



Unveiling Germany's Rich Heritage in 2025

2025 is a year full of opportunities to explore the richness of German music, history, and culture. From fascinating stories to timeless traditions, there is so much to uncover. I am thrilled to share my new program flyer, featuring dynamic topics that educate, inspire, and entertain. Let us bring these subjects to life for your audiences through my engaging lectures and thought-provoking discussions.



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

One of this year's big events: the 35th anniversary of the Unification:

Bridging the Divide: 35 Years of German Unification



As Germany approaches the 35th anniversary of its unification, the journey of bringing together two countries separated for 45 years remains a profound chapter in its modern history. The last three decades were marked by both hope and hardship as East and West Germany struggled to bridge deep divides—political, economic, and cultural. Join German historian Anette Isaacs for a fascinating discussion on the complexities of unification, the many challenges faced, and the hard-won successes that shaped the "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

Brand new – coming this Summer:

Turning Clay into Gold: The King, the Alchemist, and the Birth of Porcelain



Dive into the extraordinary story of King Augustus the Strong, who dreamed of opulence, and Johann Friedrich Böttger, the alchemist he tasked with making gold—but who instead discovered something even more valuable: porcelain. Learn how their quest for riches led to the creation of Europe's first "white gold" and turned Saxony into a hub of beauty and craftsmanship. German historian Anette Isaacs presents a tale of ambition, accidental genius, and the porcelain that dazzled a continent!

Programs relating to the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II:

Brand new and fascinating!



Unexpected Alliances: Nazi and Islamist Interactions During WWII

Embark on an enlightening journey as German Historian Anette Isaacs delves into the clandestine alliance between Nazi leaders and Islamic forces during World War II. Unravel the intricate web of Nazi ideology and Islamic antisemitism in the tumultuous years of the 1930s and 1940s, shedding light on a chapter of history often overlooked. This captivating exploration of the past and its reverberations in contemporary geopolitics illuminates the ongoing battle against extremism and deepens understanding of global dynamics.

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.

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!”* German Historian Anette Isaacs explores 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 80th anniversary of the end of World War II presents a fitting occasion to take a closer look at Hitler’s 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



80 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



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:

Eichmann before Jerusalem—Insights into the mind of a Mass Murderer: 65th anniversary lecture



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? 65 years after his capture in Argentina, German Historian Anette Isaacs presents 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.



Nazi Hunter Fritz Bauer—A Heroic Story!

65 years ago, 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.



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

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:

60th anniversary lecture

Sixty years ago, against a backdrop of shared history marred by tragedy, Germany and Israel tentatively embarked on diplomatic relations. What initially appeared improbable, given the scars of the past, has since matured into a flourishing friendship and a robust economic alliance. This narrative of reconciliation is illuminated through the lens of German Historian Anette Isaacs, who reveals her nation's confronting of its Nazi legacy and the weight of collective guilt. Join her as she delves into the poignant yet indispensable process that paved the way for a profound new chapter in German-Israeli relations—a testament to resilience and the power of reconciliation.



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. German Historian Anette Isaacs 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. 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.

Timeless Treasures: Unmissable Audience Favorites:

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! German historian Anette Isaacs 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 for a fascinating journey into the days of the Gold Rush and learn about Levi Strauss and his amazing life!



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, 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! German Historian Anette Isaacs presents a fascinating discussion of this exciting time in her country's postwar history.



Bertha Benz: A Trailblazer in Automotive History

In 1888, Bertha Benz—a mother of five and a visionary pioneer—made history as the first person to complete a long-distance journey by automobile. Her bold adventure not only demonstrated the potential of her husband Carl Benz's invention but also sparked the global revolution of the automobile. German historian Anette Isaacs brings to life the inspiring story of Bertha Benz, a woman of courage and determination whose journey forever changed the course of transportation history.



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.



“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 180 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. German Historian Anette Isaacs 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

Echoes of Genius: Unveiling German Musical Legends

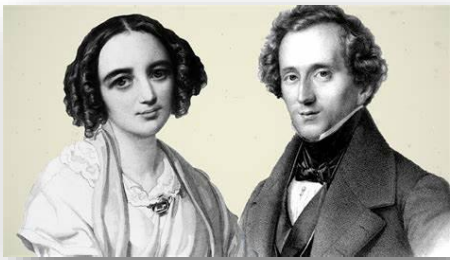


Ode to Beethoven – the Man behind the Music!

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.

Notes of Legacy: Revisiting Fanny and Felix Mendelssohn's

Marvelous Musical Journey



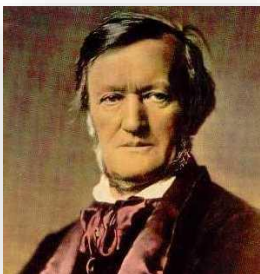
Explore the extraordinary musical journey of Fanny and Felix Mendelssohn, 19th-century German siblings and prolific composers, as we join German historian Anette Isaacs in unraveling their family's rich legacy. Fanny's talents as a pianist and composer faced societal constraints, while Felix's innovative 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.

Also available with Fanny as the main focus. This talk is called: *Fanny Mendelssohn: Gifted Composer in the Shadow of Society.*



The German Virtuosa – A 19th Century Superwoman

Clara Schumann (wife of Robert) was a trailblazer in every sense—a virtuoso pianist, gifted composer, and accomplished teacher who managed to balance her groundbreaking 61-year concert career with raising eight children and being the primary breadwinner for her family. In a time when women faced immense societal constraints, Clara defied expectations and achieved international fame. German historian Anette Isaacs offers an inspiring look into the extraordinary life and legacy of Clara Schumann, a true icon of resilience, artistry, and determination.



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.

Flavors of Germany: Culinary Delights, Beer Heritage and Holiday Magic:

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. German Historian Anette Isaacs 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!

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.



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 (4-5 sessions)

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

Anette Isaacs, M.A.
anette.isaacs@outlook.com

Tel: 847 826 9694
www.anetteisaacs.com