

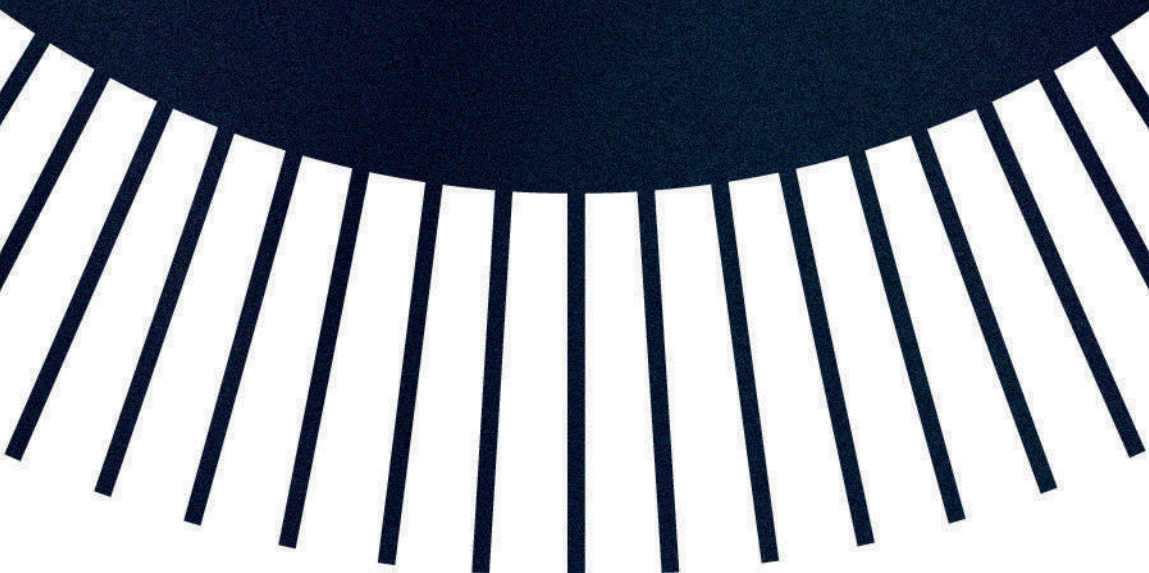
**October 19-21, 2023**

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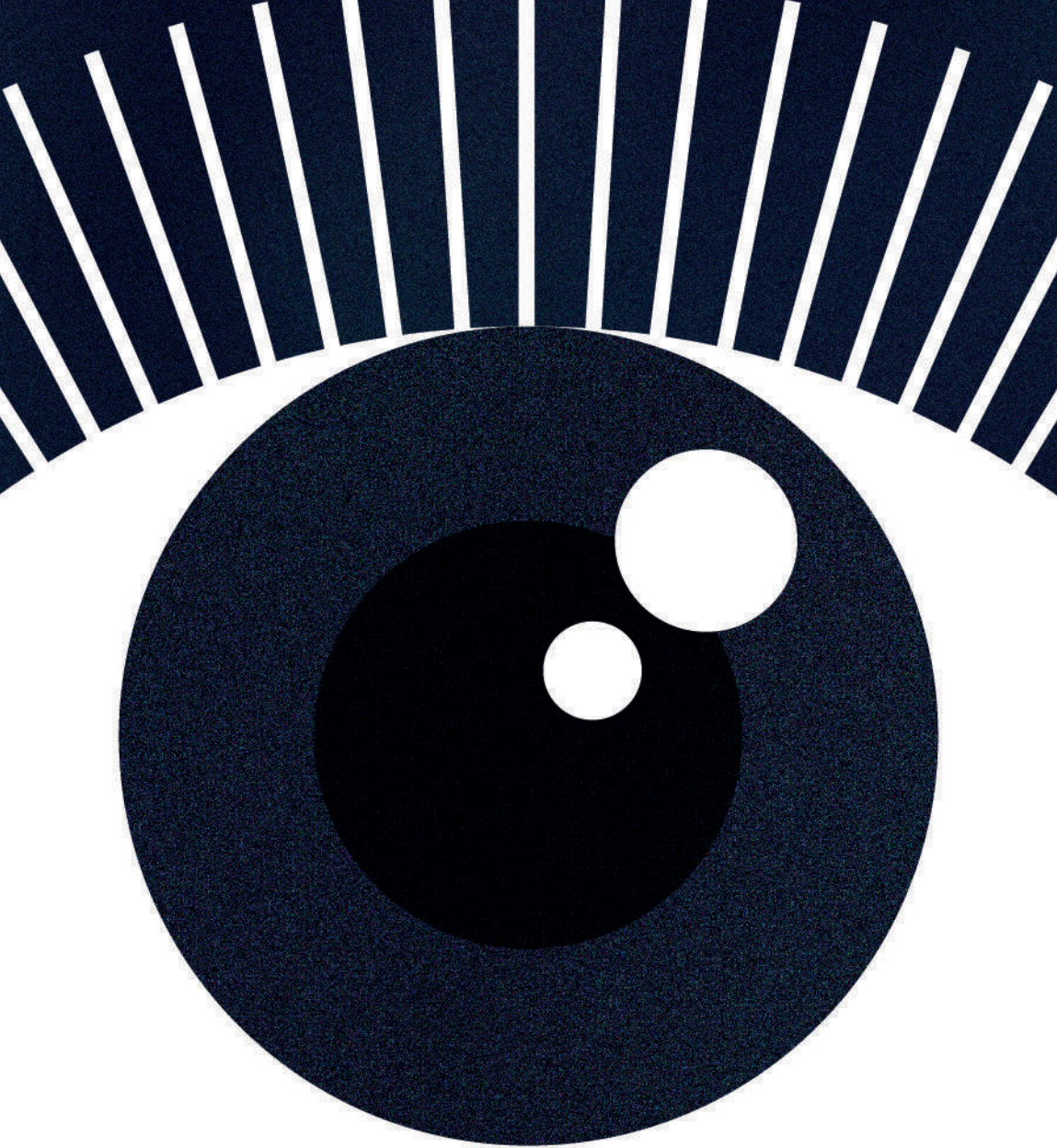
Institute for Ideas and Imagination  
Columbia Global Center in Paris  
Reid Hall, 4 Rue de Chevreuse

# **Sleepless Nights, Dreamy Nights:**

**Working with Dreams and  
Other Nighttime Documents  
in Eastern Europe and Beyond**







Listening to sirens and phone alerts. Staying updated through the media to make informed choices about when and where to sleep. Constantly monitoring the time and adapting to curfew rules. Experiencing nights of restlessness as well as nights filled with vivid dreams. These are all part of the nightly realities faced by civilians enduring wartime conditions. The full-scale invasion of the Russian Federation and the war in Ukraine push us to ask new questions, revisit historical accounts, and explore connections and divergences in the ways in which wars are experienced and imagined while also pursuing an inquiry into how war experiences can highlight the ways we imagine ourselves and our societies.

Paying attention to the night rather than the daytime helps us capture personal emotions and experiences, which, in turn, shape social and cultural realities and imaginations. A study of the distinct temporality and spatiality of the nighttime allows for a more nuanced exploration of how the personal and the social manifest and intersect. The night is a time of solitude, reflection, individual contemplation, introspection, and self-examination. It is also a time of greater vulnerability, on a personal and a collective level, and for this reason, bears the most significant impact and the greatest disruption in times of insecurity and war. Thus, focusing on nighttime is critical for exploring societies and individuals in turbulent and violent times.

Much of the research in night studies centers around urban environments: cities come alive at night with a unique set of activities; nightlife, entertainment, nocturnal work, and transportation all share an urban dimension. Throughout history, wandering the streets at night has often been associated with shadowy worlds inhabited by rogues, night-shift workers, and rule-breakers. Nevertheless, the night offers more than just a refuge for vice, so another facet of the night exists beyond this perception. Focusing on personal accounts, including dreams and nighttime reflections in various personal accounts and documents, can be essential for a multifaceted understanding of historical events, particularly traumatic events such as war and mass violence. Such sources can provide a nuanced perspective that transcends traditional historical narratives, shedding light on the diverse experiences of individuals from different backgrounds.

The region in the focus is Eastern Europe, a highly heterogeneous place marked by a complex and intertwined history, populated with communities sharing geographical space and divided by conflicting experiences, especially in the context of violence and wars. By delving into personal accounts and dreams from this region, we gain insights that extend well beyond regional boundaries. These accounts can serve as bridges to connect with other regions that have undergone similar challenges and conflicts, fostering a broader dialogue on shared human experiences during times of upheaval. In this way,

our focus on Eastern Europe serves as a departure point to build a more interconnected and comprehensive understanding of history and its reverberations with other regions and places globally. The workshop contributes to exploring such connections by bringing research from Southern Europe and Latin America into conversation.

The workshop builds on a documentation initiative launched by the Center for Urban History after February 24, 2022, which focused on gathering diaries and dreams related to the war, as well as on the seminar “Documenting Dreams of War” that took place online on May 15, 2023. In bringing together anthropologists, historians, literary scholars, and psychotherapists, the workshop aims to foster methodological reflections and share experiences and analytical frameworks. Our hope is that the intimate format and the extended time we allot for discussions will help foster present and future collaborations.

## **Organizing Institutions**

Center for Urban History (Ukraine)

The Harriman Institute, Columbia University (USA)

Columbia Institute for Ideas and Imagination (USA)

Department of History at Columbia University (USA)

CERCEC/EHESS (France)

## **Programming Committee**

**Bohdan Shumylovych, Sofia Dyak** (Center for Urban History)

**Malgorzata Mazurek, Ofer Dynes** (Columbia University)

**Masha Cerovic** (CERCEC/EHESS)

## **Organizational Committee**

**Maryana Mazurak, Viktoriia Panas** (Center for Urban History)

**Marie d'Origny, Meredith Hunter-Mason, Sari Castro**

(Institute for Ideas and Imagination)

**Eileen Huhn** (Harriman Institute)

**Thomas da Silva** (CERCEC/EHESS)

**Svitlana Bregman**, interpreter

We are grateful for the support of The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, The Bud Shorstein Center for Jewish Studies at the University of Florida, The British Academy, and The University of Southampton.

October 19  
Thursday

arrivals, checking-in

# Workshop Schedule

October 20  
Friday

10:00 - 10:15 welcome

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## Sleepless Nights, Dreamy Nights

[session 1]

- Chair: Malgorzata Mazurek (Columbia U)
- 10:15 - 11:45 **Ofer Dynes** (Columbia U): *Night in Eastern Europe and Beyond*  
**Charles Stewart** (U College London): *A Dream Notebook from Naxos (1934): Local Orthodox Christianity and Eternity*  
**Amy Chazkel** (Columbia U): *Urban Chiaroscuro: Histories of the City and the Daily Transition to Darkness, a View from the South Atlantic*
- 11:45 - 12:45 **Discussion**
- 13:00 - 14:30 **Lunch**

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## War and Terror

[session 2]

- Chair: Masha Cerovic (CERCEC/EHESS)
- 14:30 - 15:30 **Natalia Aleksion** (U of Florida): *Jewish Dreams and Nightmares During the Holocaust*  
**Sarah Gruszka** (CERCEC/EHESS, Paris): *Dreams in Times of Famine: a Source for Studying the Impact of Starvation on the Psyche*
- 15:30 - 16:30 **Discussion**
- 16:30 - 17:00 **Coffee Break**

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## Dreams as a Source for History

[session 3]

- Chair: Ofer Dynes (Columbia U)
- 17:00 - 17:30 **Stefan-Ludwig Hoffmann** (Berkeley U): *Dreams, Terror, and Complicity: Reinhart Koselleck Meets Charlotte Beradt*
- 17:30 - 18:00 **Discussion**
- 19:00 - 22:00 **Dinner**

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## Personal Accounts Across Disciplines [session 4]

- Chair: Bohdan Shumylovych (Center for Urban History)
- 10:00 - 11:30 (consecutive translation for two presentations)  
**Bohdan Tykholoz** (Ivan Franko Museum in Lviv): *Poet of War and Night: Ivan Franko's Dreams and Insomnia (Literary and Anthropological Projection)*  
**Marie Moutier-Bitan** (CERCEC/EHESS, Paris): *Collecting Memories of Holocaust Bystanders: Recounting Fears and Night Experience*  
**Oksana Kuzmenko** (Ukrainian Academy of Sciences): *Prophetic Dreams during the War in Ukraine: The (Un)folklore of Symbolic Language and the Context of Communication*
- 11:30 - 12:30 Discussion
- 12:30 - 14:00 Lunch
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## Archiving Dreams [session 5]

- Chair: Sofia Dyak (Center for Urban History)
- 14:00 - 15:00 **Wojciech Owczarski** (Gdańsk U): *Dreams of Ukrainian female refugees to Poland after February 24, 2022*  
**Bohdan Shumylovych** (Center for Urban History): *Documenting War Dreams in Ukraine*
- 15:00 - 16:00 Discussion
- 16:00 - 16:20 Coffee Break
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## Dreams, Trauma, and Therapy [session 6]

- Chair: Yurko Prokhasko (Lviv University)
- 16:20 - 16:50 **Beatrice Patsalides Hofmann** (Primo Levi Center): *Listening to Metabolizing the Unspeakable: When Massive Psychic Trauma in Survivors of War and Torture Moves the Psychoanalyst to Dream on the Patient's Behalf*
- 16:50 - 17:20 Discussion
- 17:20 - 18:00 Looking Forward: concluding conversation
- 19:00 - 22:00 Dinner
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# List of Participants

<b>1</b>	<b>Natalia Aleksiu</b>	University of Florida, USA
<b>2</b>	<b>Emily-Rose Baker</b>	University of Southampton, England
<b>3</b>	<b>Masha Cerovic</b>	CERCEC/EHESS, France
<b>4</b>	<b>Amy Chazkel</b>	Columbia University, USA
<b>5</b>	<b>Françoise Daucé</b>	CERCEC/EHESS, Paris, France
<b>6</b>	<b>Sofia Dyak</b>	Center for Urban History, Ukraine
<b>7</b>	<b>Ofer Dynes</b>	Columbia University, USA
<b>8</b>	<b>Sarah Gruszka</b>	CERCEC/EHESS, Paris, France
<b>9</b>	<b>Stefan-Ludwig Hoffmann</b> <sup>Online</sup>	Berkeley University, USA
<b>10</b>	<b>Beatrice Patsalides Hofmann</b>	Primo Levy Center, France
<b>11</b>	<b>Ota Konrad</b>	Charles University, Czech Republic
<b>12</b>	<b>Oksana Kuzmenko</b>	Ukrainian Academy of Sciences
<b>13</b>	<b>Małgorzata Mazurek</b>	Columbia University, USA
<b>14</b>	<b>Marie Moutier-Bitan</b>	CERCEC/EHESS, France
<b>15</b>	<b>Wojciech Owczarski</b>	Gdańsk University, Poland
<b>16</b>	<b>Yurko Prokhasko</b>	Lviv Ivan Franko University, Ukraine
<b>17</b>	<b>Bohdan Shumylovych</b>	Center for Urban History, Ukraine
<b>18</b>	<b>Sharon Sliwinski</b>	Western University, Canada
<b>19</b>	<b>Charles Stewart</b>	University College London, UK
<b>20</b>	<b>Bohdan Tykholoz</b>	Ivan Franko Museum in Lviv, Ukraine
<b>21</b>	<b>Magdalena Zolkos</b>	University of Jyväskylä, Finland

## Natalia Aleksion

Natalia Aleksion is the Harry Rich Professor of Holocaust Studies at the University of Florida, Gainesville. She has been a Professor of Modern Jewish history at Touro College, Graduate School of Jewish Studies. She holds doctoral degrees from Warsaw University, Poland, and NYU, U.S. She has written extensively on the history of Polish Jews and the Holocaust. In addition to her 2021 book *Conscious History: Polish Jewish Historians before the Holocaust (Littman Library of Jewish Civilization)*, she is the author of *Dokąd dalej? Ruch syjonistyczny w Polsce 1944–1950* (Warsaw, 2002) and editor of Gershon Taffet's *Zagłada Żydów żółkiewskich* (Warsaw, 2019). She co-edited several volumes, including *Entanglements of War: Social Networks during the Holocaust* (2023), *European Holocaust Studies, vol. 3: Places, Spaces and Voids in the Holocaust* (2021), and *Polin: Studies in Polish Jewry, vol. 29: Writing Jewish History in Eastern Europe* (2017). She serves as editor of *East European Jewish Affairs*. She is completing a book on Jewish life in hiding in western Ukraine during the Holocaust.

## Emily-Rose Baker

A Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Department of English and the Parkes Institute for the Study of Jewish/non-Jewish Relations in January 2023. Her current research examines legacies of the Holocaust, neighborly violence and horror tropes in Central and Eastern European cinema, and is funded by the British Academy. She completed her WRoCAH-funded PhD in the School of English at the University of Sheffield in 2021 before joining the Ackerman Center for Holocaust Studies at the University of Texas at Dallas as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Film, where her teaching focused on representations of genocide and the Holocaust. She is currently completing her first monograph based on her thesis, which she wrote on post-communist Holocaust memory and representation in Central and Eastern Europe.

## Masha Cerovic

A former student of the ENS, Masha Cerovic did her thesis at the University of Paris I Panthéon Sorbonne, and was deputy director of the Center for Franco-Russian Studies in Moscow. She is a member of CERCEC and associated with the Marc Bloch Center in Berlin. Doctor in history, lecturer at EHESS since 2017, Masha is interested in the different faces and practices associated with “irregular” wars (partisan war in Russian) in the (post-) imperial Russian space, considered as political violence, whether deployed by “insurgents,” “rebels,” or “resistance fighters,” or by the state military forces of “counter-insurgency,” “maintenance of order,” conquest, or colonization.



## Amy Chazkel

Associate Professor of History and holds the Bernard Hirschhorn Chair of Urban Studies at Columbia University. A specialist in modern Brazil, her research and teaching focus on urban and legal history, the history of crime and policing, and slavery and post-abolition societies. She is the author of *Laws of Chance: Brazil's Clandestine Lottery and the Making of Modern Public Life in Brazil* (Duke University Press, 2011) and co-editor of *The Rio de Janeiro Reader: History, Culture, Politics* (Duke University Press, 2016). She is completing *Rio de Janeiro and the Politics of Nightfall* (forthcoming with Oxford University Press), a book about the history of the urban nighttime from the perspective of nineteenth-century Rio de Janeiro. She serves on the Radical History Review Editorial Collective. In addition to her published scholarship, she also co-directs the Columbia University Seminar on the Public Humanities and the working group, "Refugee Cities: Urban Dimensions of Forced Displacement," sponsored by the Columbia Center for the Study of Social Difference.

## Françoise Daucé

Since January 2015, she has been director of studies at EHESS and a junior member of the IUF. She studies the relations between the state and society in Russia. Her work focuses on forms of political domination, both coercive and liberal, which are exercised in different areas: the army, civil society, and the media. A graduate in history (U. Rennes II, 1991) and political science (IEP Paris, 1993), Françoise Daucé defended a thesis in political science on the relations between the army and the power in post-Soviet Russia in 1999. She directed the Franco-Russian Center for Social and Human Sciences in Moscow (2000-2002). She taught from 2004 to 2014 in the Slavic Studies department of the Blaise-Pascal University of Clermont-Ferrand. In 2011, she supported an HDR on relations between the State and civil society in Russia.

## Sofia Dyak

A historian and director of the Center for Urban History in Lviv. Her research interests include post-war urban recovery and transformation in Eastern Europe, heritage infrastructures and practices in socialist cities, and their legacies. She holds a PhD in sociology from the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Polish Academy of Sciences (Warsaw). She is currently completing a book manuscript entitled *New Lives in Old Cities: Postwar Lviv and the Power of Appropriation*. She was a fellow of the German Historical Institute in Warsaw, the Gerda Henkel Foundation, the Institute for Human Sciences in Vienna, the Historical Dialogue and Accountability Program

at the Institute for the Study of Human Rights of Columbia University, and the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute, and most recently, a senior research fellow at the Center for Contemporary History in Potsdam.

## Ofer Dynes

Leonard Kaye Assistant Professor of Hebrew and Comparative Literature at the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at Columbia University. He received his PhD in Jewish Studies at Harvard University (September 2016) and held a postdoctoral fellowship at McGill University (2016-2018). Ofer specializes in the literature and cultural history of Eastern European Jewry from the 18th to 21st centuries. He has a particular interest in the nexus of literature and political thought. He is currently completing a book manuscript entitled *The Fiction of the State: The Polish Partitions and the Beginning of Modern Jewish Literature* (1772–1848). He has also recently co-edited a special volume of Prooftexts, entitled *The Beginnings of Modern Jewish Literature in Europe*, with Naomi Seidman (University of Toronto).

## Sarah Gruszka

A historian specialized in World War II in the Soviet Union and in Soviet subjectivity studies. She is a member of CERCEC (School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences/EHESS) and a research fellow at the Joint Research Unit (UMR-8224) Eur'ORBEM (CNRS/Faculté des Lettres – Sorbonne Université). She is the author of a dozen publications (most of them peer-reviewed) on the memory of WWII in the USSR and Russia, on the history of the Siege of Leningrad, and on Soviet diary practices. She is co-editor of *Ego-documents and Personal Archives in Russia from Middle Ages to Present* (Paris, Revue des études slaves, fasc. 1, 2021). She also contributes to the *Critical Encyclopedia of Testimony and Memory* (Philippe Mesnard and Luba Jurgenson eds.). Her PhD thesis, which she defended at the Sorbonne University in 2019, was awarded the “Prix de la Chancellerie des Universités de Paris.”

## Beatrice Patsalides Hofmann

Currently clinical trainer at Primo Levi Center for victims of political persecution and torture, Paris, and private practice of psychoanalysis. Member and training analyst at the Lacanian School of Psychoanalysis, Berkeley, California. Former clinical director of Survivors International, center for rehabilitation of victims of political violence in San Francisco, faculty at UCSF-Mount Zion, San Francisco. Co-author of the UN-sponsored Istanbul Protocol. International trainer and consultant on trauma and political violence (ICC, The Hague, International Human Rights Federation, FIDH).

## Stefan-Ludwiĝ Hoffmann

An Associate Professor for Late Modern European History at the University of California, Berkeley. His most recent book, *Der Riss in der Zeit. Kosellecks ungeschriebene Historik* (Suhrkamp, 2023, English translation forthcoming with Princeton UP) is an intellectual biography of Reinhart Koselleck and an exploration of the German historian's premise that twentieth-century catastrophic experiences of time require a new theory of history.

## Ota Konrad

A professor of modern history and director of the PhD program in modern history at Charles University in Prague. From 2012 to 2019, he was head of the Department of German and Austrian Studies at Charles University. He works on topics in the history of the humanities, the history of foreign policy, the history of the First World War in Central Europe, a cultural history of violence, and contemporary Austrian history. Currently, his focus is on domestic violence and its contexts in post-1945 Czechoslovakia and West Germany as a tool for analyzing complex postwar social and political reconstruction.

## Oksana Kuzmenko

Since 1991 she has been working at The Institute of Ethnology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (Department of Folklore Studies), and since 2018 as the Acting Head of the Department of Social Anthropology of The Institute of Ethnology (NASU). Head of the Folklore Studies Commission of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in Ukraine. Her research interests are the problem of interdisciplinary folklore studies and methods of conceptual analysis of war folklore (especially folklore of WWI, WWII, and the current war in Ukraine): cultural anthropology, oral history, memory studies, narrative analysis, and others. She is the author of three monographs and co-author of several collective monographs about Ukrainian history, culture, ethnography, and folklore. She is a member of the editorial board of the scientific journal "The Ethnology Notebooks."

## Małgorzata Mazurek

Associate Professor of Polish Studies at Columbia University and specializes in modern history of Poland and East Central Europe. Her interests include history of social sciences, international development, social history of labor and consumption in twentieth-century Poland and Polish-Jewish studies. She published *Society in Waiting Lines: On Experiences of Shortages in Postwar Poland* (Warsaw, 2010), which deals with the history of social inequalities under

state socialism, and articles on labor, consumption, and history of human and social sciences in twentieth-century east central Europe. In 2014-2018 she was also a member of an international research project Socialism Goes Global: Cold War Connections between the “Second” and “Third World” 1945-1991, funded by the British Arts and Humanities Research Council.

## Marie Moutier-Bitan

Graduated from the Sorbonne and EHESS, Marie Moutier-Bitan works as a postdoctoral researcher at CERCEC as part of the Visual History of the Holocaust project. She is a historian specialized in the Holocaust in the occupied Soviet Union. For more than 10 years she worked as a researcher in the Yahad-In Unum association, led by Father Patrick Desbois. As a team leader and interviewer, she made more than twenty research trips to Ukraine, Russia, Belarus, Poland, Moldova, and Lithuania. The assignments comprised interviewing witnesses to the extermination of Jews and locating shooting sites. She created a database in which the collected testimonies were gathered. Her doctoral thesis, supervised by Denis Peschanski, focused on *The License to Kill. The first step of the extermination of the Jews in Eastern Galicia, June 22 – August 1, 1941*. She was awarded several fellowships, including a fellowship at Yad Vashem (July 2018).

## Wojciech Owczarski

Born 1970 in Gdańsk and since 1994 he has taught the history of Polish literature, theater, and culture at the University of Gdańsk (Professor Dr. Hab.), in the Department of Polish Language and Literature. Head of the Research Unit for Dream, Memory, and Imagination Studies. His interdisciplinary research interests include literary studies, dream studies, memory studies, theater studies, cultural anthropology and others. He is the author of six monographs on literature and dreams and co-editor of several collections of essays.

## Yurko Prokhasko

A Germanist, translator, essayist, and publicist (Krytyka, ĩ, Tygodnik Powszechny, Die Zeit, Kafka, La Repubblica, Falter, Frankfurter Rundschau). He studied German Studies (1987–1992), and Psychology (2004–2009) at Lviv University; and studied group psychoanalysis in Altaussee (Austria, 1997–2007). Co-founder of the Lviv Psychoanalysis Institute (2010). In 2011–2012, Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin. Yurko Prokhasko lives in Lviv where, since 1993



he has worked at the Institute of Literature of the Taras Shevchenko National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine. He teaches at the Institute of Psychoanalysis and the Franko University.

## Bohdan Shumylovych

A researcher at the Center for Urban History focusing on cultural history and visuality and an Associate Professor of Cultural Studies at the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv. He received an MA in modern history from the Central European University and a PhD from the European University Institute in Florence. He was a fellow at the Faculty of Visual Arts at George Washington University, Washington, DC (USA) and the archive of the Open Society Institute in Budapest. The main focus of his work is media history in East Central Europe and the Soviet Union, as well as media arts, visual studies, urban spatial practices, and urban creativity.

## Sharon Sliwinski

A professor at the University of Western Ontario, her work bridges the fields of visual culture, political theory, and the life of the mind. She has written extensively on photography, human rights, and the social imaginary, often using a psychosocial approach. She also works collaboratively with a wide variety of artists, scholars, and practitioners on a project called The Museum of Dreams. In this project among others, Sliwinski has created a space for exploring dream life as a crucial if overlooked way of seeing. Current projects also include *The Danzig Album*, a book about photography, trauma, and transgenerational memory. Sliwinski is also writing *An Alphabet for Dreamers*, a primer about the importance of dream life aimed at a general audience.

## Charles Stewart

Professor of Anthropology at University College London. He has conducted ethnographic field research in Greece, mainly on the Cycladic island of Naxos. Dreaming, the local practice of Orthodox Christianity, and the anthropology of history have been central topics in his publications, which include: *Demons and the Devil: Moral Imagination in Modern Greek Culture* (Princeton, 1991); *Dreaming and Historical Consciousness in Island Greece* (Harvard, 2012); and (as co-editor) *The Varieties of Historical Experience* (Routledge, 2019). He is currently working on a study of historicity in anthropological perspective, which is described as comparative ethnography meets the philosophy of history.

## Bohdan Tykholoz

A literary critic, candidate of philological sciences, senior researcher, associate professor at Lviv National University, museologist, cultural manager, journalist, publicist, blogger. He graduated from the Ivan Franko National University of Lviv (majoring in “Ukrainian language and literature,” 2000) and postgraduate studies at the Department of Ukrainian Literature named after Acad. Mykhailo Wozniak (2003). Currently works as a Director of the Lviv Ivan Franko National Literary and Memorial Museum (since 2017). Scholar of the Austrian Academic Exchange Service OeAD (Institute of Slavic Studies of the University of Vienna, 2016), Thesaurus Poloniae of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage of the Republic of Poland (International Cultural Center in Krakow, 2022) and others.

## Magdalena Zolkos

Associate Professor in the Department of Social Sciences and Philosophy at the University of Jyväskylä, Finland. She works in the area of political and cultural theory, politics of memory and affect studies. Her recent publications include *Restitution and the Politics of Repair: Tropes, Imaginaries, Theory* (Edinburgh University Press, 2020) and edited collections: *Contemporary Perspectives on Vladimir Jankélévitch: On What Cannot be Touched*, with Marguerite La Caze (Lexington Press, 2019) and *The Didi-Huberman Dictionary* (Edinburgh University Press, 2023). With Bohdan Shumylovych she is currently editing an academic-creative volume on narrative and visual testimonies from Ukraine from the first months of the war (to be published by Routledge in 2024).



