CALL FOR PAPERS

7th Conference of the International Feuchtwanger Society
University of Southern California
Los Angeles, September 17-19, 2015

LION FEUCHTWANGER AND JUDAISM

The seventh biennial conference of the International Feuchtwanger Society (IFS) will take place at the University of Southern California on 17-19 September 2015 in Los Angeles, California.

Hosted by the Feuchtwanger Memorial Library of the USC Libraries, the conference will also feature programs and events developed in collaboration with USC’s Max Kade Institute for Austrian-German-Swiss Studies, USC’s Casden Institute for the Study of the Jewish Role in American Life, Villa Aurora, and other institutions in the Los Angeles area.

The conference will explore Lion Feuchtwanger’s Jewish identity, his family background, and the Jewish milieu he belonged to in Germany, France, and Southern California. We will emphasize the intersections of German and Jewish identities and ask how they changed with the rise of the Nazis and the experience of living in exile. We will also devote attention to Feuchtwanger's knowledge of Jewish sources and the connections to Judaism that ran through his life and work. A particular focus will be on new research concerning Jewish themes in Feuchtwanger’s works (and in the works of his brothers and other emigrants). Furthermore, the conference organizers invite papers that deal more broadly with emigration to Palestine/Israel and the reception of Feuchtwanger's work by the makers of Jewish and Hebrew culture. Proposals for papers on other topics related to the conference’s main theme are also welcome.

Papers should be approximately 20 minutes long. Please submit a brief abstract (up to 300 words) and a short bio to Michaela Ullmann at ullmann@usc.edu by 31 December 2014.

For the first time, the International Feuchtwanger Society will host sessions dedicated to graduate students and their research. These sessions will allow graduate students to present their current research, giving them a chance to network and discuss their dissertation projects with a broad range of experts in the field of Exile Studies. We invite graduate students to send a short project description to Michaela Ullmann at ullmann@usc.edu. We also ask faculty members to bring this to the attention of students working in this field and encourage them to self-nominate. The IFS is currently working on securing funding so that accepted graduate students will receive stipends covering travel and accommodation expenses.

Selected and reworked conference papers will be published as a volume of the series Feuchtwanger Studies (Peter Lang: Oxford).

The conference languages are English, German, and French.