

SYMPOSIUM: MARKING LOSS, MAKING MEMORIALS

VIRTUAL



2:00 **Welcome**

Dean Dawn Jourdan

School of Architecture, Planning & Preservation

Introduction

Ronit Eisenbach

Kibel Gallery Curator

2:10 **Keynote**

Anne Applebaum

Pulitzer Prize-winning Journalist & Historian

Pause

3:15 **Panel 1: The Politics of Memory & Place**

Moderator: Michele Lamprakos, Associate Professor, Architecture

Sarah Cameron, Associate Professor, History

Erin Mosely, Assistant Professor, History

Piotr Kosicki, Associate Professor, History

Pause

HYBRID



4:45 **Panel 2: Presence: Past & Future**

Moderator: Leslie Rowland, Associate Professor, History

Larysa Kurylas, Architect, The Holodomor Memorial

Joseph Kunkel, Director,

Sustainable Native Communities Design Lab

Tess Korobkin, Assistant Professor, Art History

5:50 **Closing Discussion & Reflection**

SPEAKERS

KEYNOTE



Anne Applebaum is a journalist, a prize-winning historian, a staff writer for *The Atlantic* and a senior fellow at the SNF Agora Institute at Johns Hopkins University, where she co-leads a project on 21st century disinformation and co-teaches a course on democracy. Her books include *Red Famine: Stalin's War on Ukraine*; *Iron Curtain: The Crushing of Eastern Europe 1944-1956*; and *Gulag: A History*, which won the 2004 Pulitzer Prize for non-fiction. Her most recent book is the New York Times bestseller, *Twilight of Democracy*, an essay on democracy and authoritarianism. She was a Washington Post columnist for fifteen years and a member of the editorial board; she has also been the deputy editor of the *Spectator* and a columnist for several British newspapers. Her writing has appeared in the *New York Review of Books*, *The New Republic*, the *Wall Street Journal*, *Foreign Affairs* and *Foreign Policy*, among many other publications.

PANEL 1: The Politics of Memory & Place



Sarah Cameron is Associate Professor of History at the University of Maryland. She is the author of *The Hungry Steppe: Famine, Violence, and the Making of Soviet Kazakhstan* (Cornell University Press, 2018, 2020 (paperback)), which examines one of the most heinous crimes of the Stalinist regime, the Kazakh famine of 1930–33. The book won numerous awards in the United States. It also generated intense debate in Kazakhstan, where the famine remains a politically sensitive topic due in part to Kazakhstan's close relationship with Russia. Russian and Kazakh translations of the book have been released, and the book was the top-selling history title in Kazakhstan last year.



Erin Mosely is Assistant Professor of History at the University of Maryland. She specializes in modern East and Central Africa, with a thematic focus on post-conflict truth, justice and reconciliation efforts, the politics of history and memory after mass violence and the impact of human rights paradigms on historical research and writing. Her current book manuscript, *The Future of Rwanda's Past*, examines the deep and reverberating impact of the 1994 genocide on Rwandan historians and historiography, as seen through key developments in the political, legal, intellectual and archival realms. This project draws on 27 months of fieldwork carried out between 2011-2018.



Piotr Kosicki is Associate Professor of History at the University of Maryland and a Non-Resident Fellow at the Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen in Vienna and at the Hoover Library & Archives at Stanford. He is the author of *Catholics on the Barricades* (Yale, 2018) and editor or co-editor of *Christian Democracy and the Fall of Communism* (2019), *Christian Democracy across the Iron Curtain* (2018), *The Long 1989* (2019), *Political Exile in the Global Twentieth Century* (2021) and *Vatican II behind the Iron Curtain* (2016). He also researches the social history of mass violence and has published multiple articles and co-edited a special issue of *East European Politics & Societies* focused on commemorations of the Katyń Massacres of 1940.

Marking Loss, Making Memorials is co-sponsored by the Kibel Gallery at the School of Architecture, Planning & Preservation, The Department of History and the Nathan and Jeanette Miller Center for Historical Studies.

This event coincides with the Kibel Gallery's reopening of ***Making the Holodomor Memorial: Context and Questions*** which tells the story of an atrocity suppressed and traces the design and development of a memorial to commemorate its victims. Through this story and the process of making a public memorial, the exhibition raises critical issues about memory, loss, place and truth—the context and questions that surround memorial-making. This symposium builds on the four key questions posed by the exhibit: *Whose truth? How do we mark loss? Why here? Why now?*

Anne Applebaum, author of *Red Famine*—the most authoritative historical work on the Holodomor famine to date—will deliver the keynote address. She will set the table for a conversation about the intersection of historical and social memory, political polemic, public space and memorial design.

PANEL 2: Presence: Past and Future



Larysa Kurylas is a practicing architect who established The Kurylas Studio in Dupont Circle in 1991. She received a B.ARCH degree, summa cum laude, from the University of Maryland in 1980 followed by a MArch degree, in 1985, from Harvard University's Graduate School of Design. Recently, Larysa Kurylas received the Order of Princess Olha civilian honor from the Government of Ukraine for the design of the National Holodomor Memorial in Washington, D.C. In 2022, she will be conducting research in Ukraine, under a Fulbright grant, on the form of memorial design since independence.



Joseph Kunkel, a Northern Cheyenne Nation citizen, is a Principal at MASS Design Group, where he directs the Sustainable Native Communities Design Lab in Santa Fe, New Mexico. He is a community designer and educator, focused on sustainable development practices throughout Indian Country. His work includes exemplary Indian housing projects and processes nationwide. From 2013-2016, Joseph led the development of a 41-unit affordable housing development, supported by the National Endowment for the Arts and ArtPlace America. In 2019, Joseph was awarded an Obama Foundation Fellowship for his work with Indigenous communities. He has received a Robert Rauschenberg Foundation SEED grant and a Creative Capital Award. Joseph is a Fellow of the inaugural class of the Civil Society Fellowship, and member of the Aspen Global Leadership Network.



Tess Korobkin is Assistant Professor of Art History at the University of Maryland, College Park. She specializes in the art of the United States, particularly as it relates to histories of sculpture and photography, the politics of monuments and materiality, and the visual culture of race and violence in American modernism. Her current book project, *Remaking the Body: Sculpture, Race, and Monumentality in the 1930s*, reveals how artists reinvented the form and politics of figurative sculpture in response to the era's social upheavals, emergent modernisms and the rise of documentary photography.



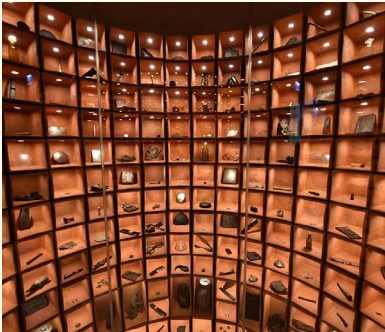
Sarah Cameron will discuss the Kazakh famine of the 1930s, a Stalinist crime in which 1.5 million people (roughly a quarter of Kazakhstan's population) perished. She will talk about how the memory of the Kazakh famine has been shaped in part by Kazakhstan's close relationship with Russia and will share images of memorials to the Kazakh famine.

Kazakhstan's President Nursultan Nazarbayev speaks at the dedication of a memorial to the victims of the Kazakh famine in Astana (today's Nur-Sultan). May 2012. Photo: Sarah Cameron.



Erin Mosely will speak about official memorialization practices related to the 1994 Rwandan genocide, with a focus on the country's six national memorial sites (Kigali, Murambi, Nyamata, Ntarama, Bisesero and Nyarubuye). She will consider the debates that emerged around the display of human remains at these sites and the difficulties of preservation and curation, given that many of these memorials are situated within the very churches and schools where large massacres occurred. She will also discuss the broader politics of Rwanda's commemorative landscape, as well as the competing logic of the flagship Kigali Genocide Memorial Center, which is first and foremost a site designated for survivors, but which is equally geared toward international tourism.

Ntarama Genocide Memorial (interior), Photo: Erin Mosely, April 2015.



Piotr Kosicki will discuss public contestation in post-communist Poland over the memory of the 1940 Katyń Massacres, whose story has become central to the memory wars over heroism and martyrology that have defined Polish public life for over a decade. Amidst the cooptation and recasting of what had long been a commemoration narrative dominated by family and civil society, the Polish Defense Ministry "rebooted" in 2015 a long-defunct Katyń Museum— just as the newly installed Law and Justice government was initiating the curatorial takeover of the Museum of the Second World War. Recasting curatorial and commemorative practices surrounding the legacy of the Katyń Massacres helps to reveal the dynamics by which crucial sites of social memory have been dissolved into political polemic in post-communist Eastern Europe.

Permanent exhibition, Katyń Museum in Warsaw. Objects excavated during the survey and exhumation efforts conducted in Katyń in 1994-1995. Photo Adrian Gryczuk, 2017.



Larysa Kurylas (B.ARCH '80) will speak about the major design features of the National Holodomor Memorial in Washington, D.C., with particular emphasis on figurative and abstract symbolism. The memorial commemorates victims of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933.

Holodomor Memorial, Washington, DC. Photo: Anice Hoachlander.



Joseph Kunkel (M.ARCH '09) will speak about the power of place and the connection between community, culture and place, weaving together Native and non-Native values. He will share how these concepts are realized through the work he leads in the Sustainable Native Communities Design Lab at MASS Design Group.

Indigenous rights groups protest the Keystone pipeline. Photo: Lakota People's Law Project.



Tess Korobkin will discuss the temporality of memorials, considering both unbuilt memorials that exist only in artists' radical imaginations and recent makeshift memorials whose ephemeral presence declare the need for new constructions of public memory. Drawing together monuments imagined by African American sculptors at midcentury with recent, pop-up memorials responding to the crises of the last two years, this talk considers memorials that are out of time: conceived for a future we have yet to see.

Marion Perkins, Skywatcher, c. 1948. Marble; 66.7 x 10.8 x 55.9 cm. The Peace Museum, Chicago.