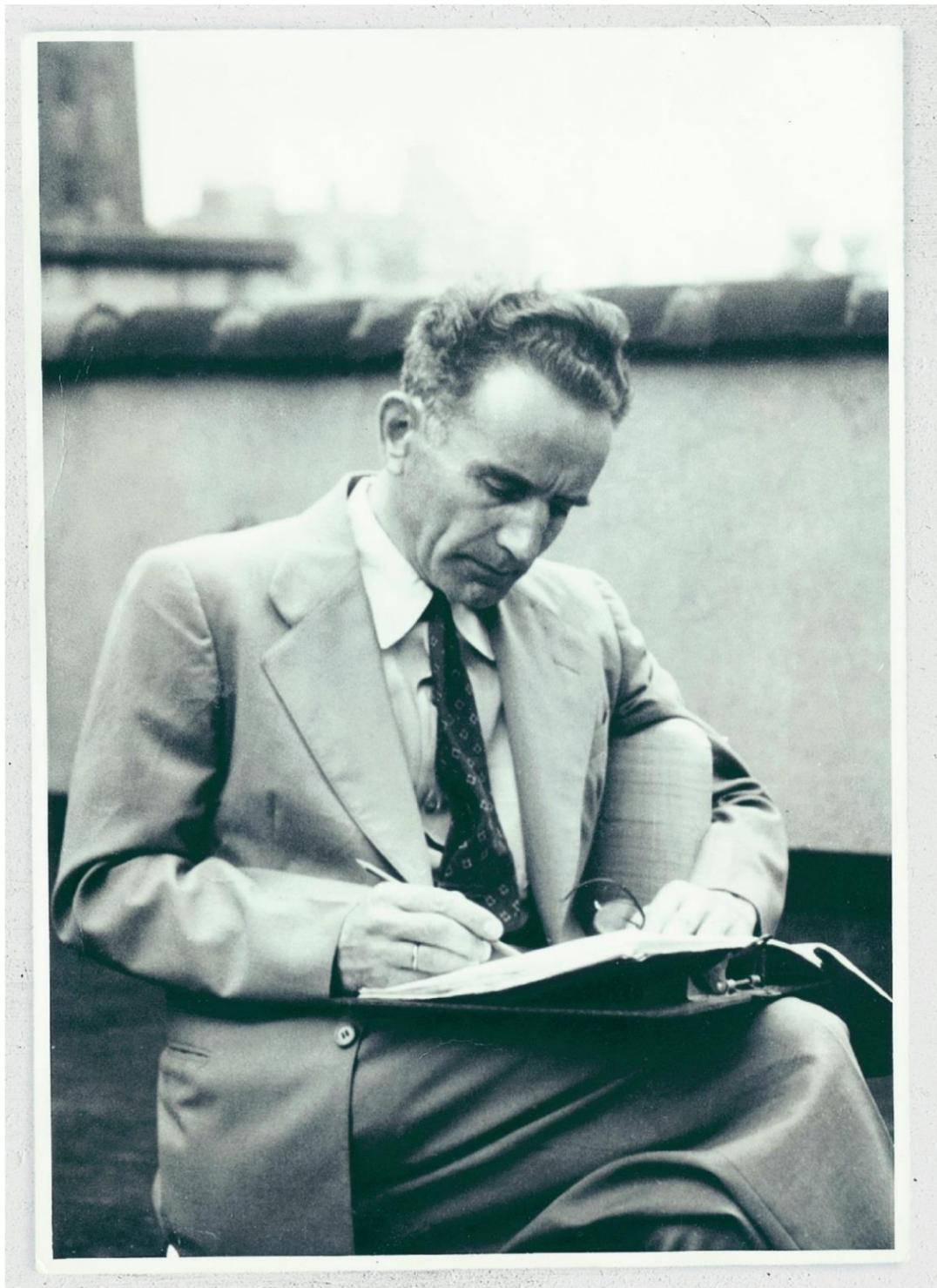


UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS – UNIVERSITY  
OF INNSBRUCK ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

New Orleans, March 14-15, 2013

**The Life and Work of Günther Anders:  
Émigré, Iconoclast, Philosopher, *Literateur***

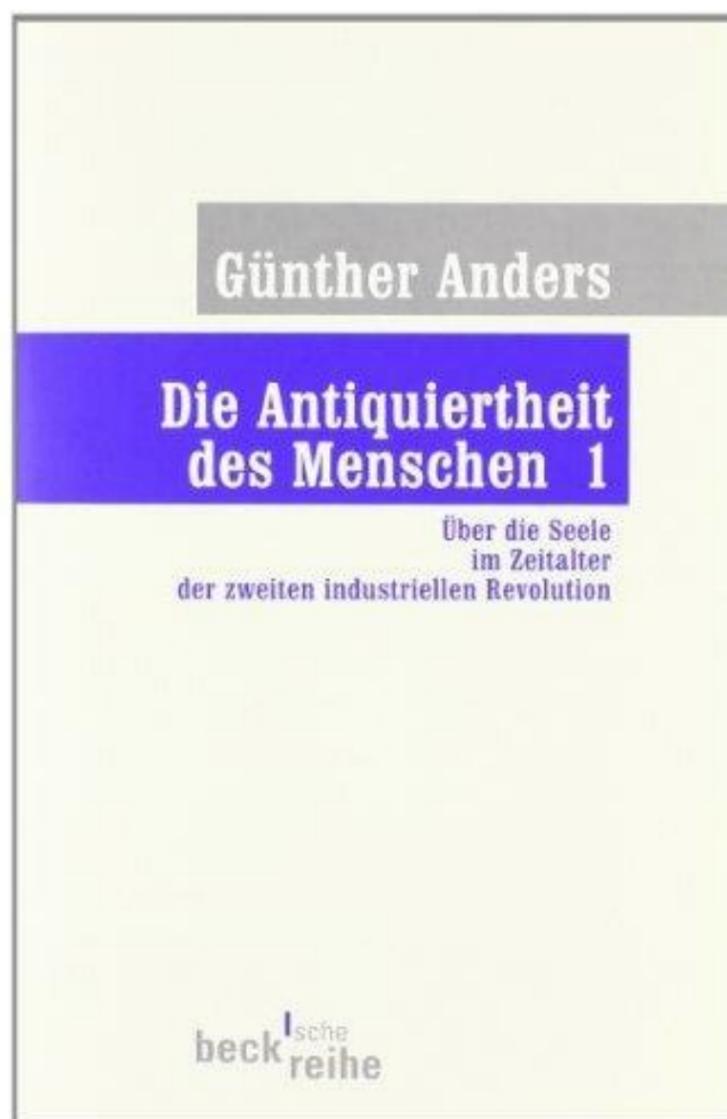


**Conference Coordination:  
Günter Bischof / New Orleans,  
Johann Holzner / Innsbruck,  
With Bernhard Fetz,  
Austrian Literature Archives / Vienna**

“The mechanized civilization of today may be described as appropriating and exploiting everything there is as raw material or fuel, and destroying whatever cannot be exploited - even human beings.”

**Günther Anders** (1902, Breslau – 1992, Vienna), born Günther Stern, son of the psychologist William Stern, studied Philosophy with Edmund Husserl and Martin Heidegger in Freiburg, gained his doctoral degree in 1923. In the twenties Anders developed a Philosophical Anthropology with strong affinity to the Anthropologies of Max Scheler and Helmuth Plessner. Due to the political climate of the late Weimar Republic Anders' intention to habilitate in Frankfurt with a treatise on the Philosophy of Music failed. Later on, Anders worked as a journalist in Berlin and wrote the antifascist novel *Die molussische Katakombe* (*The molussian catacomb*; published in 1992); from 1929 to 1937 he was married to Hannah Arendt, whom he met in the early twenties in a Heidegger-seminar. In 1933 Anders emigrated to Paris, in 1936 to the United States, where he worked at various 'odd jobs', wrote for *Austro-American Tribune* and *Aufbau*, and later lectured at the New York based *New School for Social Research*. The nuclear disaster of Hiroshima and Nagasaki marks a turning point in Anders' thinking and his philosophical interests. After returning to Europe in 1950 and settling in Vienna, Anders became a central figure of the antinuclear movement. In his main philosophical

work *Die Antiquiertheit des Menschen* (*The Outdatedness of Human Beings*, 1956) Anders developed a *Philosophy of Discrepancy*, in which he analyses the discrepancy between what we are able to *produce* and what we are able to *imagine*. Anders published numerous literary and philosophical works, an influential essay on Kafka (*Kafka – pro and contra*, 1951), philosophical diaries (*Der Mann auf der Brücke*, *The Mann on the Bridge*, 1959) and his correspondence with Hiroshima-pilot Claude Eatherly (*Burning Conscience*, 1962). Anders was a member of the Russell Tribunal and a critic of the American aggression in Vietnam (*Visit Beautiful Vietnam*, 1968). His later works include essays on the atomic age, diaries and aphorisms (*Ketzereien*, *Heresies*, 1982), as well as a second volume of *The Outdatedness of Human Beings* (1980).



# Program

**Thursday, March 14, 2013**

**8:30 – 9 a.m.**

**WELCOME**

Günter Bischof, Director, CenterAustria

Peter Fos, President, University of New Orleans

**9 – 12:00 a.m SESSION I**

**ANDERS – THE CONSUMMATE PHILOSOPHER**

Chair: Frank H. Schalow, Department of Philosophy, University of New Orleans

Andreas Hetzel, Institute of Philosophy, Technical University of Darmstadt

*Beyond Anthropology: Philosophy and the Ends of Man*

Wolfgang Palaver, Department of Systematic Theology, University of Innsbruck

*The Deadline [Die Frist]: Günther Anders's Apocalyptic in Light of the Christian Virtue of Hope*

Andreas Oberprantacher, Department of Philosophy, University of Innsbruck

*The Desertification of the World: Günther Anders on "Weltlosigkeit"*

Reinhard Ellensohn, Austrian Literature Archives & University of Vienna

*Günther Anders' Philosophy of Music*

**12 – 1 p.m. Lunch at Hotel**

**2 – 4 p.m. SESSION II**

**ANDERS AS A LITERARY FIGURE**

Chair: Aaron Horton, Alabama State University, Montgomery

Bernhard Fetz, Director, Austrian Literature Archives

*Günther Anders: Between Literature and Philosophy. From His Early Anthropological Writing Via “Antiquiertheit des Menschen” to His Long Poem “Maeriechen”*

Kerstin Putz, Austrian Literature Archives

*Günther Anders in seiner Korrespondenz: Der Briefwechsel mit Hannah Arendt*

**6 – 9 p.m. DINNER AND KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

**Zea’s Restaurant, 1525 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, LA.**

**Keynote Address**

Chair: Bernhard Fetz, Director, Austrian Literature Archives

Konrad-Paul Liessmann, Department of Philosophy, University of Vienna

*Zwischen allen Stühlen. Günther Anders als Außenseiter der Philosophie*

**Friday, March 15, 2012**

**9 – 12 a.m. SESSION III**

**HISTORICAL CONTEXTS**

Chair: Günter Bischof, CenterAustria, University of New Orleans

Jason Dawsey, Department of History, University of Chicago

*Günther Anders and His American Exile*

Elisabeth Röhrlich, University of Vienna

*“To Make the End Time Endless” : Günther Anders’ Fight against Nuclear Weapons*

Jean-Pierre Dupuy, Department of Philosophy, Ecole Polytechnique, Paris, and Department of Political Science, Stanford University

*An Andersian Approach to Nuclear Deterrence*

Berthold Molden, Department of History, University of New Orleans

*Günther Anders as a Transnational Intellectual in the 1960s*

**12 - 1 p.m. Lunch at Hotel**

## **Suggested Afternoon Program**

**Visit National World War II Museum or Ogden Museum of Southern Art or French Quarter**

**4 p.m. see movie *Beyond All Boundaries* at National World War II Museum**

**8 p.m. Drinks and Dinner at National World War II Museum**



## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

**Günter Bischof** is a native of Austria and has taught at UNO for more than 20 years. He studied English and History at the Universities of Innsbruck, Vienna, New Orleans and holds a PhD in American History from Harvard University. He is the Marshall Plan Professor of History and the Director of CenterAustria at the University of New Orleans; he was appointed a University Research Professor in June 2011. He served as a visiting professor at the Universities of Munich, Innsbruck, Salzburg, Vienna, the *Wirtschaftsuniversität Wien*, VSE in Prague, and the RGGU in Moscow, as well the “Post-Katrina” Visiting Professor at LSU. He is the author of *Austria in the First Cold War, 1945/55: The Leverage of the Weak* (1999), coeditor of *Contemporary Austrian Studies* (21 vols) and the co-editor of another 20 books on topics of international contemporary history (esp. World War II and the Cold War in Central Europe), among them with Barbara Stelzl-Marx and Stefan Karner *The Vienna Summit of 1961* [forthcoming 2013], with Stephen E. Ambrose, *Facts against Falsehood: Eisenhower and the German P.O.W.'s* (1992), *Eisenhower: A Centenary Assessment* (1995), and with Saki Dockrill, *Cold War Respite: The Geneva Summit of 1955* (2000). He serves as a “Presidential Counselor” at the National World War II Museum in New Orleans and on the board of the Botstiber Institute for Austrian-American Studies.

**Jason Dawsey** teaches history at the University of Southern Mississippi. He is receiving his Ph.D. in Modern European history this spring from the University of Chicago. His dissertation, which draws on materials from the *Anders Nachlass* at the Austrian Literature Archive in Vienna, is titled “The Limits of the Human in the Age of Technological Revolution: Günther Anders, Post-Marxism, and the Emergence of Technology Critique.” He is the author of “Where Hitler’s Name is Never Spoken: Günther Anders in 1950s Vienna,” which appeared in Volume XXI of *Contemporary Austrian Studies*, ed. Günter Bischof, Fritz Plasser, and Eva Maltschnig (New Orleans and Innsbruck, 2012) and of the forthcoming “After Hiroshima: Günther Anders and the History of Anti-Nuclear Critique,” in *Unthinking the Imaginary War: Intellectual Reflections on the Nuclear Age, 1945-1990*, ed. Benjamin Ziemann and

Holger Nehring (Stanford UP, in preparation). His broader research interests include critiques of modern technology, the history of Western Marxism, and the emergence of Holocaust awareness.

**Jean-Pierre Dupuy** is Professor Emeritus of Social and Political Philosophy, Ecole Polytechnique, Paris and Professor of Political Science, Stanford University. He is a member of the French Academy of Technology and of the Conseil Général des Mines, the French High Magistracy that oversees and regulates industry, energy and the environment. He chairs the Ethics Committee of the French High Authority on Nuclear Safety and Security. He is the Director of the Research Program of Imitatio, a new foundation devoted to the dissemination and discussion of René Girard's mimetic theory. His most recent work has dealt with the topic of catastrophe, and is being translated and collected in a volume to be published by Stanford University Press. Among his most recent publications: *The Mechanization of the Mind* (Princeton University Press, 2000); *Pour un catastrophisme éclairé* (Paris, Seuil, 2002); *Avions-nous oublié le mal? Penser la politique après le 11 septembre* (Paris, Bayard, 2002); *Petite métaphysique des tsunamis* (Paris, Seuil, 2005); *Retour de Tchernobyl: Journal d'un homme en colère* (Paris, Seuil, 2006); *On the Origins of Cognitive Science* (The MIT Press, 2009); *La Marque du sacré* (Paris, Carnets Nord, 2009); *Dans l'œil du cyclone* (Carnets Nord, 2009); *L'Avenir de l'économie* (Flammarion, 2012).

**Reinhard Ellensohn** studied Philosophy and History at the University of Vienna and holds MA degrees in Philosophy (Mag. phil.) and in Library and Information Studies (MSc).

In 2008 he published a monograph about Günther Anders' philosophy of music entitled *Der andere Anders: Günther Anders als Musikphilosoph* (Frankfurt/Main 2008). Currently he is engaged in the preparation of an edition of Anders' early writings on the Philosophy of Music from his literary estate, within the context of a scientific project financed by the Austrian Science Fund (FWF) and under direction of Konrad Paul Liessmann and Bernhard Fetz, entitled "Günther Anders: Editing and Contextualisation of Selected Writings from the Estate."

**Bernhard Fetz** is director of the *Literaturarchiv der Österreichischen Nationalbibliothek* and professor of German Studies at the University of Vienna. He has played a leading role in collaborative work on major research projects, for example with the *Ludwig Boltzmann Institut für Geschichte und Theorie der Biographie*. First Hermann Broch Fellow at the Beinecke Library/Yale University in 1998; he serves as a literary critic for Radio Austria, *Die Presse*, and the *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*. He has published extensively on twentieth-century literary and cultural history and is co-editor of the ten-volume edition of the works of Albert Drach, as well as co-editor of the book series "Profile". Other recent publications are *Das unmögliche Ganze: Zur literarischen Kritik der Kultur* (Munich, 2009); *Die Biographie – Zur Grundlegung ihrer Theorie* (ed., Berlin, 2009); *Die Ernst Jandl Show* (ed., with Hannes Schweiger, Salzburg, 2010); *Theorie der Biographie. Grundlagentexte und Kommentar* (ed. with Wilhelm Hemecker, Berlin, 2011).

**Andreas Hetzel** teaches philosophy at the Universities of Darmstadt and Innsbruck. He studied Philosophy and German Literature at the universities of Münster and Frankfurt am Main and obtained his PhD (1999) and his Habilitation (2009) at Darmstadt University (TU Darmstadt). His research interests include political philosophy, contemporary French theory, critical theory, German idealism, and ancient philosophy. He currently focuses on theories of rhetoric and philosophies of language. Apart from co-editing eleven books, he has published a book on the concept of culture *Zwischen Poiesis und Praxis: Elemente einer kritischen Theorie der Kultur*, (2001) and a book on the concept of language in classical rhetoric and modern pragmatics *Die Wirksamkeit der Rede: Zur Aktualität klassischer Rhetorik für die moderne Sprachphilosophie* (2011).

**Aaron D. Horton** is an Assistant Professor of History at Alabama State University in Montgomery, AL. He earned his doctorate from Louisiana State University in May 2011, and specializes in modern German cultural and intellectual history. In the spring 2011 semester, he won LSU's Miller Dissertation Prize for "The Long Road Home: Alfred Andersch, Hans Werner Richter, and the German Search for Meaning in Catastrophe." Prior to his arrival at Alabama State, he served as a visiting professor at Grambling State University (2008-2009) in Louisiana and the University of Arkansas at Little Rock (2009-2011). He has

contributed to several Salem Press encyclopedias, including *The Twenties in America*, *The Thirties in America*, and *Great Lives from History: Asians and Pacific Islanders*. He is currently under contract with Fairleigh Dickenson University Press to publish his first monograph, *Alfred Andersch and Hans Werner Richter: POWs, Der Ruf, and the Genesis of Group 47*.

**Konrad Paul Liessmann** is professor for Teaching Methods in the Fields of Philosophy and Ethics at the Department of Philosophy, University of Vienna. He holds an MA Degree in German Language and Literature and PhD Degree in Philosophy. Since 1997 he has been the Academic Director of the annual international symposium "*Philosophicum Lech*" and Editor of the book series of the same name, from 2004-2008 he was Director of the Studies Program at the Faculty for Philosophy and Educational Science, University of Vienna, from 2008-2012 he was Vice Dean of the Faculty for Philosophy and Educational Science, University of Vienna. Research fields: Aesthetics, philosophy of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries (Marx, Kierkegaard, Nietzsche, Adorno, Anders); theory of education, philosophy of culture. He is the author of over 20 books, some have been translated into languages such as Dutch, Spanish, Czech, Russian, Croatian, and Chinese. Among his most recent publications: *Philosophie der modernen Kunst*, 5th ed. (2000), *Die großen Philosophen und ihre Probleme*, 5th ed. (2001); *Philosophie des verbotenen Wissens: Friedrich Nietzsche und die schwarzen Seiten des Denkens* (2000/2010); *Günther Anders: Philosophieren im Zeitalter der technologischen Revolutionen* (2002); *Ästhetik der Verführung: Kierkegaards Konstruktion der Erotik aus dem Geiste der Kunst* (2005); *Theorie der Unbildung: Die Irrtümer der Wissensgesellschaft*, 17<sup>th</sup> ed. (2010); *Ästhetische Empfindungen* (2008); *Schönheit* (2009); *Das Universum der Dinge: Zur Ästhetik des Alltäglichen* (2010); *Lob der Grenze: Kritik der politischen Unterscheidungskraft* (2012).

**Dr. Berthold Molden** works on the global intellectual history of the Cold War, with regional focusses on Europe and Latin America; he is the 2012/2013 Marshall Plan Chair of Austrian and European Studies at the University of New Orleans and taught as a Mellon Visiting Scholar at the University of Chicago during the spring of 2011. In 2010 he was a

Visiting Professor of Global History at the University of Vienna, where he also serves on the faculties of the Erasmus Mundus MA program “Global Studies: A European Perspective” and the MA degree program in “Higher Latin American Studies.” From 2005 to 2010, he directed an international research project on European Cold War memory at the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for European History and Public Sphere, of which he was a founding member. He is co-editor of *Polyphonic Pasts: Politics of History in Latin America* (2009), and of *Friedrich Katz: Essays on the Life and Work of a Transnational Historian* (2012).

**Andreas Oberprantacher** is Assistant Professor at the Department of Philosophy, University of Innsbruck; Core Faculty Member at the UNESCO Chair for Peace Studies, University of Innsbruck; senior lecturer for Philosophy, Sociology as well as for Peace and Conflict Studies in Bangkok, Thailand, and Puducherry, India. He is the secretary general of the Austrian Society of Philosophy. Recent Publications in English include: “Who is we? On the Excessive Use of a Political Pronoun,” *L’Excès. L’hypermodernité, entre droit et politique*, Pascal Mbongo, ed. (Paris: mare & martin, 2012); “Off Limits: Elastic Border Regimes and the (Visual) Politics of Making Things Public,” *Activist Media and Biopolitics: Critical Media Intervention in the Age of Biopower*, Wolfgang Sützl and Theo Hug, eds. (Innsbruck: Innsbruck University Press, 2011); with Marie-Luisa Frick: “Shared is not yet Sharing, Or: What Makes Social Networking Services Public?” *IRIE: International Review of Information Ethics* 15 (2011); “Culture Jammed. The Art of Subverting Violence.” *Medienimpulse. Beiträge zur Medienpädagogik* 2 (2011); “Beyond Rivalry? Rethinking Community in View of Apocalyptic Violence,” *Contagion: Journal of Violence, Mimesis and Culture* 17/1 (2010); with Marie-Luisa Frick, eds., *Power and Justice in International Relations: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Global Challenges* (Farnham: Ashgate, 2009).

**Wolfgang Palaver** is Professor of Catholic social thought and Dean of the Faculty of Catholic Theology at the University of Innsbruck, Austria. From 2007 to 2011 he served as president of the Colloquium on Violence and Religion (COV&R). He has written articles and books on Thomas Hobbes, Carl Schmitt, René Girard and on the relationship between religion and violence. His most recent books are: *René Girard's*

*Mimetic Theory* (2013); *Passions in Economy, Politics, and the Media* (ed. with P. Steinmair-Pösel; 2005); *Aufgeklärte Apokalyptik: Religion, Gewalt und Frieden im Zeitalter der Globalisierung* (ed. with A. Exenberger and K. Stoeckl); *Politische Philosophie versus Politische Theologie? Die Frage der Gewalt im Spannungsfeld von Politik und Religion* (ed. with A. Oberprantacher and D. Regensburger; 2011); *Gewalt und Religion: Ursache oder Wirkung?* (with René Girard; 2010).

**Kerstin Putz** is a student of German Studies and Philosophy at the University of Vienna (Mag.<sup>a</sup> phil.). She is specializing in literary and cultural theory, aesthetics, interrelationships between literature and philosophy with a particular focus on the *Frankfurter Schule*. Her MA thesis dealt with the concept of realism in the works of Alexander Kluge. In 2011 she received a dissertation research grant from the University of Vienna for the preparation of her thesis on the theory of the anecdote in Cultural Sciences, as well as on anecdotes in Günther Anders' interdisciplinary writings between literature and philosophy. Since 2012 she has served as a researcher in the project „Günther Anders: Editing and Contextualisation of Selected Writings from the Estate“ (direction: Konrad Paul Liessmann, Bernhard Fetz). This project is funded by the Austrian Science Foundation and is being hosted by the Literature Archives of the Austrian National Library; she is working on the preparation of an edition of Anders' correspondences.

**Elisabeth Röhrlich** is researcher and lecturer in contemporary history at the University of Vienna. She holds a PhD in contemporary history from Tübingen University, Germany. Her dissertation dealt with Bruno Kreisky's foreign policy and was published as her first book in 2009. In 2010, the book was awarded the Bruno Kreisky Prize for the Political Book (Recognition Award). In 2011 Röhrlich was short-time visiting research fellow at the German Historical Institute in Washington, D.C. Her current research activities focus on the early history of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the origins of the nuclear nonproliferation regime as well as on Europe's nuclear history. In 2011, together with Oliver Rathkolb, she was cofounder of the research project “The Early History of the IAEA” (funded by a research grant of the Austrian National Bank). She is partner of the Nuclear Proliferation International History Project (NPIHP) at the Woodrow Wilson

International Center for Scholars. She is also one of the coordinators of the EU Erasmus Intensive Program “Atomic Energy, the Threat of Nuclear Warfare, and the History of European Integration” (ATEU), 2012-2013.

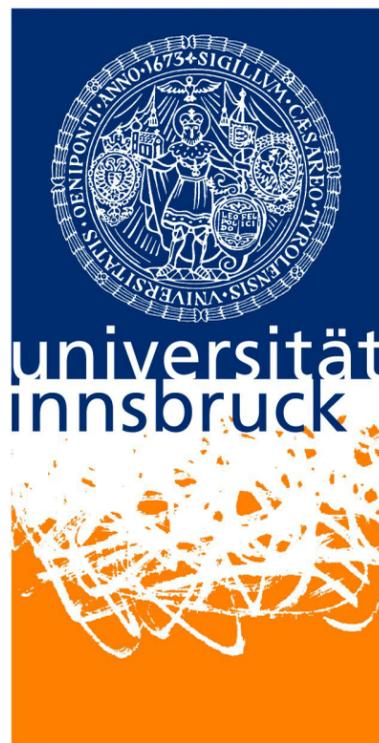
**Dr. Frank Schalow** is Professor of Philosophy and University Research Professor at the University of New Orleans. He has published numerous books, including *Departures: At the Crossroads between Heidegger and Kant* (2013), *The Incarnality of Being: The Earth, Animals and the Body in Heidegger’s Thought* (2006), *Heidegger and the Quest for the Sacred: From Thought to the Sanctuary of Faith* (2001), and *The Renewal of the Heidegger-Kant Dialogue* (1992). Currently, he is co-editor of the international journal *Heidegger Studies*.



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