

The conference explores the depiction and staging of historical traumas as the result of experiences of extreme violence in Israeli, Palestinian, German, and U.S.-American film. It asks which modes of representation – regarding narration, dramaturgy, aesthetics, sound – the medium film possesses to visualize shattering experiences of violence and their traumatic encoding in individuals or collectives. The panels analyze the medial transfer between, first, historical traumas which are already medialized, second the filmic depiction and language of trauma, third, the changing landscape of (clinical) trauma theory, and fourth, memory politics and national identity constructions. Special attention will be given to horror aesthetics as a way to re-enact the recurring patterns of trauma.

The Horrors of Trauma:

Violence, Reenactment,
Nation, and Film

**International and
Interdisciplinary Conference**

**at the Ben-Gurion University
of the Negev in Beer Sheva / Israel
2012, May 13-15th**

The Horrors of Trauma:

**Violence, Reenactment,
Nation, and Film**

Organizers:

Michael Elm, Kobi Kabalek, Julia B. Köhne

Venue:

Building 26, Conference Room A (Oren)

More Info:

bgu.ac.il/Eng/humsos/centers/German+Studies/general/

Filmstill of "War Malado" / Israel 2011



13.5. SUNDAY

15:00 *Conference opening*

PANEL I: ——— 15:45 - 17:45

1. Film Language of Trauma:

- **Thomas Weber** (University of Hamburg), *Caché* (Michael Haneke, 2005) – or the Ongoing Repression of Traumatic Memories
- **Danielle Shworts** (Hebrew University of Jerusalem), *History beyond Trauma: Re-Visualizing the Palestinian Ruin*
- **Kerstin Stutterheim** (HFF Potsdam), *Traumatized Heroes – War and Distraction*
Moderator: **Boaz Hagin** (Tel Aviv University)

18:00 **Keynote: Raya Morag**
(Hebrew University of Jerusalem),
Cinema and Perpetrator Trauma: A “New” Paradigm

19:00 - *Evening buffet*

20:00 - **FILM SCREENING:**
Wer wenn nicht wir (If Not Us, Who)
Germany 2011, dir. Andres Veiel
Introduction: **Moshe Zimmermann**
(Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
Location: *Negativ-Cinema, Ben-Gurion University, building 26, room 6 (second floor)*

14.5. MONDAY

PANEL II: ——— 9:30 - 11:45

2. Trauma on a Social Level:

- **Wulf Kansteiner** (Binghamton University/New York), *Provincializing Trauma: Academic Perceptions and Transcultural Experiences of Mediated Violence*
- **Kurt Grünberg** (Sigmund Freud Institut, Frankfurt / Main), *Scenic Memory of the Shoah – “The Adventurous Life of Alfred Silbermann”*
- **Hinderk M. Emrich** (Medical University, Hannover), *Trauma and Fiction – Trauma and Concreteness*
Moderator: **Michael Elm** (BGU)

Lunch

PANEL III: ——— 13:00 - 15:15

3. American Film Panel:

- **Thomas Ballhausen** (Filmarchiv Austria, Vienna), *The Inevitable Return of the Monstrous Other? Dealing with Trauma, Archival Media, and Feral Cities in Recent Science Fiction Films*
- **Dania Hückmann** (New York University), *Vengeful Fiction: (Re-)Presenting Trauma in Inglourious Basterds*
- **Daniel Müller** (University of Düsseldorf), *Narrations of Trauma in Mainstream Cinema*
Moderator: **Kobi Kabalek** (BGU/University of Virginia)

PANEL IV: ——— 15:45 - 17:30

4. Horror Movies and Trauma:

- **Michael Elm** (BGU), *The Presence of Evil: Roman Polanski’s Cinema of Disturbance*
- **Christian-Marie Abu Sarah** (George Mason University), *Horror, History, and the Third Reich: Locating Traumatic Pasts in Hollywood Horrors*
Moderator: **Julia B. Köhne** (University of Vienna)

20:00 - **FILM SCREENING: War Matador**
Israel 2011, dir. Avner Faingulernt/Macabib Abramson
(Sapir College) in the presence of **Macabib Abramson**

15.5. TUESDAY

PANEL V: ——— 9:30 - 11:45

5. German Film Panel:

- **Stephanie Bird** (University College London), *‘Und gibt’s garnichts Lustiges?’ Traumatic Pasts and Comic Encounters in Volker Koepps Post-Wende Documentaries*
- **Pablo Fontana** (University of Buenos Aires), *Shadows between Memory and Propaganda: War and Holocaust Trauma in DEFA Thaw Films*
- **Jeanne Bindernagel** (University of Leipzig), *Thomas Harlan’s Stories of Fathers: About the Precarious Relationship of Historiography, Memory, and Film in Wundkanal and Notre Nazi*
Moderator: **Kerstin Stutterheim** (HFF Potsdam)

Lunch

PANEL VI: ——— 13:00 - 14:45

6. Israeli, Palestinian Film Panel:

- **Peter Grabher** (University of Vienna), *Exploring the Liminal Space between Israel and Palestine (Uja Tabari and Elia Suleiman)*
- **Marcella Simoni** (University of Venice), *From Personal Trauma to Public Memory: Filming Accounts of War and Occupation in Israel (and Palestine)*
Moderator: **Amnon Raz-Krakotzkin** (BGU)

PANEL VII: ——— 15:15 - 17:00

7. Traumatic Loops: Continuation:

- **Sandra Meiri** (The Open University of Israel), *Manifestations of “Sexualized Violence” in the Holocaust in Contemporary Israeli Cinema: Stalags and Burning Mooki*
- **Raz Yosef** (Tel Aviv University), *The Identity of the Victim: Ethics and Trauma in Waltz with Bashir*
Moderator: **Isaac Rosen** (Camera Obscura School of Art)