

Anette Isaacs—let's talk about Germany!



Germany in 2020 -- a year full of Music, History, Culture, Politics– and Beer!

From Ludwig van Beethoven's 250th birthday to the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II, the 30th anniversary of the German Unification and not to forget the centennial of the American Prohibition – this year is chock full of seminal events! I am delighted to present my new program flyer with all the relevant and timely topics that I am offering in 2020. As always, I am looking forward to educating, enlightening, and entertaining your wonderful audiences!

Please note: This is just a selection of my available programs. Visit www.anetteisaacs.com for a list of all offered programs and detailed program descriptions!

Brand new programs:

Ode to Beethoven – the Man behind the Music!



Music lovers all over the world are entering the “Beethoven year” in 2020 which marks the legendary composer's 250th birthday. To this day, German born Ludwig van Beethoven is the most listened to creator of classical music. Join German Historian Anette Isaacs for an intimate look at the life and times of this tragic genius who was as famous for his fiery personality as for his divine ability to turn his personal struggles into supreme and powerful melodies.

1945 – the year that shaped the new Germany



This year's 75th anniversary of the end of World War II presents us with a valuable opportunity to look back at the events that took place in 1945, a year that proved to be pivotal for the transformation of Germany from a brutal belligerent dictatorship to a flourishing and pacifist democracy. Join German Historian Anette Isaacs for a fascinating discussion of how key events like the bombing of Dresden, the Potsdam Conference, and the beginning of the Nuremberg trials played a crucial role in this remarkable process.

Germany 2020 – Understanding the latest developments



Thirty years after its unification, Germany is facing a challenging time. Last fall, three state elections in the former East German territories yielded upsetting results, revealing an unfortunate rift in political philosophies between East and West Germans. Add to that a somewhat flagging economy, the ever present threat of high tariffs from the Trump administration, and –not to forget– a political class that seems to be lacking direction and a clear vision to move the country forward. Join German political scientist Anette Isaacs, MA, for a fascinating discussion of the latest developments in Europe's most populous nation!

More crucial anniversaries and commemorations:

Germany's liquid bread – a refreshing look at the history of Beer!



This year's 100th anniversary of the Prohibition in the USA presents us with the perfect opportunity to hearken back to the legendary history of a revolutionary beverage that changed the world: Beer, or more precise, German beer! Once so essential to daily diets that it was referred to as *liquid bread*, German beer to this day is a source of great cultural and national pride. Join German Historian Anette Isaacs, M.A., for a fascinating exploration into the history of this iconic drink that will also include a look at the lucky German brewers who became *Beer Barons* in the USA!

Also available: **Culinaria Germania – the delicious dish on German Food!** Please see **this lecture description at www.anetteisaacs.com**

Coming this Summer:



Germany– 30 years after the Unification

This fall the Germans will be able to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the German Unification! These last three decades were a difficult but also miraculous time in the country's modern history. Join German Historian Anette Isaacs, M.A. for a riveting 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"!

Also available: **The Rise and Fall of the Berlin Wall; Everyday Life in East Germany: A look across the Border** and **John F. Kennedy in Berlin: Revisiting a momentous trip!** Please see **these lecture descriptions at www.anetteisaacs.com**

An amazing story:



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

55 years ago this spring Germany and Israel reluctantly entered into diplomatic relations. What at first glance seems to be a rather unlikely relationship –especially in light of the shared history– 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.

Happy Birthday Kini:



"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., who was born 175 years ago, 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 truly extraordinary life!

Also available: **Richard Wagner and King Ludwig of Bavaria – Between Music and Madness** and **The Tainted Legacy of Richard Wagner** Please see **these lecture descriptions at www.anetteisaacs.com**.

Programs relating to the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II:

Silent Heroes: An important – and long overdue– look at the Resistance Movement in Nazi Germany



This year's 75th anniversary of the end of World War II presents us with the perfect opportunity to look at the relatively unknown and sometimes even forgotten heroes who often gave their lives in order to fight against the German dictator's brutal Nazi regime. Join German Historian Anette Isaacs, M.A. as she pays homage to Sophie and Hans Scholl, Georg Elser, Baron von Stauffenberg, the women of Rosenstrasse, and other groups who made up the *German Resistance*.

The Land of the Perpetrators: The Question of German Guilt



It has been eight decades since Adolf Hitler lured millions of willing Germans into World War II and thus onto a path of violence and destruction that led to the ultimate break with civilization. Even today, generations of Germans, born after World War II, 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 attempted to cope with the guilt of causing the Holocaust.

Never Forget: Remembering the Holocaust in Berlin and Germany



Seventy-five years after 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.

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



75 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.

The Women of the Third Reich



“*The mission of women is to be beautiful and to bring children into the world.*” These words, auspiciously written by Hitler’s mouthpiece Joseph Goebbels in 1929, laid out the simple but essential role German women were expected to play in the prospective Third Reich. By examining both the general situation of women in Nazi Germany and the individual lives of wives and girlfriends of the Nazi elite, such as Magda Goebbels, Emmi Goering, Leni Riefenstahl, and the infamous Eva Braun, German Historian Anette Isaacs will reveal in how far this lofty expectation was met by reality in a racially motivated totalitarian system.

Nazi Hunter Fritz Bauer—A Heroic Story!

Timelessly fascinating



It has become common knowledge that Adolf Eichmann, the infamous *architect of the Holocaust*, was captured by Mossad agents in Argentina and brought to justice in Israel. But hardly anyone is familiar with the fact that it was a German Jew, the Hessian attorney general Fritz Bauer, who provided pivotal information about Eichmann’s whereabouts in South America to the Israeli authorities. Join German Historian Anette Isaacs as she pays homage to Bauer, this true hero who confronted post-war German society with its guilt -and denial thereof- and who almost single-handedly initiated the Auschwitz Trials of the mid 1960s.

Please note: In addition to my lecturing I also own A&M Tours, a service providing unique, tailor-made educational travel experiences for groups and organizations! (www.artandmusicinGermany.com). Please consider letting me take your patrons, members, residents, colleagues, or clients on a fabulous educational trip to Germany! Contact me for pricing and itineraries.

Audience Favorites, perfect for all occasions:

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.

The Woman behind the Teddy Bear—the awe-inspiring story of Margarete Steiff!



It is common knowledge that President Theodore Roosevelt was the namesake of the world famous Teddy Bear. Hardly anyone knows, though, that the cuddly stuffed toys were invented by an amazing woman from Southern Germany who overcame terrible sickness and incredible challenges and turned her tiny workshop into one of the most recognizable international brands— and all that in the male dominated world of the 19th century! Join German historian Anette Isaacs as she relates the story of the truly awe-inspiring life of toy maker and business maven Margarete Steiff!

Levi Strauss, the Gold Rush, and the World's most famous pair of pants!



Everybody loves them, everybody wears them: Jeans are no doubt an iconic garment and they tell the legendary story of the American West. But did you know that they were made world famous by an adventurous Bavarian Jew who combined his marvelous business sense with German ingenuity? Join German Historian Anette Isaacs, M.A., for a fascinating look at this magnificent period in American history and learn about Levi Strauss and his amazing life!

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



The superb reputation of German cars is legendary: Porsche, BMW, AUDI, and Mercedes Benz have millions of fans all over the world and are synonymous with the quality and success of German engineering. But hardly anyone knows that the history of the automobile's origin is, to a great extent, due to Bertha Benz who became the first human being ever to drive an automobile over a long distance. Join German Historian Anette Isaacs as she introduces you to Bertha Benz and her exciting and history making adventure of 1888!

Also available: **The Life and Times of Martin Luther and Prussia's Glory: The Hohenzollern Dynasty**
Please see these lecture descriptions at www.annetteisaacs.com.

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