

Richard Koebner Minerva Center for German History

Symposium

Forms of history: Heidegger, Benjamin, and Rosenzweig

Wednesday / Jan 10, 2018 / 18:00

Room 2001, Rabin Building, Mt. Scopus

What is the form of history? Is history cyclical, showing the same patterns that humanity encountered in the past, as Greek historians such as Herodotus, Thucydides, and Polybius suggested? Or is history linear—slowly progressing to human perfection, as Kant, Hegel, and others, influenced by Christian scholasticism, famously argued? The symposium *Forms of History* revisits these ancient themes by way of discussion of three influential theories of history from the first half of the twentieth-century in the German speaking world: Martin Heidegger's notion of emplotment of history, Walter Benjamin's spatial theory of history, and Franz Rosenzweig's work on the repetitive nature of Jewish temporality. The dialogue between these thinkers will open an opportunity for philosophical, literary, and theological debates onto the nature of history.

Karen Feldman, *Heidegger and the Plot of History*

Department of German, University of California, Berkeley

Ori Rotlevy, *Space as a Form of History? Benjamin and the Baroque*

Franz Rosenzweig Minerva Research Center, HUJI

Gilad Sharvit, *History and Repetition: On Rosenzweig's Vision of Jewish Temporality*

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Benjamin Pollock, Response

Department of Jewish Thought, HUJI

Ofer Ashkenazi, Moderator

History Department, HUJI