

# SYMPOSIUM

## ESCAPING THE BURDEN OF SILENCE\*

### Adult Children and Grandchildren of Victims and of Perpetrators of the Shoah/Holocaust in Dialogue

#### THE AUSTRIAN ENCOUNTER: 20 YEARS

#### Locations:

- Ateliers der Akademie der Bildenden Künste (Studios of the Academy of Fine Arts), Kurzbauergasse 9, 1020 Vienna, Austria
- *magdas* HOTEL, Laufberggasse 12, 1020 Vienna, Austria

#### Dates and times:

- From 4 pm Friday, 4 December, to the evening of Monday, 7 December 2015
- Tuesday, 8 December free morning and afternoon in Vienna.

#### Target audience:

- Former and active members of TAE (*The Austrian Encounter*) from Europe and the United States
- Former and active participants in the group founded by Dan-Bar-On, TRT (*To Reflect and Trust*) from Germany, Israel and the United States
- Former and active participants in similar dialogue projects
- Future potential participants in dialogue projects
- Family members of the above
- Members of the public with personal or professional interest in such projects, including genocide scholars, psychologists and others

#### Registration:

By email to: [e.fischer@experimentier.com](mailto:e.fischer@experimentier.com)

Deadline: 30 October 2015

**Symposium fee:** (including two buffets): € 150

For enquiries regarding discounts please contact: [E. Fischer](#)

**Accommodation:** 30 rooms at a reduced price have been reserved under the name of *Fischer* at: *magdas* HOTEL, Laufberggasse, 1020 Wien.

- Link to the hotel in English: <http://www.magdas-hotel.at/en/home/>
- Link to the hotel in German: <http://www.magdas-hotel.at/home/>

We recommend that you reserve your rooms by 1 October 2015, at the latest. Single occupancy per night, € 51; double occupancy per night, € 61; not inclusive of €12 per person for a buffet breakfast.

# PROGRAMME

## Friday, 4 December 2015

16:00 Arrival and registration

17:00 Opening and welcome address by the Rector of the Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna, Eva Blimlinger (German with English translation)

Welcome song, together with Hans Breuer, singer of Yiddish songs. Lyrics of "Hot di Bobe" ("Did Grandma") will be available.

Introductory talk by Samson Munn about Dan Bar-On, the German-related encounter group *To Reflect and Trust (TRT)* and the beginnings of *The Austrian Encounter (TAE)* (English with German translation)

18:30 Interactive presentation of the history of the two encounter groups by group members taking part in the symposium.

20:00 Evening event: buffet supper

## Saturday, 5 December 2015

10:00 Morning welcome song with Hans Breuer

Talk: "Identity, Responsibility and Being Human – Subsequent Generations"

Samson Munn, Founder of the *The Austrian Encounter*  
Follow-up discussion (English with German translation), including the audience.

11:00 Break (fruit and drinks)

11:30 "A taste of the Encounter" Biographical interviews in small groups

13:00 Lunch

15:00 *Open Space* groups, workshops and talks: an introduction to the *Open Space* process followed by an announcement of the topics being offered by the initiators.

All participants are free to initiate a discussion group, workshop or a talk, which can be prepared before the symposium or may be a spontaneous contribution. Each day, the programme will be generated together, followed by an announcement of the groups offered.

16:00 Break (fruit and drinks)

16:30 *Open Space* groups, workshops and talks

The following documentary film will also be shown: **Things. Places.Years.** Klub Zwei (Simone Bader & Jo Schmeiser) A/GB 2004, Beta SP, colour, 70 min. (English with German subtitles)

Experiences of expulsion, emigration and the Holocaust, are treated as things past. The film recognises the past as part of the present. This past is part of our identities as the descendants of those deported and forced into exile, and as the adult children of witnesses, of bystanders and of perpetrators.

With: Geraldine Auerbach, Josephine Bruegel, Erica Davies, Lisbeth Perks, Katherine Klinger, Elly Miller, Rosemarie Nief, Anni Reich, Ruth Rosenfelder, Ruth Sands, Nitza Spiro, Tamar Wang

18:00 Supper

20:00 Concert: Hans Breuer and Band

## **Sunday, 6 December 2015**

10:00 Welcome song together with Hans Breuer

"A taste of the Encounter" Biographical interviews in small groups.

12:00 *Break (fruit and drinks)*

12:30 Announcement of the *Open Space* groups, workshops and talks offered in the afternoon

13:00 Lunch

15:00 *Open Space* groups, workshops and talks

16:30 *Break (fruit and drinks)*

17:00 Plenary session: Short presentations of the open-space groups, workshops and talks with follow-up discussions.

18:00 Supper

20:00 **Love History**

Klub Zwei (Simone Bader & Jo Schmeiser) A / 2010 / Documentary Film / 35 mm / 98 min

The film is about women in Austria and in Germany tracing their Nazi family histories. They research the historical facts as well as the marks this past has left on their lives: how does it affect their personal relationships, sexuality, love and political activism?

With: Helga Hofbauer, Dietlinde Polach, Jeanette Toussaint, Katrin Himmler, Patricia Reschenbach, Maria Pohn-Weidinger, Lenka Reschenbach

or

Theatre visit: Theater Nestroyhof Hamakom, Nestroyplatz 1 (to be confirmed)  
<http://www.hamakom.at/ueberuns>

## **Monday, 7 December 2015**

10:00 Welcome song with Hans Breuer

"A taste of the Encounter" Biographical interviews in small groups

12:00 *Break (fruit and drinks)*

12:30 Announcement of the *Open Space* groups, workshops and talks offered in the afternoon

13:00 Lunch

15:00 *Open Space* groups, workshops and talks

16:30 *Break (fruit and drinks)*

17:00 Plenary session: Closing of the symposium with a look into the future.

19:00 End of symposium party (with buffet)

Roma and/or Sinti music (to be confirmed) and dancing with the band "Kohélet 3"

## **Tuesday, 8 December 2015 – *Holiday!***

10:00 Free morning and afternoon in Vienna.

Should there be interest, special tours of Vienna can be organised (e.g., "Discover Peace in Vienna," "Jewish Vienna" ...)

\*By Dan Bar-On:

- Die Last des Schweigens, Gespräche mit Kindern von NS-Tätern, Campus 1993;
- Die Last des Schweigens, Gespräche mit Kindern von NS-Tätern, erweiterte Neuausgabe, unveränd., edition Körper-Stiftung 2003;
- Die Last des Schweigens, Gespräche mit Kindern von NS-Tätern [*kindle* edition], edition Körper-Stiftung 2012;
- Legacy of Silence, Encounters with Children of the Third Reich, Harvard University Press, Cambridge 1991.