

THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF PARIS

THE VISUAL HISTORY ARCHIVE:
RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

LA VISUAL HISTORY ARCHIVE :
RETOURS D'EXPÉRIENCES DE RECHERCHE



CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Maison de la Chimie | 26 & 27 October 2017

28, rue Saint-Dominique, 75007 Paris



THURSDAY

OCTOBER 26, 2017

14:15 Arrival at the Maison de la Chimie
28 rue Saint-Dominique, 75007 Paris
Room 269

14:30 **Welcome Address:** Brian Schiff, Director of the George and Irina Schaeffer Center for the Study of Genocide, Human Rights and Conflict Prevention, American University of Paris

Introduction by Stephen Smith, Executive Director of USC Shoah Foundation: "The Future of Our Past: The Challenges and Opportunities of Video Testimony in an Evolving Digital Landscape"

15:30 **Break**

15:45 **Keynote by Noah Shenker** (Monash University): "Reframing Holocaust Testimony: The Spaces within and beyond the Camera's Frame"

16:35 **Break**

17:00 **Panel 1: Testimonies, Languages and Local Contexts**

Chair: Judith Lindenberg (CRH-EHESS)

- Robin Buller (University of North Carolina): "Communicating Survival: Language and Multilingualism in the Survivor Testimony of Salonican Jews"
- Natalia Aleksion (Touro College, New York): "Intimate Histories of the Holocaust in Oral Testimonies from Eastern Galicia"
- Evgeny Finkel (George Washington University): "Testimonies across Project, Language, and Space: The Visual History Archive in Comparative Perspective"

18:30 **Break**

18:45 **Keynote by Christopher Browning** (University of North Carolina): "Holocaust History and Survivor Testimony: The Case of the Starachowice Factory Slave Labor Camps"



FRIDAY

OCTOBER 27, 2017

09:00 Arrival, coffee

09:30 Keynote by Annette Wieviorka (SIRICE-CNRS-
Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne):
"Qu'est-ce qu'un témoin?"

10:20 Break

10:30 Panel 2: The Visual History Archive, a Source for
History and Memorial Projects

Chair: Laura Hobson Faure (Université Sorbonne
Nouvelle - Paris 3)

- Sonia Combe (CNRS /Centre Marc Bloch): "Le recours à la Visual History Archive pour explorer la pratique de l'échange de victimes dans le camp de Buchenwald"
- Patrice Bensimon (Yahad - In Unum) : "La Visual History Archive comme source d'information dans le cadre des enquêtes menées sur la Shoah par balles par Yahad - In Unum"

- Audrey Mallet (Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne/
Concordia University): "La Visual History Archive,
outil de recherche et plateforme de préservation"

12:00 Lunch

13:45 Panel 3: Testifying in Time

Chair: Brian Schiff (Chair of the Psychology
Department at The American University of Paris)

- Sharon Kangisser Cohen (Yad Vashem): "Early
and Later Holocaust Survivor Testimony"
- Bieke Van Camp (Université Paul-Valéry-
Montpellier) : "Vers une homogénéisation des récits
/ expériences de la Shoah ?"

14:45 Break

15:00 Panel 4: The Visual History Archive, Gender and
Women Perspectives

Chair: Lissa Lincoln (American University of Paris)

- Alina Bothe (Freie Universität Berlin): "Gender and the Visual History Archive"
- Helene Sinnreich (University of Tennessee): "Mengele Selected Me and Other Stories We Are Taught to Doubt"

16:00

Break

16:30

Final keynote: Jeffrey Shandler (Rutger's University): "And now I have to read in Jewish something": Yiddish Performances by Holocaust Survivors"

The George and Irina Schaeffer Center for the Study of Genocide, Human Rights and Conflict Prevention at The American University of Paris aspires to stimulate dialogue on how to respond to the challenges of extreme violence. Through conferences, lectures, publications and fellowships, the Center promotes innovative research, curricula and pedagogies leading to the deeper understanding of the origins, developments and consequences of collective hatred, fundamentalist ideologies, discrimination and mass crimes.

The Center is Paris' first host of the complete **Visual History Archive of USC Shoah Foundation**, the world largest collection of video testimonies of survivors and other witnesses of genocides and mass crimes. Initiated by film director Steven Spielberg in 1994, the Visual History Archive includes today over 54,000 testimonies - conducted in 62 countries and in 41 languages - on the Shoah, the genocides of the Armenians and of the Tusti in Rwanda, the Nanjing, Guatemalan and Cambodian massacres, on

Contemporary Antisemitism and on the Central African Republic Conflict. The American University of Paris makes this important resource available to researchers, teachers, students and to the general public for the purpose of investigating and disseminating new insights into genocide and mass violence.

Le George and Irina Schaeffer Center for the Study of Genocide, Human Rights and Conflict Prevention de l'American University of Paris oeuvre à la réflexion et au dialogue sur la violence extrême et les moyens pour y répondre. Par le biais de colloques, conférences, publications et bourses d'étude, le Centre promeut une recherche, une pédagogie et un enseignement innovants, capables d'apporter une meilleure compréhension des origines, du développement et des conséquences de la haine collective, des idéologies fondamentalistes, des discriminations et des crimes de masse.

Le Centre est la première institution parisienne à détenir l'intégralité de la **Visual History Archive de USC Shoah Foundation**, la plus vaste collection de témoignages vidéo de rescapés et autres témoins de génocides et crimes de masse. Initiée par le réalisateur Steven Spielberg en 1994, la Visual History Archive comprend aujourd'hui plus de 54 000 témoignages - enregistrés dans 62 pays, et en 41 langues - sur la Shoah, les génocides des Arméniens et des Tutsi au Rwanda, les massacres de Nankin, du Guatemala et du Cambodge, l'antisémitisme contemporain et le conflit en République Centrafricaine. L'American University of Paris met cette source à la disposition des chercheurs, enseignants, étudiants ainsi que du grand public afin de développer et diffuser de nouvelles connaissances sur les génocides et les violences de masse.

HOSTED BY:

George and Irina Schaeffer Center for the Study of
Genocide, Human Rights and Conflict Prevention

USC Shoah Foundation (France)

The American University of Paris (AUP)

The entire conference will be translated into English
and French. L'ensemble de la journée d'étude sera
traduit en anglais et en français.

THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY 55 *of* PARIS YEARS

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The American University of Paris is today
an international university located at the
meeting point of France, Europe, and the
world. The University provides a curriculum
that combines liberal arts inquiry, preparation
for professional life, and student-centered,
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