

Jews, Politics & Austria

A lecture series organised by
the ACF London and the LBI London

Franz Kafka

**‘Before the Law
stands a doorkeeper.
To this doorkeeper
comes a man...’:
Kafka, Narrative
and the Law**



The Austrian Cultural Forum London,
The Leo Baeck Institute London and
The German Historical Institute take pleasure in inviting you to

LEO BAECK
INSTITUTE LONDON



'Before the Law stands a doorkeeper. To this doorkeeper comes a man...': Kafka, Narrative and the Law

Wednesday 23 May, 6.30pm
German Historical Institute

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. The lecture will explore how this indeterminacy and its effects have inspired concepts of justice in modernist thinkers as well as the relationship between law and narrative and its correlation with Jewish approaches to the interaction between Halacha and Aggadah.

This is the third lecture in the series *Jews, Politics & Austria*, organised by the ACF London together with the Leo Baeck Institute London, and given by Vivian Liska, 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. Her most recent book is *Fremde Gemeinschaft. Deutsch-jüdische Literatur der Moderne* (2011).

Upcoming lecture

Wednesday 4 July 2012
Freud Museum London

Mark the Music: Jews, Music and Viennese Modernity

by Sander Gilman
Emory University, USA

Past lectures

Wednesday 15 February 2012
Austrian Cultural Forum London

Zeitgeist and Testimony Arthur Schnitzler

by Konstanze Fliedl
University of Vienna, Austria

Thursday 29 March 2012
Austrian Ambassador's Residence

Hans Kelsen 20th Century Lawyer: Comeback not desired

By Professor Raphael Gross
Leo Baeck Institute London

Entry is free, but seating is limited
Please book by 16 May
Booking via the Leo Baeck Institute London
E info@leobaec.co.uk

Venue:
German Historical Institute
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