

DATE: Sunday,

March 30, 2014

TIME: 4:30 p.m.

**LOCATION: Busch Hall,
Room 100**

Jordan and Lorraine Cherrick of St. Louis, Missouri, established the Adam Cherrick Fund in memory of their son in 1989, with the purpose of advancing Jewish studies at Washington University. Since its inception, the Adam Cherrick Fund has benefitted the university community and St. Louis at large by bringing world-renowned scholars to speak on campus.

Past Adam Cherrick Lectures

2013 **David M. Stern**, University of Pennsylvania

2011 **Marc Saperstein**, Leo Baeck College

2009 **Peter Schäfer**, Princeton University

2008 **David Goodblatt**, University of California, San Diego

2007 **Charlotte Elisheva Fonrobert**, Stanford University

2006 **Menachem Kellner**, University of Haifa

2005 **Derek Penslar**, University of Toronto

2004 **Susan Niditch**, Amherst College

2003 **Kenneth Seeskin**, Northwestern University

2002 **Leonard Fein**, Founding Editor, Moment Magazine

2001 **Jeffrey Gurock**, Yeshiva University

2000 **Martin Jaffee**, University of Washington-Seattle

1999 **Fred Lazin**, Ben Gurion University

1997 **David Berger**, Brooklyn College

1996 **Pnina Lahav**, Boston University

1995 **David Novak**, University of Virginia

1993 **Haym Sloveitchik**, Yeshiva University

Washington University in St. Louis Presents

The 2014 Adam Cherrick Lecture

The Ambiguity of Virtue:

Gertrude van Tijn and the Fate of the Dutch Jews

by Bernard Wasserstein

Harriet and Ulrich E. Meyer Professor Emeritus of Modern European Jewish History
University of Chicago

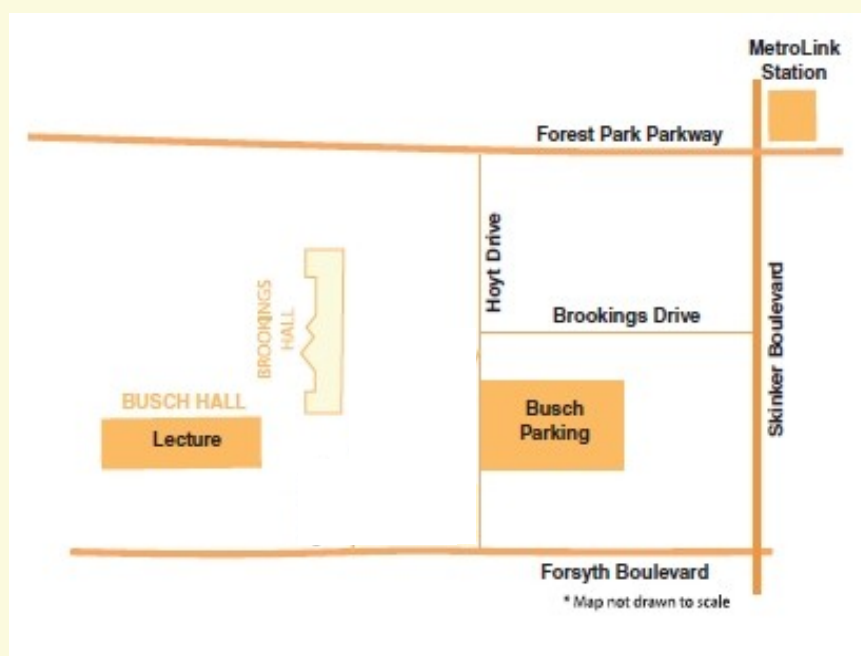


Bernard Wasserstein's *The Ambiguity of Virtue: Gertrude van Tijn and the Fate of the Dutch Jews* challenges the interpretation of the role of the Nazi-appointed Jewish councils in occupied Europe that was offered by Hannah Arendt in her *Eichmann in Jerusalem*. *The Ambiguity of Virtue* tells the story of Gertrude van Tijn's work on behalf of her fellow Jews as the avenues that might save them were closed off. Between 1933 and 1940 Van Tijn helped organize Jewish refugee emigration from Germany. After the Germans occupied Holland in 1940, she worked for the Jewish Council in Amsterdam and enabled many more Jews to escape. Later, some called her a heroine; others denounced her as a collaborator. Was she merely a pawn of the Nazis, or should she be commended for taking advantage of opportunities to save Jews from the gas chambers? In such impossible circumstances, what is just action, and what is complicity?

BERNARD WASSERSTEIN is the Harriet and Ulrich E. Meyer Professor Emeritus of Modern European Jewish History at the University of Chicago. Born in London in 1948, he studied history at Oxford. From 2003 to 2013 he taught at the University of Chicago. Before that he was President of the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies.

Wasserstein's books include *Britain and the Jews of Europe 1939-1945* (1979), *The Secret Lives of Trebitsch Lincoln* (1988) which was awarded the Golden Dagger for Non-Fiction by the Crime Writers Association, *Vanishing Diaspora* (1996), *Divided Jerusalem* (2001), *Israel and Palestine* (2003), and *On the Eve: The Jews of Europe Before the Second World War* (2012) which was awarded the Yad Vashem International Book Prize. His latest book, *The Ambiguity of Virtue: Gertrude van Tijn and the Fate of the Dutch Jews* is published by Harvard University Press.

This lecture is free and open to the public. Questions should be directed to Stephen Scordias at scordias@wustl.edu, (314) 935-8567.



Parking Placecards

This invitation serves as your parking placecard. It will allow you to park in yellow-designated parking zones during the lecture. The placecard must be displayed on your dashboard to avoid receiving a parking ticket. Please contact Stephen Scordias at (314) 935-8567 by **Monday, February 25**, to request additional invitations.