

Crypt of the War Memorial in Bludenz, 1928
[pictured before 1950]; Vorarlberger Heimatbilder-
verlag, G. Heinzle's Erben, Bludenz-Zürs. Ansichtskarten-sammlung, Vorarlberger Landesbibliothek

INVITATION TO THE
GUEST LECTURE OF
SHIMRIT SHRIKI-HILBER, M.A.

„Hier ruh ich einer von uns“

REPRESENTATIONS OF JERUSALEM AS PLACES OF
WAR COMMEMORATION IN GERMANY AND AUSTRIA

**Wednesday
6 November
2024**

3:15 – 4:45 pm
Goethestraße 28/1 (Library)

International Graduate School
Resonant Self-World Relations in Ancient
and Modern Socio-Religious Practices
University of Erfurt | University of Graz | 2017-2025



UNIVERSITY OF GRAZ
Department of Religious Studies



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Ways of the Cross, Calvary Hills and Holy Sepulchres representing the *Loca Sancta* in Jerusalem and commemorating the Passion of Christ are widely spread in German-speaking countries. This tradition has its roots as early as the fifth century and has been increasingly practiced in the following centuries peaking during the Crusader period and the Counter-Reformation. The motivations to erect such a representation of the Holy Places in one's homeland vary as well as their similarity to the prototype in Jerusalem. Already in early examples, these sites integrated local elements and traditions, and new forms of practice were developed. In the 20th century, these sites of procession, prayer and contemplation have also been appropriated as a foundation for a new narrative, which ties the story of the Passion of Christ with the fate of soldiers and communities in war. Such a linkage, achieved by visual and spatial means, formed the setting for an identification of the soldiers with Christ's suffering. Thereby, matters of martyrdom and resurrection are being addressed and transmitted to the visitors of these sites.

Drawing on case studies from Germany and Austria, this phenomenon will be illustrated and examined with a focus on motivation, intention, and the specifics of appropriation. Through the iconographic examination of images and architecture as well as the analysis of their social function, the interaction between the Passion and war commemoration will be reviewed.

Everyone is cordially invited to the guest lecture!



Shimrit Shriki-Hilber, M.A., is a doctorate student at the Art History Institute at the University of Bonn. She finished her master's studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem with a thesis focusing on the earliest monumental representation of the Holy Sepulchre *Aedicula* in Narbonne (France). Her academic interests include early Christian and medieval iconography and their manifestations in modern and contemporary art and architecture. Shimrit Shriki-Hilber's dissertation project is supported, now the second year, by ELES (Ernst Ludwig Ehrlich Studienwerk).

CONTACT AND INFORMATION:

Department of Religious Studies
Faculty of Catholic Theology

Ms. Maria Lackner

E-Mail: maria.lackner@uni-graz.at

Tel.: 0316/380-3165

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