

Anette Isaacs—let's talk about Germany!



Germany 2021 – the journey continues!

Martin Luther, Ludwig van Beethoven, Richard Wagner, *Mad King Ludwig*, Angela Merkel, and the notorious Adolf Eichmann— these are just a few of the personalities that are defining my lecture topics this year! I am delighted to present my new program flyer with all the relevant and timely topics that I am offering in 2021. As always, I am looking forward to educating, enlightening, and entertaining your wonderful audiences: either via **ZOOM** or in person!

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!

Most relevant in 2021:

Eichmann before Jerusalem—Insights into the mind of a Mass Murderer

The 60th anniversary of the Eichmann Trial in Israel presents an important opportunity for us to take a closer look at the “architect of the Holocaust.” Did he really just represent the “banality of evil” as author Hannah Arendt so famously expressed it? Or was he indeed a fanatical and utterly brutal Nazi, as recent historical research suggests? Join German Historian Anette Isaacs for a compelling discussion of the decade Eichmann spent in Buenos Aires, which will reveal crucial insights into the mind of one of the world’s most callous mass murderers.

Here I stand! The Life and Times of Martin Luther

500 years ago, the rebellious monk Martin Luther was summoned to appear in front of the Emperor to defend his “blasphemous” 95 theses. Join German Historian Anette Isaacs as she explores Luther’s colorful and riveting life story. Ms. Isaacs also offers captivating insights into daily life in the 16th century, thus painting a fascinating picture of this highly dramatic episode in the history of Humankind.

The Rise and Fall of the Berlin Wall (60th anniversary lecture)

With the rise of the Berlin Wall sixty years ago this summer, the course of Germany’s and especially of Berlin’s history took a tragic turn. It would take 28 years for this cruel and inhuman symbol of Germany’s division to come down, thus giving birth to yet another period in this European nation’s remarkable evolution. Join German Historian and Ex-Berliner Anette Isaacs, M.A., as she presents you with a historical and political overview of this painful but also almost miraculous phase in Berlin’s intriguing history.

Also available: **Germany 30 years after the Unification**; **Everyday Life in East Germany: A look across the Border**; **Operation Freedom: the Berlin Airlift**, and **John F. Kennedy in Berlin: Revisiting a momentous trip!** **Please see these lecture descriptions at www.anetteisaacs.com**

Coming this Spring:



More crucial anniversaries and commemorations:

“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 died 135 years ago under mysterious circumstances, 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!

Ode to Beethoven – the Man behind the Music!



To this day, German born Ludwig van Beethoven, who came into this world 250 years ago, 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.

The Tainted Legacy of Richard Wagner



To some he is the creator of divine music, to others history’s most controversial composer: 145 years after he launched his world-famous Bayreuth Opera festival, 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 her native country of Germany today, 75 years after the demise of Hitler’s Nazi Regime.

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



The 145th anniversary of the Wagner Opera Festival in Bayreuth presents us with the perfect opportunity to not only pay homage to this brilliant, prolific, and controversial composer, but to also explore the legendary relationship between him and his devoted patron, the extravagant, tragic – and mad - King Ludwig of Bavaria! Join German Historian Anette Isaacs and delve into a captivating friendship that was defined by music, money, and a deep affection between two exceptional German cultural icons!

From Guest Workers to Citizens: The Turkish Minority in Germany



It has been exactly 60 years since the first *Guest worker* recruitment treaty went into effect. In those six decades Germany evolved into a multicultural society and today about three million Turks are calling Germany their home, among them the scientist couple who was instrumental in developing the COVID-19 vaccine! The integration of the Turkish community has not been without its problems but especially the young and the well-educated seem to manage the transition from Guest Workers to Citizens quite successfully. German Historian and Political Scientist Anette Isaacs will discuss this remarkable process.

Coming this Summer:



Germany, Angela Merkel, and the impending election

Germany is preparing for an important election in September and since Angela Merkel already announced that she will not run for a 5th term, Europe's most populous nation finds itself in search of a new Chancellor. German Historian Anette Isaacs will discuss the last 15 years of Angela Merkel's tenure and she will also introduce you to those politicians who are vying to become her successor.

Germany 2021 – Understanding the latest developments



Thirty years after its unification, Germany is facing a challenging time. Recent state election results and various opinion polls yielded somewhat upsetting results, revealing an unfortunate rift in political philosophies between East and West Germans. Add to that a flagging economy that is suffering from the fallout of the 2020 pandemic, 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.

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

An amazing story:



In the spring of 1965 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.



NEW! A delectable Workshop for Groups and Organizations:

The Wonders of Tea: Re-discovering an iconic beverage!



Tea is the most widely consumed beverage in the world after plain water. But what do we really know about this amazing beverage? Join Anette Isaacs for a fascinating journey into the world and history of tea, followed by an exclusive tasting of delectable specialty teas from major tea growing nations such as China, Japan, Sri Lanka, and Taiwan.

Please allow 2 ½ to 3 hours for this utterly delightful experience.



Programs pertaining to Nazi Germany and to Jewish Life & Remembrance:

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



This crucial presentation looks 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 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



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.

1945 – the year that shaped the new Germany



This year's 76th 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.

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.

Never Forget: Remembering the Holocaust in Berlin and Germany



76 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."

Nazi Hunter Fritz Bauer—A Heroic Story!



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.

For inquiries and bookings for all programs please contact:

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Audience Favorites, perfect for all occasions:

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!

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

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.