

Eintritt frei

Öffentlicher Abendvortrag im Rahmen der internationalen Fachtagung  
„Osteuropäisch-jüdische Literaturen im 20. und 21. Jahrhundert:  
Identität und Poetik“

Mittwoch  
18. April 2012  
18:00 Uhr

*Vorabend des  
Jom haScho'a  
(Holocaust Gedenktag)*

Professor Dr. David G. Roskies (New York/Negev)

## Did the Shoah Engender a New Poetics?



When did Holocaust consciousness begin, and where? Did changing consciousness in the public arena necessarily translate into a new poetics?

Armed solely with the tools of their trade – metonymy and myth, oxymoron and metaphor, meter and rhyme – poets and prose writers were better equipped than most to take the measure of the new reality, to disassemble the unprecedented catastrophe into its recognizable parts. Modern Jewish poets and prose writers were the first to perceive the khurbn/shoah as its own archetype. To test this hypothesis, we shall survey the wartime writing of four writers: Yankev Glatstein, Yitskhok Katzenelson, Avrom Sutzkever, and Rokhl Auerbach. Each writer's wartime oeuvre can further be broken down into Time Before/Time After: so long as the Jews were being excluded, confined and abandoned, they wrote one way. When all Jews were condemned to death, they, the few surviving writers, adopted a new manner of writing.

Moderation: Dr. Klavdia Smola



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