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In my work as a historian and public educator, I focus on Jewish Life and Remembrance, along with the history of the Third Reich. In 2024, the following programs will be so relevant and timely:

# 85th anniversary of the start 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 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Adolf 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



Today's Nazi Germany research primarily centers on the terror system causing widespread death and destruction. Our focus, however, is on understanding daily life for ordinary citizens in 1930s Germany. Exploring facets like education, employment, and cultural expression, Anette Isaacs aims to unveil how the German people navigated between normalcy and terror, revealing the transformation into a brutal dictatorship by the Nazis.

# 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: Exploring 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

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.



# 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."

#### **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.

#### 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.

# Jewish Legacy programs:



## 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!

#### Notes of Legacy: Revisiting Fanny and Felix Mendelssohn's



# **Musical Journey and Jewish Heritage**

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.

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

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