

9-1996

Film Presentation

MANFRED KORYTOWSKI'

DEBORAH LEFKOWITZ

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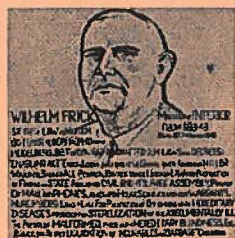
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KORYTOWSKI', MANFRED and LEFKOWITZ, DEBORAH, "Film Presentation" (1996). *ICS Events*. 8.
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In conjunction with the **Perpetrators** exhibit and installation now going on in the Fine Arts Center Galleries
by Sid Chafetz



Two film presentations:

September 12 **MANFRED KORYTOWSKI's "THE WANNSEE CONFERENCE" 1984.**
87 minutes.

Film Introduction: **PERPETRATORS: Betrayal, Political Opportunism, Appeasement**
by Vicki Patraha, Director, Institute for the Study of Culture and Society

With chilling banality, **THE WANNSEE CONFERENCE** dramatizes an 87 minute conference attended by third tier Nazi civilian and military governors from throughout Europe and presided over by Reinhard Heydrich, head of the Nazi Security Police. In the Berlin suburb of Wannsee, on January 20, 1942, the "Jewish Question" has become a question of logistics - of implementing the "Final Solution" as efficiently as possible. According to Manfred Korytowski, the film's producer, the actual function of this documented meeting rests upon the desire of the SS for "the approval of the ministries so that everything would be legal and they would all be in it together." As the camera circles amongst the faces of the participants - "ordinary," competitive, rather jovial bureaucrats - it creates a powerful narrative of complicity. The audience is given a historical demonstration of the unlimited amount of violence that can legally be put at a state's disposal and how it was perpetrated.

Respondants: Tom Klein, Professor, English, and Christina Guenther, Assistant Professor, GREAL

September 18 **DEBORAH LEFKOWITZ's "INTERVALS OF SILENCE: BEING JEWISH IN GERMANY" 1990.** 58 minutes.

Film Introduction: **PERPETRATORS: Places in the Everyday**
by Christina Guenther, Assistant Professor, GREAL

"It is impossible to talk about being a Jew living in Germany today without the memory and the historical facts of the Holocaust and the Third Reich. Hovering behind like an inescapable shadow in her remarkable film **INTERVALS OF SILENCE: BEING JEWISH IN GERMANY**, Boston filmmaker Deborah Lefkowitz succeeds in bringing new insights to the subject by courageously approaching it without predetermined conclusions. In the hometown of her German non-Jewish husband, Lefkowitz interviewed 125 people whose faces are never seen on screen. In choosing a personal poetic form rather than a strict documentary one, she reveals the complexity of the inextricable bonds and unbridable chasms between German gentiles and Jews today as they struggle with remembering and forgetting. . . . What is left out resonates as loudly as what is shown." **HIGH PERFORMANCE.** Jackie Apple.

Respondant: Vicki Patraha, Director, Institute for the Study of Culture and Society

Both nights:
Willard Wankleman Gallery, Fine Arts Center

7:00 Introduction

7:30 Film presentation

Roundtable discussion/reception to follow

Sponsored by the Institute for the Study of Culture and Society (ICS), the Fine Arts Center Galleries, and German, Russian and East Asian Languages (GREAL). 1996