PM THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10
ISPS Conference Room, 77 Prospect Street
Patricia Klindienst INDEPENDENT SCHOLAR
"The Seed Remembers: Native American and Cambodian
Genocide Survivors and their Gardens"

The Fortunoff Video Archive for Holocaust Testimonies, founded in 1982, is dedicated to the recording, collection and preservation of videotaped oral testimonies of survivors and witnesses. The Archive holds more than 4,200 testimonies and over 10,000 hours of videotape, recorded in cooperation with 37 affiliate projects in North America, South America, Europe, Israel, and the former Soviet Union. The Archive advises students, scholars, and educational associations; catalogs its testimonies to make them intellectually accessible; and loans programs of testimony excerpts to educators, schools, and community groups.

The 20th anniversary conference was made possible by a major gift from Darrell Ross (YALE, 1969).

Additional funding was provided by the Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library, the Charles H. Revson Foundation, James and Jacqueline Gordon (YALE, 1998), the Judaic Studies Program, the Edward J. and Dorothy Clarke Kempf Memorial Fund, Patricia and Robert Weis (YALE, 1941), and the Yale University Library.

For the Associated Events, special thanks to the Department of Comparative Literature, the Department of English, the Genocide Studies Program, and the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures.

Please visit the exhibit in the Memorabilia Room of Sterling Memorial Library (Wall Street entrance).

Conference Rapporteurs

Ulrich Baer NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

Michael Rothberg UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS/URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Jared Stark CORNELL UNIVERSITY