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Memory, History and Conflict

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW, 18 MARCH 2013

KEYNOTE LECTURE

Professor Aleida Assmann

“Theories of Cultural Memory and the concept of ‘afterlife’”

6.15pm, Monday 18th March

**Location: Gannochy Seminar Room, Wolfson
Medical Building**

C8 on map <http://www.gla.ac.uk/about/maps/>

Keynote Lecture: Theories of Cultural Memory and the concept of ‘afterlife’

There are various theories of cultural memory, which study the process of cultural reproduction. They differ, however, considerably in the media on which this process is based and the conscious or unconscious modes of transmission. The presentation will focus on an important transformation in our understanding of cultural memory, which occurred with the shift from the intended ‘afterlife’ of persons, places, monuments, practices or artifacts to the involuntary ‘aftermath’ of violent events. This turn was also connected to a shift from national to transnational memories.

Aleida Assmann is Professor of English Literature and Literary Theory at the University of Konstanz in Germany. She has also been visiting professor at several universities, including Rice, Princeton, Yale, and the University of Chicago. She is the author of several German-language books and she is a leading international pioneer of the interdisciplinary research field of memory studies, including being recognized with the renowned Max Planck Research Award for History and Memory in 2009.

Her latest English language books include: *Cultural Memory and Western Civilization: Functions, Media, Archives* (Cambridge University Press, 2012) and her co-edited: *Memory and Political Change* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2011) and *Memory in a Global Age: Discourses, Practices and Trajectories* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2010).



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