Places are strictly limited and must be reserved in advance by contacting the Leo Baeck Institute, London
e: info@leobaeck.co.uk
t: +44 (0) 20 7882 5690

Admission is free. Lectures will begin promptly at 6.30pm. Latecomers may not be admitted

Lectures will be held at:
German Historical Institute London,
17 Bloomsbury Square,
London
WC1A 2NJ

Organised by the Leo Baeck Institute London, the Jewish Museum and the Fritz Bauer Institut, Frankfurt am Main, in cooperation with the German Historical Institute London

Leo Baeck Institute
2nd Floor,
Arts Two Building
Queen Mary,
University of London
Mile End Road
London E1 4NS
t: +44 (0) 20 7882 5690
www.leobaeck.co.uk

LEO BAECK INSTITUTE LONDON

Jüdisches Museum
Frankfurt am Main
Untermainkai 14-15
60311 Frankfurt am Main
t: +49 (0)69 2123 5000
www.juedischesmuseum.de

Fritz Bauer Institut
Grüneburgplatz 1
60323 Frankfurt am Main
t: +49 (0)69 798 322 40
www.fritz-bauer-institut.de

Fritz Bauer Institut
Geschichte und Wirkung des Holocaust

We would like to thank our sponsor, Bank Sal. Oppenheimjr. & Cie. (Switzerland) Ltd
Uraniastrasse 28
CH-8022 Zurich
t: +41 (044)214 2338
www.oppenheim.ch
for their generous support of this lecture series

SAL. OPPENHEIM
since 1789

Susan James
Gareth Stedman Jones
Vivian Liska
Douglas Morris

European Leo Baeck Institute Lecture Series
London, 2012

Jews and Justice

European Leo Baeck Institute
Lecture Series
London, 2012

Jews and Justice

This season's theme is Jews and Justice. The Lecture Series aims to explore their concepts of justice, how they are related to the different political and cultural environments they lived in, as well as the potential juridical and political conflicts that arise from these concepts.

Prof. Susan James
Birkbeck College, London, UK
Spinoza on Learning to Live Justly
6.30pm, 2 February

Drawing on the work of his contemporary, Thomas Hobbes, Spinoza argues that law and the norms of justice around which it is organised are an entirely human creation. Communities make laws, and in doing so make justice. But how do they develop understandings of justice that do more than reflect the interests of the powerful, and provide standards for assessing and criticizing social arrangements? This lecture explores Spinoza's account of the philosophical, theological and political processes through which communities learn to live justly.

Susan James is Professor of Philosophy at Birkbeck College London. Her most recent book, *Spinoza on Philosophy, Religion and Politics: The Theologico-Political Treatise* is published by Oxford University Press in January 2012. Among her other works are *Passion and Action: The Emotions in Seventeenth-Century Philosophy* (1997) and *The Political Writings of Margaret Cavendish* (2003).

Prof. Gareth Stedman Jones
Queen Mary, University of London, UK
Fathers and sons: Heinrich and Karl's contrasting conceptions of the French Revolution
6.30pm, 26 April

In his lecture Gareth Stedman Jones will discuss the biography of Heinrich Marx, Karl Marx's father. He will examine his relation with the French Revolution, Napoleon and the Prussian takeover of the Rhineland and then contrast his experience at the end with that of his son. He suggests that father and son represent a contrast between two different views of the French Revolution, that of 1789 (emancipation in a liberal sense) and 1792 (Rousseau, the Republic and the disappearance of all special routes).

Professor Gareth Stedman Jones joined Queen Mary, University of London in 2010; where he is Professor of the History of Ideas. He has been, since 1991, Director of the Centre for History and Economics, Cambridge. His publications include the books *An End to Poverty?* (2004); Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, *The Communist Manifesto* (2002); *Religion and the Political Imagination*, co-edited with Ira Katznelson (2010). He has in addition recently co-edited with Gregory Claeys the *Cambridge History of Nineteenth-Century Political Thought* (2011).

Prof. Vivian Liska
University of Antwerp, Belgium
'Before the Law sits a doorkeeper. To this doorkeeper comes a man…': Kafka, Narrative and the Law
6.30pm, 23 May

References to the law pervade Kafka's writings, but their meaning remains elusive. It is precisely because it is uncertain whether the law in Kafka's work is to be understood in juridical, religious, literary, or more generally ontological terms that it has elicited numerous and often contradictory interpretations, which shed light on the relationship between these different realms. The lecture will explore how this indeterminacy and its effects have inspired concepts of justice in modernist thinkers from Scholem and Benjamin to Jacques Derrida and Giorgio Agamben, as well as the relationship between law and narrative and its correlation with Jewish approaches to the interaction between *Halacha* and *Aggadah*.

Vivian Liska is Senior Professor of German literature and Director of the Institute of Jewish Studies at the University of Antwerp, Belgium. Her research focuses on modernist literature, German-Jewish literature and culture, and literary theory. She is the author of *Die Nacht der Hymnen* and *Das schelmische Erhabene*. Her most recent book is *Fremde Gemeinschaft: Deutsch-jüdische Literatur der Moderne* (2011).

Douglas G. Morris, PhD., J.D.
Federal Defenders of New York
Inside the Dual State: The Secret Life, Writings and Lawyering of Ernst Fraenkel in Nazi Germany
6.30pm, 13 June

In 1941 the German Jewish lawyer Ernst Fraenkel published his classic account of Nazism, *The Dual State: A Contribution to the Theory of Dictatorship*. It is the only scholarly critique of Nazism written from within Nazi Germany. Fraenkel's activities from 1933 through 1938 raise questions about the possibilities of scholarly inquiry under Nazi rule and more. While many Jewish lawyers lost their law licences, Fraenkel continued to represent clients in political trials until 1938. The talk will explore Fraenkel's rare brew of practical activism and theoretical analysis, which tested the boundaries of anti-Nazi defiance.

Douglas G. Morris is a legal historian and practicing criminal defense attorney with Federal Defenders of New York, Inc. He is author of *Justice Imperiled: The Anti-Nazi Lawyer Max Hirschberg in Weimar Germany* (University of Michigan Press, 2005). In 1998 he received the Thurgood Marshall Award from the Association of the Bar of the City of New York for serving 'as pro bono counsel to a human being under a sentence of death'.