



Faculteit der
Godgeleerdheid

Program INaSEC Conference
Gulag Legacy: History, Memory and the Sacred in Post-Soviet Russia
Hermitage Amsterdam, 8-9 June 2018

8 JUNE

09:30 Reception, coffee

10:00 Opening words: Prof. Vinod Subramaniam (Rector magnificus Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam), Prof. Gijsbert van den Brink (Chair Department Beliefs and Practices, Faculty of Theology), Dr. Katya Tolstaya (Director INaSEC)

10:30 **Keynote**

Jürgen Moltmann (Tübingen)
Jewish and Christian Theology after Auschwitz

11:45 Break

12:15 **Beginnings: Introductory Reflections on the Project "Theology after Gulag"**

Alexander Agadjanian (Moscow)
Overview Events and Key Issues "Theology after Gulag"

Björn Krondorfer (Flagstaff)
[Reflections on the project Theology after Gulag]

13:00 Lunch

14:00 Panel: **Confronting Absence and Silence in Memory**

Cécile Vaissié (Rennes)
The KNAM Theater: Telling the Tragedies of the Soviet Past as an Assertion of Anyone's Right to Live

Boris Belenkin (Moscow)
In the Absence of Memory: Church / Religion as an Empty (Unbiased) Space in the Life of Postwar Generations of Soviet People

Discussant: Alfons Brüning (Amsterdam/Nijmegen)



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15:15 Break

15:30 Panel: **Recognition, Responsibility and Accountability**

Nanci Adler (Amsterdam)

Time and Crime without Punishment. 'Tainted Biographies' of Gulag Survivor
Interviewees: too Late for the Past to be Confronted?

Julia Landau (Weimar)

Coming to Terms with the Experience of Soviet Special Camps in Eastern Germany
after World War II: Representation and Remembrance

Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela (Stellenbosch)

Traumatic Ruptures and Legacies of the Past: Disrupting the Discourse of
Reconciliation

Discussant: Sonja Luehrmann (Burnaby/Vancouver)

17:15 Break

17:30 Panel: **Trauma, Testimony and Memory: Reflections and Challenges from Literature**

Maïke Schult (Paderborn/Marburg)

Can you describe this? Anna Akhmatova and the Concept of Trauma-witnessing

Andrea Gullotta (Glasgow)

The Challenges of an Exhausted Theme: Gulag Literature and the Memory of the
Gulag

Discussant: Felicitas Fischer von Weikersthal (Heidelberg)

18:45 Plenary discussion

19:30 Dinner Hermitage Amsterdam



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9 JUNE

09:30 Reception, coffee

10:00 Panel: **Dystopia, Terror and the Transcendent**

Ilya Kukulin (Moscow)

Daniil Andreev's Works as an Early Version of Poetic "Theology after GULAG."

Dmitriy Melnikov (Astana)

Remembering as Transcending: Magical versus Reflective Historicism in Soviet/Russian Fiction

Discussant: Björn Krondorfer

11:15 Break

11:30 Panel: **"Ultimate Questions:" Dehumanization. Towards a post-Gulag Theology and Philosophy**

Lissa Skitolsky (Selinsgrove)

The De-humanization of Victim Groups: Epistemic Injustice and the Limits of Sensibility

Joyce Rondaj (Amsterdam)

Consider whether this is a Man: A Theological Reflection on Primo Levi's Descriptions of Dehumanization in Auschwitz

Katya Tolstaya (Amsterdam)

Dehumanization and God's Image: Theological Anthropology in View of Extreme Suffering

Discussant: Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela (Stellenbosch)

13:15 Lunch

14:15 Panel: **Postmemory and Sacred History: Ritual and Meaning in a Post-Soviet Orthodoxy Key (I)**

Yulia Balakshina (Moscow)

Eternalizing the Memory of Russia's Tragedy in the 20th Century: Experience of the Transfiguration Brotherhood



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Jeanne Kormina (St. Petersburg)

The Soviet Past in the Russian Religious Imagination of the Post-Truth Era:
Grassroots Initiatives in Commemoration of the Romanovs in Yekaterinburg

15:00 Break

15:15 Panel: **Postmemory and Sacred History: Ritual and Meaning in a Post-Soviet
Orthodoxy Key (II)**

Zuzanna Bogumił (Warsaw)

The generation of the saints' offspring and Gulag Memory

Vera Shevzov (Northampton)

Post-Gulag Orthodox Liturgy in Post-Soviet Russia

Discussant: Robert Orsi (Evanston/Chicago)

16:30 Break

16:45 Plenary discussion / Round table and closing words

17:30 Drinks

18:15 Dinner Hermitage Amsterdam