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"Enemy Number One"

VILLA AURORA TOUR AND PERFORMANCE

USC LIBRARIES RESOURCE GUIDE

Event Date: October 26, 2010

Organizers: Marje Schuetze-Coburn, Feuchtwanger Librarian & Senior Associate Dean of the USC Libraries, Michaela Ullmann, Exile Studies Librarian

LibGuide URL: libguides.usc.edu/EnemyNumberOne-Tour

Introduction

The USC Libraries are home to the papers and library of historical novelist Lion Feuchtwanger, who escaped his native Germany after Adolf Hitler rose to power in 1933. Because he was an outspoken critic of the Nazi Party, the Nazis ordered his books burned and declared him "Enemy Number One." The libraries recently published a new edition of Feuchtwanger's *The Devil in France*, a memoir of his internment and escape from Nazi-occupied France. He wrote movingly about the political situation in Europe and his experiences as an exiled writer. He later escaped to Los Angeles, where Theodor Adorno, Bertolt Brecht, Fritz Lang, Thomas Mann and other German émigré artists and intellectuals gathered during World War II. Feuchtwanger's story illuminates the struggles faced by artists who speak truth to power and endure exile from their native countries.

In conjunction with this new publication, USC students will have the opportunity to take an intimate look at Lion Feuchtwanger's life in exile by visiting Villa Aurora, his former home in Pacific Palisades where he hosted figures like Charlie Chaplin, Thomas Mann and Billy Wilder. There, he and other émigrés exchanged ideas about art and politics, read from works in progress and debated their relationships to Southern California, the United States and Europe. This tradition continues at Villa Aurora, now an international artists' residence. After a welcoming reception and tour, students will enjoy a staged reading of letters exchanged between Lion Feuchtwanger and his wife, Marta, from the 1930s and 1940s. Acclaimed actor and Holocaust survivor Curt Lowens and actress Nina Franoszek will play the parts of Lion and Marta.

Explore photographs, brochures and other rare documents from the Feuchtwanger Memorial Library's archives through the online version of this guide at libguides.usc.edu/EnemyNumberOne-Tour.

About Lion Feuchtwanger

Lion Feuchtwanger was a German novelist who lived from 1884 to 1958. He was known worldwide for his historical studies of Benjamin Franklin, the Spanish painter Goya, Jean-Jacques Rousseau and such subjects as the Salem witch hunt, the French Revolution and Rome during the first century. Many of his works attempted to come to terms with the Jewish experience in different eras and settings. Feuchtwanger escaped from Nazi Germany on the eve of World War II, living first in Southern France and ultimately fleeing Europe in 1940 to spend his final years in Los Angeles. Upon his arrival in the United States, Lion Feuchtwanger started to write down his experiences in a French internment camp. His memoir was published in New York in 1941 under the title *The Devil in France*, and later in German under the titles *Unholdes Frankreich* and later *Der Teufel in Frankreich*.

Unlike most of his fellow emigrants and escapees, Lion Feuchtwanger already had a large overseas audience for his novels in translation. With the income from his writings he was able to assist many other German-Jewish and anti-Fascist writers-in-exile. His lavish home in Pacific Palisades, called Villa Aurora today, became a Mecca for European and American writers, artists and musicians during the war years. It also housed his valuable collection of rare books, which he acquired not only for his historical research but also for their bibliographic importance and their beauty.

About the Feuchtwanger Memorial Library

Marta Feuchtwanger willed her house and her husband's significant library to the University of Southern California. The house was sold to a German consortium interested in preserving this historic monument as a study center, and the proceeds were committed to create a suite of rooms at USC as a permanent memorial to Lion Feuchtwanger, to his late widow Marta (1891–1987) and to his literary legacy.

Today, the bookcases and cabinets in the Feuchtwanger Memorial Library, which is located on the second floor of Doheny Library, contain the most important books from the author's collection, as well as Feuchtwanger's own writings in various editions and translations. Another 20,000 books from Feuchtwanger's library remain on long-term loan at his former house, Villa Aurora, which is now an artist residence and historic landmark.

Besides Lion Feuchtwanger's collection of rare books, the Feuchtwanger Memorial Library also houses his personal materials such as correspondences, manuscripts and photographs as well as archives of other German-speaking exiles such as Hanns Eisler, Marta Feuchtwanger, Felix Guggenheim, Heinrich Mann and Ludwig Marcuse.

Researchers from around the world turn to the Feuchtwanger Memorial Library for their research on the German-speaking exiles in Southern California or other related subjects. The Feuchtwanger Memorial Library also offers research travel grants to those interested in working with the collections.

The Devil in France

The libraries recently published a new edition of *The Devil in France*, a memoir of Feuchtwanger's internment and escape from Vichy France in 1940. Free copies of this new book are available at library circulation desks across the USC campus. Learn more about the publication and download it here: www.usc.edu/libraries/devilinfance

Recommended Reading

The Devil in France

By Lion Feuchtwanger
Published by the USC Libraries

Doheny Memorial Library D805.F8F42 2010

Free copies available at Doheny Memorial Library and other campus libraries

Against the Eternal Yesterday:

Essays Commemorating the Legacy of Lion Feuchtwanger

Published by the USC Libraries

Doheny Memorial Library PT2611.E85Z916 2009

Bricks without Mortar:

The Story of International Cooperation

By Varian Fry

VKC Library JC362.F7

Exile and Otherness:

New Approaches to the Experience of the Nazi Refugees

Edited by Alexander Stephan

Doheny Memorial Library JV6346.E95 2005

Exiles and Emigrés: The Flight of European Artists from Hitler

Edited by Stephanie Barron

Doheny Memorial Library N6512.E887 1997

Architecture and Fine Arts Library N6512.E887 1997

A Hero of Our Own: The Story of Varian Fry

By Sheila Isenberg

Doheny Memorial Library D804.66.F79I84 2001

In Defiance of Hitler: The Secret Mission of Varian Fry

By Carla Killough McClafferty

Leavey Library D804.66.F79M33 2008

Letzte Hoffnung—Ausreise: die Ziegelei von Les Milles 1939–1942: vom Lager für unerwünschte Ausländer zum Deportationszentrum

By Doris Obschernitzki

Doheny Memorial Library D805.F8.027 1999

Rescue & Flight:

American Relief Workers Who Defied the Nazis

By Susan Elisabeth Subak

Doheny Memorial Library D809.U5S88 2010

Leavey Library D809.U5S88 2010

Surrender on Demand

By Varian Fry

Grand Depository D809.F7F79 1945