


Voices of the Past, Today
April 12-16th, 2021



VANIER
COLLEGE
29th
ANNUAL
SYMPOSIUM
ON THE
HOLOCAUST
AND
GENOCIDE

VANIER
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29th Annual Vanier College Symposium
HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE
Past Voices, Today
April 12-16, 2021

MONDAY, APRIL 12TH

Dr. Jan Grabowski:



Jan is a History Professor at The University of Ottawa and Fellow at the Royal Society of Canada. He leads international research teams with books and articles published by leading academic presses and journals in German, Hebrew, English, Polish and French. One of his most significant research was a SSHRC grant entitled “The Role of The Polish “Blue” Police in The Extermination of Polish Jews” where he was able to research and to describe the place of the Polish collaborationist police in the German genocidal plan.

Topic: Distorting and Denying the Holocaust: New Threats Ahead

Time: 10:00 AM

Registration Link: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_zKLYiKmaTvWzdOfS9rGAdg

Dr. Joel Finklestein:



Joel is the Co-Founder and Director of Princeton’s Network Contagion Research Institute (which deploys machine learning tools to expose the growing tide of hate and extremism on social media). He has a Ph.D. in Psychology from Princeton and is a Fellow at the Miller Center for Community Protection and Resilience, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. You may have seen him recently on 60 Minutes as he was interviewed about QAnon followers and their online behaviour.

Topic: The Digital Pogrom

Time: 1:00 PM

Registration Link: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_hflwiow6QNS7Rd44k_TInQ





Angela Orosz



Angela Orosz was born in the Auschwitz concentration camp on December 21, 1944. Her parents, Tibor and Vera Bein were born in Hungary. Her father was a lawyer and her mother worked as a teacher of Hungarian literature. They were both deported to Auschwitz in May 1944, while her mother was pregnant but not yet showing. Angela's father was murdered in the camp in July 1944. Angela's mother was put to work in the Kanada Kommando, sorting through the possessions of the Jews deported to Auschwitz. She was then transferred to road construction where she had to perform hard manual labour. When she couldn't work there anymore because of her pregnancy, she was transferred to the kitchen of the barrack of the Auschwitz twins Mengele experimented on. One day, Mengele took Angela's mother and carried out painful experiments on her. After a while, he forgot about her and later gave birth to Angela.

Topic: Vera's Story

Time: 3:00 PM

Registration Link: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Dodp9wm2TcSSC0aSO_DDBQ

TUESDAY, APRIL 13TH

Dr. Sean Roberts



Sean is an Associate Professor of the Practice of International Affairs and Director of the International Development Studies program at The George Washington University's Elliott School of International Affairs. Dr. Roberts is an anthropologist who has studied the Uyghur people of China and Central Asia for thirty years, writing his dissertation on the Uyghurs of the China-Kazakhstan borderlands while a PhD candidate at the University of Southern California. He has published numerous articles in academic journals, edited volumes, and in policy-oriented publications about the Uyghurs, and he is the author of the recently published book, *The War on the Uyghurs: China's Internal Campaign Against a Muslim Minority* (Princeton University Press, 2020).

Topic: The War on the Uyghurs

Time: 10:00 AM

Registration Link: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Ozu60pvJReCuEt4icZMxZw





Jacky Vallée



Jacky (he or they) teaches anthropology at Vanier College. He is one of the co-founders of the Open Door Network, which aims to sensitize Vanier staff to the diversity in sexual orientation and gender identity. He is also heavily engaged in reparations toward Indigenous peoples of this land, mostly through efforts to support the Indigenization of the college. Outside the college, he has been involved in several groups in the queer and Indigenous communities in Tioh'tia:ke (Montreal).

Topic: The Pink Triangle: The Persecution of Queers during the Holocaust

Time: 1:00 PM

Registration Link: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_-FfVGIO8RVOMuTakskeag

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14TH

Dr. Edy Cohen



Edy is a historian and media commentator specializing in inter-Arab relations, the Arab-Israeli conflict, Islamist terrorism, and the history of Jewish communities in the Arab world. He earned his doctorate at Bar-Ilan University and currently serves as a researcher at the Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies.

Topic: Muslims Who Saved Jews During World War II

Time: 9:30 AM

Registration Link: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_NeAsknQ8TLCJuMkS4BHyWQ





Jaclyn Grossman and Nathaniel Ben-Horin:



Jaclyn is defining what it means to be a portfolio-artist. Comfortable in roles both onstage and off, this year Jaclyn will curate and perform in the Shoah Songbook Recital Series with the Harold Green Jewish Theatre, sharing music by Jewish composers from the Holocaust. She is the 2020 winner of the Ben Steinberg Musical Legacy Award with Temple Sinai and a 2021 Semi-Finalist with the Lyra New York Competition. Jaclyn is a recent graduate of McGill University's Graduate Diploma in Opera and Voice, and this summer she will be an Artist Fellow with OperaFest Sewanee. This year, she is developing and facilitating the Association for Opera in Canada's "LINK Artist Programs", which focus on professional skills development, and she is a Mentor with Opera InReach.



Nathaniel is a Montreal-based pianist, composer, and vocal coach. He is an alumnus of UC Berkeley where he won the 2014 Austin F. William Prize in piano performance and was subsequently hired as a staff accompanist and assistant choral director. A former solo student of Jeremy Denk, He recently completed a Master's degree in collaborative piano at McGill University with Michael McMahan and Stephen Hargreaves. His graduate studies were funded by fellowships from McGill and UC Berkeley.

Topic: The Shoah Songbook: Unsilencing Voices of Jewish Composers

Time: 12:00 PM

Link to join (no registration needed):

<https://zoom.us/j/96518068904?pwd=N0VHKzJxajhEdW5oYzdhYko1Um84dz09>





THURSDAY, APRIL 15TH

Dr. Ramy Aziz



Ramy is an Egyptian researcher and Political analyst of Middle Eastern Affairs, Political Islam and Arab-Israeli relations. He is also a Research Fellow at the Institute for the Study of Global Antisemitism (ISGAP). His articles and analysis appear in the Jerusalem Post, the Times of Israel, Middle East Quarterly, the Washington Institute for Near East Policy. He has conducted interviews with Skynews, Russia Today, I24news TV, DW TV and Radio, Israeli public TV and Radio, and Alhurra news channel.

Topic: The Suffering of the Coptic Christians in Egypt

Time: 9:30 AM

Registration Link: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_gh391eCMStmT6Ali3zAz7g

Eva Kuper



Chair of this year's symposium, Holocaust survivor. Eva was born after the start of WWII in Warsaw, Poland. She survived the war by a series of miraculous events involving luck, coincidence, but mainly as a result of the courage and humanity of several individuals, both family and virtual strangers. She immigrated to Canada with her family in 1949 where she grew up in Montreal, "practically Canadian" with the Holocaust history always there in the background.

Topic: Hidden Children, Unknown Heroes

Time: 2:30 PM

Registration Link: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_2qzP6aSPQPq_Uhlg3qps_Q





FRIDAY, APRIL 16TH

Rayhan Asat



Rayhan Asat is an Uyghur human rights attorney. A graduate of Harvard Law School and former anti-corruption attorney at a major U.S. law firm, Rayhan specializes in international human rights law and compliance with best business practices. Her legal and policy work centers around enforcing international human rights norms, civil liberties, curtailing forced labor, and promoting corporate accountability. She advised the World Bank and OECD to design Human-Centered Business Integrity Principles. She works with civil society, diplomats, lawmakers, and businesses to address human rights concerns, including the atrocities against her own brother and community.

She has been featured in various media outlets including The New York Times, The Guardian, BBC, Foreign Policy, CNN, Deutsche Welle and Al-Jazeera among others. She is a sought-after speaker and has testified before the Canadian Parliament and will present at the Geneva Summit for Human Rights and Democracy in June 2021. Rayhan's writing has also been published in many legal journals, and her opinions have appeared in Foreign Policy, NBC News, The Hill Magazine, and other prominent publications. She is a senior fellow at the Raoul Wallenberg Center for Human Rights and is also the founder and president of the American Turkic International Lawyers Association.

Topic: Human Rights of the Uygghur People in China

Time: 10:00 AM

Registration Link: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Ot8RlyiiR_i0PncWuk-VdQ

Florian Chen and Benjamin Weingartner:



Benjamin and Florian are young Holocaust Memorial Volunteers from Austria. Coming from a country whose people committed abhorrent crimes under Nazi rule they bring invaluable insights into the ways in which a whole country had to, after decades of negligence, face and finally deal with its past. They will share their insights in a presentation focusing on the development of antisemitism in Europe, differentiating between economic, religious, and racial aspects.



Topic: European Antisemitism: Past and Present

Time: 1:00 PM

Registration Link: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_WDJ14EOuTbmWJNTeGKGhew

