

Anette Isaacs—let's talk about Germany!



Celebrating 15 years of lecturing across the USA!

Embarking on the 15th year of this intellectual odyssey, my presentations have evolved into a repertoire of over 40 captivating studies in history, culture, politics, and society pertaining to my home country. It is with utmost delight that I unveil this curated 2024 program flyer, showcasing pertinent and insightful topics. 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!

Start planning early to include my delightful new holiday program in your schedule for November and December:

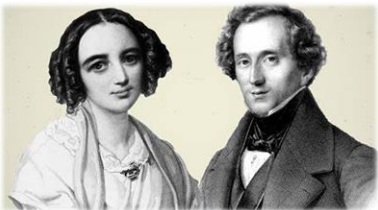
Frohe Weihnachten: Unwrapping the Charms of German Christmas Traditions



Uncover the rich history and cultural significance behind cherished customs such as the Advent calendar, Christkindlmarkt, and St. Nicholas Day. Delve into the heartwarming tales of the Christkind and the festive decoration of the Tannenbaum, while also exploring the delectable delights of traditional holiday treats like Lebkuchen and Stollen. Join German Historian Anette Isaacs and journey through time and tradition, exploring how Germany's unique customs have shaped the magic of Christmas celebrations worldwide.

Brand new – coming this Spring:

Notes of Legacy: Revisiting Fanny and Felix Mendelssohn's Marvelous Musical Journey



Explore the extraordinary musical journey of Fanny and Felix Mendelssohn, 19th-century German siblings and prolific composers, as we join German historian Anette Isaacs in unraveling their family's rich legacy. Fanny's talents as a pianist and composer faced societal constraints, while Felix's innovative compositions earned him widespread acclaim. Descendants of philosopher Moses Mendelssohn, their family played a pivotal role in both cultural and Jewish heritage, leaving an indelible mark on classical music and intellectual pursuits.


This year's big event: The 35th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall:

Echoes of Freedom: The Rise and Fall of the Berlin Wall



It is hard to believe but this November Germany is celebrating the 35th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall! With its rise on August 13th 1961, the course of Germany's and especially of Berlin's history took a tragic turn. It would take 28 years to tear down this cruel and inhuman symbol of Germany's division, thus giving birth to yet another period in this European nation's evolution. German historian Anette Isaacs presents a historical and political overview of this very painful but also almost miraculous period in Berlin's captivating history.

Everyday Life in East Germany: a look across the border




Since the fall of the Berlin Wall 35 years ago, Historians have dedicated themselves mostly to East Germany's political system and its oppressive instruments such as the secret police STASI. 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).

Also available: **John F. Kennedy in Berlin: Revisiting a momentous trip!** Please see this lecture description at www.anetteisaacs.com


Programs relating to the 85th anniversary of the beginning of World War II:

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*.

Joseph Goebbels: The Man who seduced a Nation!



This year's 85th anniversary of Hitler starting World War II presents a fitting occasion to take a closer look at his mouthpiece, Joseph Goebbels. Through his perfidious use of propaganda, this quintessential Nazi was not only able to turn the Dictator into a worshipped god-like figure, but he also seduced a whole nation and made many stubbornly believe in an essentially unwinnable war. German Historian Anette Isaacs presents fascinating insights into the life and mind of this powerful manipulator.

Between Normality and Terror: Everyday Life in Nazi Germany



85 years after the beginning 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



In 1929, Joseph Goebbels declared that the mission of German women was to be beautiful and bear children, a belief integral to the Third Reich's vision. Historian Anette Isaacs explores this expectation's reality by examining the lives of influential women like Magda Goebbels, Emmi Goering, Leni Riefenstahl, and Eva Braun within the racially motivated totalitarian system of Nazi Germany.

Silent Heroes- 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. German Historian Anette Isaacs 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*.

Holocaust Remembrance and the Post- World War II Epoch:

1945 – the year that shaped the new Germany



The year 1945 – which saw the end of World War II - 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.

Nazi Hunter Fritz Bauer—A Heroic Story!



Israeli Mossad agents captured Adolf Eichmann in Argentina with critical intel from German Jew Fritz Bauer, the Hessian attorney general. Historian Anette Isaacs pays tribute to Bauer, a courageous figure who single-handedly initiated the Auschwitz Trials in the 1960s, forcing post-war German society to confront its guilt and denial.

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



Although he did not belong to the highest leadership circle, Adolf Eichmann is commonly referred to as the “architect of the Holocaust.” Who was this man? 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.

Against the Odds: Jewish Refuge and Resurgence in Post- War Germany



Explore the untold story of over 200,000 Jewish refugees and Holocaust survivors who sought temporary asylum in post-World War II Germany. Occupying forces established Displaced Persons (DP) Camps, becoming a sanctuary for these individuals preparing for new lives in the United States and Israel. German Historian Anette Isaacs provides insightful glimpses into the challenges and resilience of Jewish life in immediate post-war Germany, unraveling a lesser-known chapter of history. Join us to discover stories of survival, hope, and the enduring human spirit.

Never Forget: Remembering the Holocaust in Berlin and Germany



Almost eight decades 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. German historian Anette Isaacs will take you on a photographic journey to some of the many memorials to victims of the Holocaust, that show how remembrance and guilt have been expressed in the "land of the perpetrators."

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



In 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.

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 this lecture will explore this particular phenomenon and its consequences as well, it first and foremost wants to attempt to find an answer to the question why Jews were coming back to Germany right after World War II. 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.

Jewish Life in Germany today



Embark on an insightful exploration of present-day Jewish life in Germany with historian Anette Isaacs. Nearly eight decades after World War II, Germany stands as home to the third-largest Jewish community in Europe. This presentation offers a straightforward and thoughtful perspective on various aspects of Jewish life, guiding you through the complexities and realities while shedding light on the resilience and growth of this community within the context of Germany's post-war history.

Such an inspiring story:

Operation Freedom – The Berlin Airlift (75th anniversary)



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, American General Lucius D. Clay did not hesitate and organized a bold and fantastic bridge across the sky, involving 700 planes and more than 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.

Timeless Treasures: Unmissable Audience Favorites:

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 for a fascinating journey into the days of the Gold Rush 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. German Historian Anette Isaacs introduces you to Bertha Benz and her exciting and history making adventure of 1888!



Ode to Beethoven – the Man behind the Music!

To this day, German born Ludwig van Beethoven, who premiered his iconic 9th Symphony (*Ode to Joy*) 200 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 German Virtuosa – Inside the Life and Times of Clara Schumann

She was not only a divine pianist, talented composer, and successful teacher, but also a mother of 8 and the main breadwinner in her family. In the very male dominated 19th century, German *superwoman* Clara Schumann did it all while juggling a 61-year concert career that made her internationally famous. Join German Historian Anette Isaacs for an intimate look at the life of the very exceptional *Clara Virtuosa*!



The Life and Times of Martin Luther

Embark on an immersive exploration into the vibrant and rebellious life of Martin Luther, history's most daring monk, guided by the insightful storytelling of German Historian Anette Isaacs. Beyond Luther's personal journey, Ms. Isaacs unveils captivating insights into the intricate tapestry of 16th-century daily life, providing a vivid and enthralling portrayal of this highly dramatic episode in the annals of civilization.



Margarete Steiff- The Woman behind the Teddy bear!

It is common knowledge that President Theodore Roosevelt was the namesake of the iconic Teddy Bear. Hardly anyone knows, though, that this delightful toy was invented by an amazing woman 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!



“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 as she unravels this “eternal enigma” and presents you with mesmerizing insights into the Fairy-tale King’s amazing life!

Also available: ***Richard Wagner and King Ludwig of Bavaria – Between Music and Madness***
Please see this lecture description at www.anetteisaacs.com

The Tainted Legacy of Richard Wagner



To some he is the creator of divine music, to others history's most controversial composer: 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.

So fun for an Oktoberfest type of event in the fall:

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 as she takes you on a fascinating, fun –and delicious– journey through the culinary wonders of her native country.

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*, beer to this day is a source of great cultural and national pride, especially in Germany. Join Historian Anette Isaacs for a lively 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!



Don't forget my delectable Workshop for Groups and Organizations:

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

(In-person lecture & tasting)



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 to 2 1/2 hours for this utterly delightful experience.



Are you interested in multi-session programming?

Explore a dynamic learning experience with my specially crafted topics designed to unfold into comprehensive multi-week seminars. Ranging from 3 to 6 weeks, these engaging sessions delve deep into various subjects. Here is just a glimpse of what is possible:

- From Normality to Terror: Inside Nazi Germany (4 -6 sessions)
- Never Forget: The Germans and the Holocaust (3-6 sessions)
- Exploring the Lives of Six Iconic Germans (6 sessions)
- From Occupation to Unification: Witnessing Germany's momentous transformation (4-6 sessions)
- Behind the Music: Beethoven, Wagner, Schumann, Mendelssohn unveiled (3-4 sessions)
- *and several more!*

Please contact me and let us select the perfect programs for your audience. I am looking forward to hearing from you!

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