

# MEMORY & COUNTERMEMORY

## Memorialization of an Open Future

A Research Symposium, Nov. 6-8, 2011

Arizona State University

### Haunting Memory

- How do physical and emotional harms impact memory?
- How does coming to terms with the past shape narratives and strategies of memorialization, monuments, and museums?
- What is the relationship between memorializing of the past on behalf of victims and narrating the past for the sake of the present?

### Memory & the Historical Past

- Given the fact that memory is usually inseparable from internal conflict, how can people in the present resolve their internal conflict about the past?
- What are the psychological resources available to dealing with trauma?
- How can we remember without homogenizing histories and idolizing seamless heritages?

### Memory and the Future

- How does memory shape the future of an individual or a group?
- Which or whose memory makes our future possible, open, and hopeful?
- Can trans-generational memory transform uninhabitable places and difficult times that were weighted down by haunting legacies and conflicted heritages?
- Can succeeding generations remember human possibility without redemptive consolations of victory marches, monuments, museums, and other conventional ways of generating "cheap grace?"

Program Cover art, "[Unwaivering Faith, Unwaivering Life](#)" - 2010 by [Nova Hall](#) (graduate of IAP at ASU - West)

### ASU-West

La Sala

### Cathy Caruth

Monday keynote address  
November 7, 7.30-9.00 PM

### Contexts

- The *academic context*: developments and newly emerging fields of shared questions in Holocaust Studies, Postcolonial Studies, Genocide Studies, East European Studies, Memory Studies, Trauma Studies.
- The *public context*: memory at war, representations of memory, contested sites of museums, memorials, monuments, memoirs, and public discourses
- The *cultural context*: the memory of the victims, readings of the past that shape our present and future, liberating narratives and movements in art, architecture, literature, performance, and theory.

From [Greater Phoenix Jewish Film Festival](#):

["Jubanos"](#)

["The Klezmatiks - On Holy Ground"](#)

["All I've Got"](#)

From [AZ Jewish Theatre Co.](#) one-hour version of

[Robert Benjamin's Parted Waters](#)

For questions contact ILENE SINGER, Assistant Director, [Ilene.Singer@asu.edu](mailto:Ilene.Singer@asu.edu) & DAWN BEESON, Coordinator Senior [Dawn.Beeson@asu.edu](mailto:Dawn.Beeson@asu.edu)

**ASU Sponsors:** [Center for Jewish Studies](#); [Center for Critical Inquiry and Cultural Studies](#); [New College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences](#); [Division of Humanities, Arts, and Cultural Studies](#); [Graduate Programs at ASUW](#); the [Project Humanities](#).

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### ASU-Tempe

the Memorial Union—the Gold Room

Marianne Hirsch

Leo Spitzer

Lawrence L. Langer

Sunday opening plenaries  
November 6, 2:30-7:00

Research Sessions,  
November 7 & 8

Yael Danieli

Alexander Etkind

Yael Feldman

James B Gardner

Sandor Goodhart

Lewis R. Gordon

Abdul JanMohamed

Berel Lang

Sarah Pessin

Marilyn Nissim-Sabat

Gabriele Schwab

James Young

Martin Beck Matušík -  
program chair

Hava Tirosh-Samuels -  
program co-chair

Monica Casper

Joel Gereboff

Mark Von Hagen

Patricia J. Huntington

Yasmin Saikia

Shahla Talebi

Eric Wertheimer