

2015 is once again an important and significant year for programs and topics pertaining to Germany. I would be delighted to educate and enlighten your audiences with my fascinating and thought-provoking presentations! Here is a selection of programs that will be relevant and timely this year. Please also visit www.anetteisaacs.com for a list of all available programs.

Programs relating to the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II (1945-2015):

The Land of the Perpetrators: The Question of German Guilt



It has been eight decades since Adolf Hitler rose to power and lured millions of willing Germans on to a path of violence and destruction that led to the ultimate break with civilization. Even today, 70 years, after the end of World War II, generations of Germans are still grappling with their country's - and, in many cases, their own family's - horrible legacy. Join German Historian Anette Isaacs, M.A., for a thought-provoking discussion of how the German nation has, over the last seven decades, attempted to cope with the guilt of causing the Holocaust.

Brand new and absolutely essential:

From Survivors to DPs: Jews in Post- War Germany



It is a little known fact that right after the end of World War II, over 200 000 Jewish Refugees and Holocaust Survivors found temporary asylum in Germany, of all places. The occupying forces created the so called DP Camps for these *Displaced Persons* and helped them to prepare for a future life in the United States and Israel, for example with the creation of training *Kibbutzim* on German territory. Join German Historian Anette Isaacs and gain fascinating insights into Jewish Life in immediate Post-War Germany.

The Germans and their Führer: Insights into a mutual obsession



Addressing a huge and adoring audience at the Party Convention in Nuremberg in 1936, Adolf Hitler stated: *“That you have found me among so many millions is the miracle of our time! And the fact that I found you—that is Germany’s good fortune!”* Join German Historian Anette Isaacs for an exploration of how this consummate symbiosis of *Volk and Führer* (People and Leader) came into existence and how it changed and evolved during the course –and especially- the demise of the *Third Reich*.

Between Normality and Terror: Everyday Life in Nazi Germany



70 years after the end of World War II, most of today’s research on Nazi Germany is focused on its system of terror that ultimately led to the death and destruction of millions of people. While we will discuss the role of governmental surveillance and brutality, we want to first and foremost explore what daily life was like for ordinary citizens in 1930s Germany. By looking at various societal paradigms, such as education, employment, and cultural expression, we will gain insights into how the German people were oscillating between normality and terror and how the Nazis were able to turn Germany into a brutal and horrific dictatorship.

Also available: **The Women of the Third Reich!** Please see the lecture description at www.anetteisaacs.com

Programs pertaining to the 25th anniversary of the German Unification (1990-2015):

The New Germany: 25 years after the Unification



This fall the Germans will be able to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the German Unification! These last two and a half decades were a difficult but also miraculous time in the country's modern history. Join German Historian Anette Isaacs, M.A. for a fascinating discussion of how Europe's most populous nation dealt with the challenges of bringing two countries together that had been painfully separated for 45 years. Discuss the problems that arose and the solutions that were found in order to create this "New Germany"!

Everyday Life in East Germany: a look across the border



Since the German Unification 25 years ago, Historians have dedicated themselves mostly to East Germany's political system and its oppressive instruments such as the secret police STASI. But although East Germany was a totalitarian state, there were still 16 Million people who were living a more or less normal life. Join German Historian Anette Isaacs for a compelling exploration of daily life in East Germany, its food and culture, education, consumerism (or the lack thereof!) and everyday items that were giving the GDR its identity and made it so different from its big capitalist sister, the Federal Republic (West Germany).

JFK, Reagan, and Obama: American Presidents in Berlin



This year's 25th anniversary of the German Unification presents us with the perfect opportunity to look back at the history making visits of American presidents to Berlin, this German metropolis that, for almost 45 years, was synonymous with the Cold War in Europe. Join German Historian Anette Isaacs as she relates the intriguing background stories of why President Kennedy emphatically proclaimed that he was a Berliner and what inspired President Reagan to encourage the Soviets to "tear down that Wall"!

Program commemorating the seminal 50th anniversary of German-Israeli diplomatic relations (1965-2015):

Germany and Israel—a story of Guilt and an unlikely Friendship



It is quite obvious that throughout the last almost seven decades Israel and Germany have been connected through the Holocaust and its aftermath. What at first glance seems to be a rather unlikely relationship has evolved over time into a blossoming friendship and successful economic bond. In order for this to happen Germany had to face its Nazi legacy and subsequent collective guilt. Join German Historian Anette Isaacs as she discusses how her native country has attempted to cope with the guilt of causing the Holocaust and how this painful but necessary process heralded a new era in German- Israeli relations.

For inquiries and bookings, please contact:

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Programs focusing on Jewish Life and Remembrance in Germany:

Never Forget: Remembering the Holocaust in Berlin and Germany



Seventy years after the end of World War II, Germany has evolved into a country with a varied and fascinating Remembrance culture, reminding Germans and visitors alike of the nation's horrible past and legacy. Join German Historian Anette Isaacs as she takes you on a photographic journey which explores and discusses a multitude of memorials to the victims of the Holocaust, thus shedding light on the various intriguing artistic representations of the concepts of Remembrance and Guilt in the "land of the perpetrators."

The Long Road "Home": Returning to Germany after the Holocaust.



Much has been written in recent years about the renaissance of Jewish Life in Germany which was primarily caused by a major wave of immigration on part of Jews from the former Soviet Union. While our lecture will explore this particular phenomenon and its consequences as well, we first and foremost want to attempt to find an answer to the question why Jews were coming back to Germany after World War II. What motives could they have had to return to the "land of the perpetrators"? Join German Historian Anette Isaacs, M.A. as she traces back the long road home that led to a rebirth of Jewish Life in her native country.

Jews in Germany today



This year marks the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II, which culminated in Nazi Germany's horrendous policies of Genocide! Astonishingly, today's Jewish Community in Germany is the third largest in all of Europe and Jewish Life is flourishing, especially in the nation's capital Berlin. Join German Historian Anette Isaacs as she explores various facets of Jewish Life in her native country today!

Brand new program – absolutely intriguing for friends of music and history:

The Tainted Legacy of Richard Wagner



To some he is the creator of divine music, to others he is history's most controversial composer: 170 years after the world premiere of Tannhäuser (1845), Richard Wagner and his legacy that was tainted by both his own difficult personality and the usurpation of his music by Adolf Hitler, are still topics of lively debate. Join Historian Anette Isaacs for a fascinating discussion of how the music and the legacy of Richard Wagner are received in Israel and in her native country Germany today, 70 years after the demise of Hitler's Nazi Regime.

Programs concerning the 170th birthday of “Mad” King Ludwig of Bavaria (1845-2015):

“Mad” Ludwig II of Bavaria: Inside the Life and Mind of Germany’s Fairy-tale King!



Although he once famously said: “I wish to remain an eternal enigma to myself and to others”, King Ludwig II. is perhaps the most illustrious of all Germans. Best known as an eccentric whose love for art (especially the music of Richard Wagner) and architecture is legendary, the young King had a charmed but also tragic existence. Join German Historian Anette Isaacs, M.A., as she unravels this “eternal enigma” and presents you with mesmerizing insights into the Fairy-tale King’s amazing life!

Richard Wagner and King Ludwig of Bavaria—Between Music and Madness!



The storied relationship between the brilliant and controversial composer Richard Wagner and his devoted patron, the extravagant, tragic – and mad—King Ludwig of Bavaria is legendary. Join German Historian Anette Isaacs and delve into a most interesting friendship that was defined by music, money, and a deep affection between two exceptional German cultural icons!

Always wonderful for the Fall and “Octoberfest”:

Culinaria Germania—the delicious dish on German Food



When thinking about German food bratwurst, sauerkraut, beer, and all kinds of breads are the first things that come to mind. German food and drink are well-known and popular all over the world. But there is so much more to German cuisine, especially when one takes the regional differences into consideration. Join German Historian Anette Isaacs, M.A. as she takes you on a fascinating, fun –and delicious– journey through the culinary wonders of her native country, highlighted by an authentic Kaffeeklatsch with typical German desserts such as the mysterious, yet delectable Bienenstich.

Perfect program for Women’s History month and a fun Summer topic:

The amazing Adventure of Bertha Benz and the History of the German Automobile



The superb reputation of German cars is legendary, but hardly anyone knows that the history of the automobile's origin is, to a great extent, due to Bertha Benz, a young mother of five, who, in August of 1888, - in a secret attempt to visit her mother - became the first human being ever to drive an automobile over a long distance. Join German Historian Anette Isaacs as she relates this exciting and history making adventure and introduces you to the major German Car companies’ histories of origin!

Always a perfect and uplifting topic for all generations:

Operation Freedom – The Berlin Airlift



It was perhaps one of the greatest adventures in American military history: the Berlin airlift of 1948/49! When Soviet troops closed all access routes to West- Berlin by land, sea, and rail, thus threatening the lives of 2.5 million people and provoking the first major international crisis of the Cold War. American General Lucius D. Clay did not hesitate, and proceeded to build a bold and fantastic bridge across the sky, involving 700 planes and 250 000 flights over a period of 14 months! Join German Historian Anette Isaacs for a fascinating discussion of this exciting time in her country’s postwar history.

I am looking forward to hearing from and working with you!

Anette Isaacs – let’s talk about Germany!

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