



MAX KADE CENTER FOR GERMAN-AMERICAN STUDIES

MAY 2003

Historical Legacies and Controversies Converge in Kansas

Walter Erhart

When Ellen Kelley, a descendant of German author and politician Ernst Moritz Arndt, visited Germany recently, she and her family considered leaving twenty-one autographed letters (dated 1843–1852), along with photographs, silverware, a telescope, and a letter seal, to the Arndt Museum in Bonn. Finally, however, the Arndt heirs decided to donate the items, which have been valued at \$1 million, to the Max Kade Center.

Known today to students and scholars of German literature as a poet and to historians as a leading politician in the first half of the nineteenth century, Arndt studied and later taught at the University of Greifswald in northeastern Germany. Coincidentally, this semester, almost two hundred years later, Professor Walter Erhart came from the Ernst Moritz Arndt University to Lawrence as this year's visiting professor at the Max Kade Center. His reflections presented on April 14 follow:

Ernst Moritz Arndt was born in 1769 and died in 1860. He lived through important and exciting times in modern German history. Only twenty years old when the French Revolution broke out, he experienced the difficult years of the Napoleonic wars and saw Europe change through the repressive governments that followed. Along with Hegel, Fichte, Schleiermacher, and Wilhelm and Alexander von Humboldt, he belonged to the generation of German Romanticism. In 1848 he experienced a period of revolution. A member of the National Assembly in the Frankfurt *Paulskirche*, he was a



writer, a journalist, poet, professor of history, and politician. While one of the first to envision a united Europe, he supported royalist interests rather than democratic reforms.

Before Napoleon invaded Germany, Arndt had been teaching at the University of Greifswald. Because of his anti-Napoleonic stance, he had to flee. After he returned from Sweden, he was forced to flee again, this time to Berlin, where he lived in concealment for a year. He was in Russia when Napoleon invaded the country. In his autobiography, he described the burning of Moscow. After taking part in the

war of liberation from Napoleon, he wrote patriotic articles and poems. He became famous for such poems as “Die Leipziger Schlacht” and “Der Gott, der Eisen wachsen ließ,” which expressed his intense hostility to Napoleon and the French.

In 1818 he was appointed professor of modern German history at the newly founded University of Bonn, in 1824 his son Hartmuth was born. In 1855 Hartmuth emigrated to the United States, and after living in Wisconsin, Mississippi and Florida, settled in Kansas, where he died in 1876. We owe the preservation of the valuable letters and artifacts to his descendants, the Schultheis and Kelley families. Letters now destined for the archives of the Max Kade Center were addressed by Arndt to his son Hartmuth. They show a private side of the writer. We learn that Arndt’s son did not display scholarly interests or potential; when Hartmuth was sixteen years



Professor Walter Erhart in the Max Kade Center apartment

old, Arndt wrote: “Hartmuth . . . wird wohl kein Lesekerl werden.”

Arndt wanted Hartmuth to become a farmer. To his father’s dismay, Hartmuth intended to pursue this goal not in Germany but in the United States.

The letters reflect Arndt’s state of mind during the years before, during, and after the 1848

revolution. At the age of seventy-eight, Arndt was elected to the National Assembly in Frankfurt. He was a member of the delegation that offered Friedrich Wilhelm IV the crown in the spring of 1849. In his letters he tells his son about his personal and public life. At the same time, the letters reflect his son’s new beginnings in America and they bring to life events and connections.

Although I cannot say that I am an Ernst Moritz Arndt scholar, I come from a university named after him, and I have taken part in discussions about his controversial historical role. Because of Arndt’s intense animosity toward the French, certain people believe that it is inappropriate to link our university to his name. Many wish to delete Arndt from the name of the university. I believe that it is good to have such debates, and I also believe that it would make sense to keep Arndt’s name, to symbolize the history of our university and to reflect on his historical role. When Professor Keel informed me about the existence of the Arndt letters, I described this as “sensational news.”

The German sociologist Niklas Luhmann wrote: “A biography is a collection of coincidences.” The discovery of the Arndt letters in Kansas and my presence here as a visiting professor from the Ernst Moritz Arndt University are unusual coincidences that no one could have predicted, but for which I am very grateful.



Grant and Ellen Kelley with Professors Erhart and Keel



Max Kade Center Acquires New “First Floor”

For many years the basement of the Max Kade Center (Sudler House) was in need of a radical transformation. Walls and old furniture were removed. A new furnace and air conditioner replaced antiquated ones. Only the secret room in the back was spared, hidden behind a door that poses as a book shelf. (It is suspected that this was a place to hide alcohol during Prohibition, but, unfortunately, only empty bottles have survived.) The task of cleaning, painting, and furnishing the basement became our task. We needed new space to cope with acquisitions and overcrowding. Our photographs show that the upper levels have become better working areas. The newly acquired space will become the home of books from the Burzle estate and the recent donations from **Walter Lewin** and the family of **Carl Zacharias**. We are now also able to offer working areas for our German dialect project and the digital library of Alexander von Humboldt.



The “First Floor” in the Max Kade Center

Recent Publications of the Max Kade Center

Forthcoming: *German Language Varieties Worldwide: Internal and External Perspectives*, edited by **William Keel** and former Max Kade professor **Klaus Mattheier** (Frankfurt: Peter Lang, 2003), 325 pages. The essays in this volume were contributed by scholars from Germany, Russia, Hungary, Brazil, and the United States. The articles are based on the presentations given at the “Sprachinselkonferenz 2001” held at the Max Kade Center in March 2001.



The Society for German-American Studies recently published the first volume in the series of supplemental issues of the *Yearbook of German-American Studies* edited

by **William Keel**. The inaugural publication features Christoph Schweitzer’s edition and translation of the 1783 pamphlet “Wahrheit und Guter Rath, an die Einwohner Deutschlands, besonders in Hessen” by former Hessian officer Karl Friedrich Führer, who attempted to convince Hessian soldiers who had served in the British army to stay in the newly free United States rather than return to their despotic rulers in Germany. As Schweitzer notes in his preface, there “is no other document dealing with the Hessians in the American Revolution that combines factual information with literary skill in such an unusual manner as the 1783 pamphlet.”

Frank Baron, along with **Gert Sautermeister**, former Max Kade Visiting Professor from the University of Bremen, published an illustrated book of interpretations of Thomas Mann’s *Death in Venice* (*Thomas Manns Der Tod in Venedig. Geschichte, Dichtung, Mythos*). The book appeared in March in Lübeck, Thomas Mann’s native city, and includes essays by several former and present graduate students of the German Department **Sean Henry**, **Glenn Hudspeth**, **Rose R. Jones**, **Traute Kohler**, **Courtney Peltzer**, **Mark Pearson**, and **Tom R. Schultz**.



Baron and **Sautermeister** also edited a book of essays (*Goethe im Exil*), based on a conference in



The "First Floor" in the Max Kade Center

1999. Published by Aisthesis Verlag in Germany, the book treats Goethe as perceived by exiles in the United States during the period of Nazi domination of Germany. Contributors to this volume include former Max Kade professors **Burghard Dedner**, **Uwe-K. Ketelsen**, **Helmut Koopmann**, **Gert Sautermeister**, and **Hartmut Steinecke**. Former graduate student **Monika Moyrer** also contributed an article.



Alumnus **Werner Mohr** published *Albert Bloch: Caricaturist, Social Critic, and Translator of Karl Kraus* with Ariadne Press. This volume traces the life and work of artist and writer Albert Bloch, the only American in the first Munich exhibition of the Blue Rider. A native of St. Louis, Bloch lived in Munich and worked closely with prominent artists such as Kandinsky and Marc, and along with them,

contributed to significant developments in the history of modern art. After his return to the United States, Bloch continued his work as an artist at the University of Kansas, where he taught art and art history. Less well known are his literary activities. A key to understanding this side of Bloch's achievements, is his relationship to Karl Kraus, whose work he studied, translated, and promoted in the United States.



In September 2002 Iudicium Verlag, Munich, published KU alumna **Elke Lorenz's** book *Der Briefwechsel zwischen Sidonie Nádherný und Albert Bloch*. Bloch's correspondence with Kraus's close friend, the Baroness Sidonie Nádherný, between 1947 and 1950 constitutes an important addition to what is known about Kraus. The first half of the book deals in detail with the poems Kraus dedicated to

Nádherný between 1913 and 1933. Lorenz makes extensive use of the notes Nádherný compiled for Bloch about the poems, which treat topics such as nature, death, sorrow over lost and unrequited love, and Eros as an inspirational force. The second half consists of the complete correspondence between Bloch and Nádherný. Although the letters focus on the poems Kraus had dedicated to Sidonie Nádherný, they also provide important insights into Nádherný's influence on Kraus's work, his relationship with Rainer Maria Rilke, friendship with Mechtilde Lichnowsky and other contemporaries, such as Helene Kann and Franz Werfel.



News in Brief

On October 26, 2002, the department honored Professor Emeritus **Ernst S. Dick** with a symposium of lectures by former students. The program included: **Maria Dobozy**, University of Utah, “*Singen und sagen: A Historical Approach to Medieval Literature*,” **Kathy Meyer**, Bemidji State University, “Enikel’s Resisting Women: The Portrayal of Women in Enikel’s *Weltchronik* (ca. 1275–1280);” **Jonathan Paretsky**, Kansas Court of Appeals, “*Stare Decisis* and *Quellenberufung*: Authentication of Fiction in Two Medieval Literary Traditions;” **Mark Pearson**, Cottey College, “Lines and Circles, Modern and Post-Modern: Patterns of Meaning and Use of Screen Space in *Aquirre*, *Zorn Gottes*, and *Lola Rennt*,” and **Winder McConnell**, University of California, Davis, “Reviving the Muse: Literary Studies and the Dilemma of the Humanities in Our Time.”



The 7th Annual Conference of the Graduate Association of German Students took place on February 14–15, 2003. **Heide Crawford**, presently at Ball State University and, beginning with the fall semester 2003, a member of our departmental faculty, spoke on “*Lob der Zigeuner? A Social History through the Images of the Sinti Minority in German Literature during the 18th and 19th Centuries*.” Other presentations were: **Aaron Mitchell**, “An Introduction to North Frisian Dialects;” **Lisa Mays**, “Kansas as Host Society;” **Michael T. Putnam**, “The Application of the ‘Regression Theory’ in German-American Dialectology;” **John Littlejohn**, “‘Griechen und Götter schrien, Römer und Stoiker machten die heroischen Fratzen.’ Classical Antiquity in *Dantons Tod*,” **Jan Ancker**, “The Aspects of Violence in Dürrenmatt’s *Der Richter und sein Henker*,” and **Max Maximov**, “Stereotypes Rediscovered: Comments on the Image of Russia and Her People in German Literature before Herberstein.”



On Saturday, February 2, over 250 high school students of German from more than twenty schools throughout Kansas came to Lawrence for the 2003 *Schülerkongress*, sponsored by the Kansas Association of Teachers of German in cooperation with the German Department. The students competed for honors in a variety of contests with prizes contributed by the consulates of Germany, Switzerland, and Austria, as well as the Goethe Institute in Chicago and the German Information Center in New York.



Despite concern about the international political situation, the exchanges and other foreign study pro-

grams that the German Department supports will continue to take place. This summer **Phyllis Farrar** and **Ursula (Uschi) Kuhn-Laird** will administer the high school exchange in Eutin. Professor **Arne Koch** will be taking KU students for the intensive Eutin language program; Professor **William Keel** will lead the group in Holzkirchen.



Professor **Wolfgang Braungart**, University of Bielefeld, visited the campus on March 25 and delivered a lecture, “Prolegomena zu einer Ästhetik der Geselligkeit (Lessing, Hölderlin, Mörike).”



Dr. **Sylvia Martinsen**, who teaches at the University of Erlangen/Nürnberg, spoke on “Eduard Spranger. Ambivalenzen im Briefwechsel eines deutschen Gelehrten (1903–1960)” on April 26.



Ernest Manheim, Professor Emeritus at the University of Missouri in Kansas City, died at home on July 28, 2002 at the age of 102. In the year 2000, on the occasion of his 100th birthday, Manheim, sociologist, anthropologist, and composer, received an honorary doctorate from the University of Leipzig. The award was presented to him at a symposium in his honor at the Max Kade Center. A series of essays, based on presentations at the symposium, will appear in book form this year. **Frank Baron**, **Charles Reitz**, and **David Smith**, edited the volume, which Synchron is publishing.



On the recommendation of **Ernst G. Stöckl**, member of the Max Kade Advisory Board and president and CEO of TransAtlantic, Inc., the center has received a grant from DaimlerChrysler. The center has also received generous contributions from the **Breidenthal-Snyder** Foundation, the family of **Ernst Manheim**, and board member **Graham Kreicker**.



Detlev Doherr and **Mike Schilli** (Offenburg), **Wolfgang Griep** (Eutin), **Ulrike Leitner** (Berlin), and **Winfried Siebers** (Potsdam) came from Germany to participate in a conference on March 8 on the “Alexander von Humboldt Digital Library: A Creative Dialogue between the Humanities and the Sciences.” KU participants and speakers were **Rex Clark**, **David Collins**, **Bartholomew Dean**, and **Frank Baron**. For the long-term project a proposal is pending with the National Science Foundation and the *Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft*.



The Alchemy of Exile: Creative Responses to Expulsion from Nazi-Dominated Europe

September 4–7, 2003

Thursday, September 4, Ballroom, Kansas Union

Hall Center Humanities Lecture Series

7:30 **Peter Gay** (New York), “Modernism in Exile”

Friday, September 5, Max Kade Center

Moderator: **Catrin Schultz** (Göttingen)

8:00 **Reinhard Andress** (St. Louis), “Marte Brills *Der Schmelztiegel*: ihr Exilleben als Roman”

8:45 **Martin Vialon** (Istanbul): “Antworten auf die Vertreibung aus Europa: ‘Philologie als kritische Kunst’. Ein unveröffentlichter Vico-Beitrag [1948] von Erich Auerbach im Kontext von ‘Mimesis’ [1946]”

9:30 **Irmela von der Lühe** (Göttingen), “Traumberichte aus der Diktatur: Charlotte Beradts *Das 3. Reich des Traums*”

10:15 **Coffee**

Moderator: **Leonie Marx** (Lawrence)

10:45 **Karl-H. Fuessl** (Berlin), “Bauhaus Master Josef Albers in Dewey’s Realm: German Artist Émigré at Black Mountain College after 1933”

11:30 **Wulf Koepke** (Boston), “German Exile Writers in Hollywood—Shock and Fascination”

Moderator: **George K. Romoser** (New York)

1:00 **Helga Schreckenberger**, (Burlington, VT) “The Radio Plays of Franziska Ascher-Nash”

1:45 **Joerg Thuncke** (Köln), “‘Iustitia Regnorum Fundamentum’ oder Ein österreichischer Michael Kohlhaas. Ernst Lothars Exilroman ‘Herrenplatz’ (1945)”

2:30 **Coffee**

Moderator: **Guy Stern** (Detroit)

3:00 **Klaus Weissenberger** (Houston), “Franz Werfels Prosa—ihre Entwicklung vom sozialkritischen Pathos zum gemeinschaftsstiftenden Ethos”

3:45 **Michel Reffet** (Dijon), “Der Pazifismus Franz Werfels”

Spencer Museum of Art

Moderator: **Helga Schreckenberger** (Burlington)

4:30 **Peter Jungk** (Paris), “Franz Werfel in Exile”

5:30 **Concert**: Michael Cohen’s “I Remember” (based on Anne Frank’s diary), performed by University of Kansas faculty group with John Boulton (flute), Elaine Brewer (harp), Ed Laut (cello), and Joyce Castle (voice). The group will also present music of exile composers, including Kurt Weill’s “Youkali.”

Saturday, September 6, Max Kade Center

Moderator: **Charles Reitz** (Kansas City)

8:00 **David Smith** (Lawrence), “Facing Change and Danger: The Sociology of Ernest Manheim”

8:45 **Colin Loader** (Las Vegas), “Karl Mannheim as a Refugee”

9:30 **Wolfgang Heuer** (Berlin), “Hannah Arendt and Her Elaboration of an Existential Republicanism”

Coffee

Moderator: **Derek Hillerd** (Manhattan, KS)

10:45 **Mark P. Worrell** (Kansas City), “Max Horkheimer and the ‘Other’ Frankfurt School”

11:30 **Michael Winkler** (Houston), “The Conflicts of Authenticity and Assimilation”

Moderator: **Dieter Sevin** (Nashville)

1:00 **David Kettler** (Rheinbeck, NY), “Franz L. Neumann and American Political Science”

1:45 **Michael H. Hoeflich** (Lawrence), “A. Arthur Schiller and Émigré Jewish Lawyers”

2:30 **Kay Schiller** (London), “Ficino-Kant-Cassirer: Paul Oskar Kristeller’s ‘Humanistic Turn’ in American Emigration”

3:15 **Coffee**

Moderator: **Helmut Pfanner** (Nashville)

3:45 **Laureen Nussbaum** (Portland), “Robert(o) Schopflocher’s Adaptive Response: via the Argentine Soil Back to His German Roots”

4:30 **Dieter W. Adolphs** (Houghton, MI), “Theodor W. Adorno’s Contribution to Thomas Mann’s *Doctor Faustus*”

5:15 **Susanne Utsch** (Heidelberg), “‘Schreibe jetzt fast ausschließlich Englisch und es macht mir Vergnügen . . .’ The Literary Language Shift of Klaus Mann”

Sunday, September 7, Max Kade Center

Moderator: **John Spalek** (Albany)

8:00 **Karlheinz Auckenthaler** (Bratislava and Tatabánya), “Franz Werfel und Cyrill Fischer”

8:45 **Terry Reisch** (Hillsdale, MI), “*Jacobowsky und der Oberst: Neo Hellas*: From Goat-Song to Revelry-Singer”

9:30 **Erhard Bahr** (Los Angeles), “Modernism and Anti-Modernism in Franz Werfel’s Work in Exile.”

10:15 **Coffee**

10:45 **Guy Stern** (Detroit), “Werfel’s *Weg der Verheißung* in Chemnitz: A German Premier with a Sixty Year Delay”

11:30 **Egon Schwarz** (St. Louis), “‘Ich war also Jude! Ich war ein Anderer!’ Franz Werfels Darstellung der sozio-psychologischen Judenproblematik”

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12:30 Exile Society Business Meeting

About Peter Gay's Books

The Enlightenment: The Rise of Modern Paganism (1966). "Peter Gay needs no introduction, but I still feel that this work needs to be lauded for what it manages to achieve: it provides an exhaustively detailed socio-cultural account of the enlightenment that is as enjoyable as it is informative." Matthieu P. Raillard

Weimar Culture: The Outsider as Insider (1968). "It is an enormously rich, intriguing and exciting essay, and a major contribution to the study not only of the effects of art and society on each other but of responsibilities to each other and how these may be both accepted and acknowledged." Eliot Fremont-Smith

Freud: A Life for Our Time (1988). "A magisterial contribution to the history of ideas. A fresh and illuminating perspective on one of the pivotal figures of our time." J. Anthony Lukas

"*Pleasure Wars* [1998] is the fifth and concluding volume in Peter Gay's grand investigation of the bourgeois experience and consciousness in the nineteenth century, an enterprise requiring a daring and breadth of knowledge possessed by few other contemporary historians. . ." Gordon Craig

My German Question: Growing Up in Nazi Berlin (1998). "Not the least interesting part of his moving book, a book that he [Gay] says is the 'story of a poisoning and how I dealt with it,' is the account of his personal *Vergangenheitsbewältigung*—the process by which he came to terms with his own past." Gordon Craig

Mozart (1999). "Gay traces the artist's maturation in his relations with his father and other authority figures while describing the culminating musical masterpieces of Mozart's later years." A. Barry Zaslow

Schnitzler's Century: The Making of Middle-Class Culture, 1815-1914 (2001). "It is the sort of provocative book that the stereotypical Victorian would want to see removed from the storefront window—but also would want to peek at when nobody else was looking." John Miller

Savage Reprisals (2002). "As Gay conducts his discerning and entertaining guided tours through the much pondered pages of these nineteenth-century classics, he makes free with intriguing bits of author biography, mostly sexual in nature, then interprets them in unabashedly Freudian terms." Donna Seaman

Conference Registration Form September 4–7, 2003

Name _____
Institution _____
Mailing address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
Phone (day) _____ e-mail _____

The registration form and payment by check should reach us no later than **August 21, 2003**. The fee is \$15 for graduate students and \$40 for others. For registered guests the fees cover continental breakfast and luncheon on Friday and Saturday. Please make checks payable to the Max Kade Center.

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