



# BERLIN WALL SYMPOSIUM

THE FALL OF A SYMBOL, THE WILL OF A PEOPLE  
NOVEMBER 3 - 9, 2014 | U.VA.



The Berlin Wall Symposium is a dynamic, week-long multidisciplinary exploration marking the 25th Anniversary of the historic fall of the Berlin Wall. Through **lectures**, **exclusive presentations** and **live performance**, the Symposium brings together experts and artists from throughout the U.Va. community and beyond to highlight some of the cultural, political and historical implications around one of the watershed moments of the 20th Century.

*Supported by the offices of the President and the Provost, the Vice Provost for the Arts and The Hefner Collection. The Berlin Wall at U.Va. made possible by Robert & MeiLi Hefner.*



**PARTICIPANTS:**

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Vice Provost for the Arts

School of Architecture

The American Studies Program

Center for German Studies

The Center for Politics

Corcoran Department of History

Dance Program

Department of Drama

The Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy

Department for Germanic Languages & Literatures

Harrison Institute and Small Special Collections Library

The Miller Center

The Woodrow Wilson Department of Politics

The Thomas Jefferson Center for the Protection of Free Expression

The Virginia Film Festival

## WELCOME NOTE

On behalf of the entire arts community at the University of Virginia, it is my great pleasure to welcome you to the Berlin Wall Symposium. It has been an extraordinary honor for me to collaborate across Grounds and beyond to assemble a remarkable group of scholars, artists and experts to reflect on this critically important moment in history. Through their scholarship, their first-person experiences, their cultural expertise, their creative artistry and more, these individuals will come together this week to examine the fascinating array of forces that toppled what stood for decades as the ultimate symbol of the Cold War. I am so grateful to President Sullivan for her support of this important project, to Emma Terry for her passionate and creative project leadership, and of course, to Robert and MeiLi Hefner for bringing us the original piece of history that inspired it all.



Jody Kielbasa  
*Vice Provost for the Arts*  
*Director, Virginia Film Festival*



# HISTORY & BACKSTORY

In 1990, Robert Hefner, sensing the long-term magnitude of human change and historical enormity of the people of East and West Germany tearing down the Berlin Wall, sent a representative to Berlin to negotiate for a substantial section of the Wall. He believed a portion of the Wall would be an icon of the “power of personal freedom.” Hefner secured four complete panels of the Wall, measuring sixteen feet in length and twelve feet tall, containing two murals by the graffiti artist Dennis Kaun. Painted on the West German side are two kings: a brightly colored, joyful king, representing freedom, and a largely colorless, blindfolded king, oblivious to the needs and wishes

of the people. The East German side remains dull gray cement. Hefner believes these two sides, the colorful, lively West German side and the gray East German side, artistically represent the character of freedom and enslavement.

As Hefner says, these pieces of the Wall are a great monument to the “power of personal freedom.” When Ronald Reagan was President of the United States, he went to Berlin in 1987 and demanded, “Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this Wall!,” yet neither Reagan nor Soviet president Mikhail Gorbachev, the world’s most powerful leaders, could make that happen. Instead, it was the people, exercising their free will and “power of personal freedom,” which could and did tear down the wall and usher in a period of momentous human change with political implications still with us today.

West German graffiti artist Dennis Kaun created his Pop Art murals on the west side of the Berlin Wall using spray paint instead of brushes. Working quickly and under cover of the night, as it was illegal to paint on the Wall, he and an assistant took six hours over two sessions to create the murals he entitled “Kings of Freedom.” Over a period of years, Dennis Kaun became known for the unique art he created on the Berlin Wall.

**- Robert A. Hefner III**

On the night of August 13, 1961 the communist government of East Germany, backed by the Soviet Union, began construction of a barrier to the free movement of Germans from East to West through the city of Berlin. At the time, Berlin was occupied by the four victorious allied

powers from World War II: the Soviet Union, United States, Great Britain, and France and movement was relatively unrestricted across allied sectors. By August 1961, as many as 2,000 people a day fled East Germany by simply walking across the Soviet sector into one of the Western sectors; more than two million out of a population of 17 million had fled East Germany from all crossings since 1949. This exodus threatened the survival of the East German government and with it of Soviet influence in Germany. The original barbed wire barrier was rapidly converted to a formidable wall, remains of which stand here. In spite of unspeakable risks, more than 5,000 Germans managed to escape by climbing, jumping, swimming, tunneling, ballooning, etc. Hundreds were killed or otherwise died in the attempt. When completed, the Wall ran for 28 miles through Berlin and 75 miles around the city. The Wall stood for 28 years as a symbol of communist repression and of the cold war in general, moving President John F. Kennedy to conclude his speech in West Berlin of June 26, 1963, “Ich bin ein Berliner!” (I am a Berliner.) On the evening of November 9, 1989, upon the announcement of an easing of travel restrictions from East to West, tens of thousands of East Berliners marched to the Wall: border guards without orders allowed the crowds to pass into West Berlin unhindered. That night, in front of international television, Berliners began to dismantle the Wall physically. Thus a Wall that divided families, friends, an entire nation and, symbolically, an entire world, came down, propelled by the very people the Wall was designed to contain.

**- Allen Lynch**  
*Professor, The Woodrow Wilson Department of Politics, U.Va.*

# SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE

## MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2014

*Kings of Freedom Chalking*  
by mural artist Sam Welty

The First Amendment Monument  
Charlottesville Downtown Mall

*Rock and the Wall: American Music as  
Rebellion in East Germany*

Lecture by Grace Hale, U.Va.  
5:30pm | Reception to Follow  
Auditorium of the Albert and Shirley  
Small Special Collections Library

## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2014

*Nach Berlin: Kapitol Architectures*

Lecture by Karen Van Lengen, U.Va.  
5:00pm | U.Va. School of Architecture  
Campbell Hall Room 153

*Urban Planning in the Walled World of West  
Berlin: 2 Projects*

Lecture by Alex Wall, AA Dipl., ARB  
U.Va. Visiting Professor  
6:00pm | Reception to Follow  
U.Va. School of Architecture  
Campbell Hall Room 153

## WORLD PREMIERE

*W\|E: a Theatrical Piece of The Wall*

Writer, Doug Grissom, U.Va.  
Director, Colleen Kelly, U.Va.  
U.Va. MFA Acting Company  
8:00pm | FREE  
Helms Theatre, Drama Building

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2014

*Blind Faith: My Life as a Jewish Self-Hating  
Communist in the GDR*

Reading & Discussion with Writer,  
Salomea Genin  
2:30pm | Auditorium of the Albert and  
Shirley Small Special Collections Library

*Panel with Dr. Sergei Khrushchev, Dr. Klaus  
Larres, Dr. Mary Beth Stein & Dr. Allen Lynch*

Sponsored by the U.Va. Center for Politics &  
the Frank Batten School of Leadership  
and Public Policy  
6:30pm | Reception to Follow  
Auditorium of the Albert and Shirley  
Small Special Collections Library

## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2014

*Roundtable with Eduard Fuehr  
& Janet Ward*

Fuehr, German Architectural Historian  
and Theorist & Ward, University of Oklahoma  
3:00 | Reception to Follow  
Byrd Seminar Room, Harrison Institute

*Fall of the Wall*

*Undergraduate Prize Contest  
Presentations & Awards*

5:00pm | Auditorium of the Albert and Shirley  
Small Special Collections Library

*The Wall in the Head: German-German  
Confrontations and Arguments (1952 - 2014)*

Lecture by Eduard Fuehr  
5:30pm | Reception to Follow  
Auditorium of the Albert and Shirley  
Small Special Collections Library

Virginia Film Festival presents

*Wings of Desire*

8:00 pm | Downtown Mall - Regal 1  
Tickets at the U.Va. Box Office



## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2014

### *Ghetto, Wall, Curtain, Shield: Berlin and the Bordered Urban Condition*

Lecture by Janet Ward  
2:30 pm | Byrd Seminar Room,  
Harrison Institute

### *W\E: a Theatrical Piece of The Wall*

Writer, Doug Grissom  
Director, Colleen Kelly  
U.Va. MFA Acting Company  
5:00pm | FREE  
Helms Theatre, Drama Building

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2014

### Virginia Film Festival presents *41 on 41*

Discussion with Executive Producer Mary  
Kate Cary, Andrew Card, Marlin Fitzwater, and  
Barbara Perry  
3:45 pm | U.Va. Newcomb Hall  
Sponsored by The Miller Center  
Tickets at the U.Va. Box Office

## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2014

### *25th Anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall*

Virginia Film Festival presents  
*Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop  
Worrying and Love the Bomb*  
Discussion with Douglas Keeney  
and Allen Lynch  
1:00 pm | U.Va. Newcomb Hall  
Supported by the Library of Congress, The  
Miller Center, and Virginia Festival of the Book  
Tickets at the U.Va. Box Office

### Virginia Film Festival presents *Red Army*

Discussion with director Gabe Polsky  
2:15 pm | Downtown Mall – Regal 4  
Tickets at the U.Va. Box Office

### *W\E: a Theatrical Piece of The Wall*

Writer, Doug Grissom  
Director, Colleen Kelly  
U.Va. MFA Acting Company  
4:00pm | FREE  
Helms Theatre, Drama Building

### *25th Anniversary Ceremony & Moment of Remembrance at the Berlin Wall at U.Va.*

5:30 pm | Followed by Reception  
in Newcomb Hall

Virginia Film Festival presents  
*Walesa: Man of Hope*  
7:00 pm | Downtown Mall – Regal 2  
Tickets at the U.Va. Box Office

## INSTALLATIONS

### *Kings of Freedom*

© 2014 The Hefner Collection, LLC  
On loan by Robert and MeiLi Hefner  
U.Va. Library Quad

### *The Art of the Wall*

Gar Hoover, Photographer  
Rotunda West Side Construction Fence

# DETAILS TILLYS POSITIONS

The Art of the Wall, Gar Hoover, Photographer, Fences surrounding the Rotunda



## MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3

*Kings of Freedom Chalking by mural artist Sam Welty*

**The Community Chalkboard and Podium:**

**A Monument to the First Amendment**

**Co-sponsored by The Thomas Jefferson Center  
for the Protection of Free Expression**

Noted chalk artist Sam Welty is known for his remarkably textured and detailed chalk murals on what has become known as Charlottesville's "First Amendment Monument," the chalk board at the East end of the Downtown Mall. To kick off the week's Berlin Wall Symposium, Welty will take to the mall's bricks to recreate the iconic "Kings of Freedom" image represented in the section of the original wall that is currently on display outside the Small Collections Library at the University.

*Rock and the Wall: American Music as Rebellion in East Germany  
Lecture by Grace Hale, U.Va. Professor of History & Director of the  
American Studies Program*

**5:30pm | Reception to Follow | Auditorium of the  
Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library**

**Co-sponsored by Corcoran Department of History &  
the American Studies Program**

The hammer blows that brought the Berlin Wall crashing down were preceded by a rock-and-roll powered "sonic boom" – a series of legendary concerts in the late 1980's. Grace Hale, U.Va. Professor of History and the Director of the American Studies Program, will focus on the "Concert for Berlin," a show held in the West but designed to be heard far over the wall, and Bruce Springsteen's unforgettable 1988

East Berlin show. In addition, Hale will examine how East Germans understood and responded to American rock as the product of African American and working class white rebellion – going back to the folk-blues tours in their homeland in the 1960's and 1970's and Bob Dylan's East Berlin concert in 1987.

## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

*Nach Berlin: Kapitol Architectures*

*Lecture by Karen Van Lengen, U.Va. William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor  
of Architecture*

**5:00pm | U.Va. School of Architecture, Campbell Hall Room 153**

**Co-sponsored by the U.Va. School of Architecture**

Karen Van Lengen, Kenan Professor of Architecture and former dean of the School of Architecture, arrived in Berlin just one week after the fall of the wall to present what would become her winning entry in the Berlin Public Library competition. A friend's apartment offered her an angle on the proceedings few people would have, resulting in a treasure trove of rarely-seen film footage. In this lecture, Van Lengen will combine this footage with her first-person remembrance and a collection of rare artifacts to tell her personal story of a land soaked in new freedom. She will also offer insight into her experience as one of only two American judges (along with celebrated architect Richard Meier) to judge the Spreebogen Competition. Hailed as one of the most important architectural competitions of the 20th Century, this resulted in the final design of Germany's unified government center, which stands today alongside Normal Foster's Reichstag building.

## THE WALL WAS NOT ONE WALL

*John Kelly*

In a place that for decades had been defined by two distinct sides, some of Karen Van Lengen's strongest memories of the fall of the Berlin Wall are found in the middle.

"The wall was not one wall," she said, "It was two walls. So there was this space in the middle. There was a time when they let people walk through that section of the wall, and it was an enormously psychological space, because just six months before, it had been one of the most dangerous places in the world. You would have been shot down in a minute. Now, suddenly, you were walking freely there as if it was a park. That was a very strange emotion."

Mixed in with those emotions for Van Lengen, are the kinds of sensory memories that can only come from being on the front lines of history. Returning to Berlin nearly every month to prepare for a major architectural competition in which she was competing, and staying in one of the few remaining buildings standing in the shadow of the Berlin Wall, Van Lengen did more than watch history. She heard it. And she felt it.

"In those early months, the wall was still up," she said, "All those towers that once had the East German guards in them, they were starting to be dismantled. And you could see over the wall. You could see the other side. So I was watching this, and all of the sudden there were people crossing back and forth. There were holes in the wall. And every night, I could hear the 'tick, tick tick' of someone chipping away at the wall. Those were memorable sounds for me."

As she had been acutely aware of the wall's presence, Van Lengen began to contemplate its absence. "I watched the way history was going to try and erase this particular, dominant structure. And there is almost nothing left of the wall anymore. Whenever they could, they tried to paint it over and unify it so that it was no longer there. They were very fast in wanting to do that."

She began to gather her own remembrances. "I would collect little chips of the wall. You'd find these chips that had color in them, that had been graffiti. And even at the end, when it was all almost gone, every once in a while you would see a little chip of color and pick it up. It was like finding gold. I became very aware that history was not only being made, but that now it was progressing."

Van Lengen was lucky enough to have a front row seat to some of that progress as well. "I was one of the jurors on the competition to design German's unified government center, so I had the opportunity to listen to the federal government jurors and the local jurors from the city government, along with international architects, discuss what should represent a unified Germany. That was fascinating, and it was an enormous privilege to be a part of it."

*Urban Planning in the Walled World of West Berlin: 2 Projects*

Lecture by Alex Wall, AA Dipl., ARB

U.Va. Visiting Professor, Architecture & Landscape Architecture

6:00pm | Reception to Follow in the Drama Building | U.Va. School of Architecture, Campbell Hall Room 153

Co-sponsored by the U.Va. School of Architecture

Distinguished architect, educator and author, Alex Wall, AA Dipl., ARB, will discuss the contrasting and conflicting visions for the settlement of the divided city of Berlin, covering several critical architectural projects from the 1970's and 80's which reflect the pressures on planning in the city at that time. Beginning with the dystopian images of Rem Koolhaas's Exodus (1972), the lecture will describe OM Ungers' Cities within the City (1978), a settlement strategy for West Berlin's dwindling population. In addition, Wall will focus on one exceptional apartment house project at Checkpoint Charlie that countered efforts at the time to restore the city's historic block structure, then illustrate how the disappearance of the wall after the unification combined with the demolition of the former "People's Palace" (Volkspalast) and its replacement with an approximation of the Hohenzollern Baroque Palace contributed to the erasure of the immediate past.

**WORLD PREMIERE** *W\E: a Theatrical Piece of The Wall*

8:00pm | Helms Theatre, Drama Building, Culbreth Road

Co-sponsored by the Department of Drama

Based on true events, this live presentation imagines life on both sides of the Berlin Wall. Eight actors, members of the MFA Professional Actor Training Program, perform original short scenes that explore life before and after the fall of the wall.

No tickets are needed for this event, but please plan on arriving early as seating is limited. Patrons will be admitted until seating capacity is reached.

See more on *W\E: a Theatrical Piece of The Wall* on page 30.

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5**

*Blind Faith: My Life as a Jewish Self-Hating Communist in the GDR*

Reading & Discussion with Salomea Genin: Writer

2:30pm | Auditorium of the Albert and Shirley

Small Special Collections Library

Co-sponsored by the Department for Germanic Languages & Literatures and Center for German Studies

Writer Salomea Genin will share her powerful story of Jewish exile. Born in 1932 to Polish-Jewish parents, she and her family fled the Nazis to Australia in 1939. Her fascinating ideological journey began when she joined the Eureka Youth (Young Communist) League there in 1949, at the beginning of the Cold War and just as the government was planning to ban it. Her participation in the "3rd World Youth Festival" in 1951 in East Berlin inspired her to help build an anti-fascist state in the German Democratic Republic (East Germany), and after a nine-year struggle, she finally settled there. Twenty years after that she came to the realization that she was living in a police

state in which she had willingly participated. By 1985, psychotherapy and writing a book about her family gave her the strength to go into political opposition and build a new life, even before the Berlin Wall and East Germany itself were dismantled just four years later. Genin shares the anguish and joy of her multi-faceted homecoming, sharing her thoughts, memories and even the Yiddish, German and English-language songs that make up her incredible story.

*Panel with Dr. Sergei Khrushchev, Dr. Klaus Larres, Dr. Mary Beth Stein & Dr. Allen Lynch*  
**6:30pm | Reception to Follow | Auditorium of the Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library**  
**Co-sponsored by the Center for Politics & the Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy**

On November 9, 1989, a slip of the tongue changed the course of history. A GDR Politburo member named Günter Schabowski was asked during a live press conference when a new law easing travel restrictions on East German citizens would go into effect. “According to my information, immediately, without delay,” he mistakenly replied. His words were all it took for tens of thousands of East Germans to mob checkpoints along the Berlin Wall and demand access to the western half of the city. Overwhelmed border guards were forced to throw open the wall’s gates. Jubilant East and West Germans joined arms to celebrate the end of the Cold War and the removal of a barrier that had kept them separated for 28 years.

Now, 25 years later, the University of Virginia Center for Politics will present a remarkable panel of scholars who will discuss the rise and fall of the Berlin Wall and its impact on the policies and politics of Europe,

Russia, and the United States. The panel is free and open to the public, but seating is limited. Panelists include:

**Dr. Sergei Khrushchev**, Senior Fellow at Brown University’s Watson Institute for International Studies and son of former Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev.

**Dr. Klaus Larres**, Senior Fellow at the Centre for Transatlantic Relations and professor of Cold War history at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

**Dr. Mary Beth Stein**, professor of German and International Affairs at the George Washington University’s Elliott School of International Affairs.

**Dr. Allen Lynch**, professor of politics at the University of Virginia and former director of the University’s Center for Russian & East European Studies (1993–2008).

The panel, co-sponsored by the U.Va. Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy, is presented as part of the Anniversary Series, which commemorates landmark political events in American history through public lectures, programs, television documentaries and teaching resources offered to a nationwide audience.



The Art of the Wall, Gar Hoover, Photographer, Fences surrounding the Rotunda



The Art of the Wall, Gar Hoover, Photographer, Fences surrounding the Rotunda



## THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6:

*Roundtable with Eduard Fuehr and Janet Ward  
Fuehr, German Architectural Historian and Theorist &  
Ward, Author & Professor, University of Oklahoma  
Moderated by Alon Confino, Professor,  
Corcoran Department of History*

**3:00 | Reception to Follow | Byrd Seminar Room, Harrison Institute**  
**Co-sponsored by the Department for Germanic Languages &  
Literatures and Center for German Studies**

*Presentations and Awards of the Undergraduate Prize Contest*  
**5:00pm | Auditorium of the Albert and Shirley  
Small Special Collections Library**  
**Co-sponsored by the Department for Germanic  
Languages & Literatures & Center for German Studies**

### *The Wall that Fell | The Walls that Remain*

When in June 1987 President Ronald Reagan challenged General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev to “tear down” the Berlin Wall, even the most informed observers doubted that this most pertinent symbol of the Cold War would fall in their life time. Twenty-nine months later, on 9 November 1989, waves of exhilarated East Germans streamed through a fortification that had seemed impenetrable. Almost immediately ordinary citizens started to chisel away at what just a few days ago had been a deadly divider of Germany, Europe and the world. By the end of the year, official operations to dismantle the Wall had begun.

It is thanks to the generosity of the Hefner family that U.Va. is currently in the position to exhibit four panels of the historic Berlin Wall,

featuring “Kings of Freedom” graffiti art by West German artist Dennis Kaun. The installation recalls the fall of the Wall as a historic moment entirely in tune with Thomas Jefferson’s principles of unalienable rights – life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

This University-wide prize competition asked students to explore the magic of the historic moment in November 1989 as well as the challenges that remain.

#### *Possible topics included:*

- The effect of the Wall’s Fall on International Relations and Everyday Lives
- Alternative Histories of the Cold War
- Commemorative Installations & The Broader Implications
- Poetic, Dramatic or Comedic Explorations of the Fallen and Remaining Walls
- How Can We Capture the Promises of the Moment?
- What are the Walls that Confront us Today?
- Plus many more...

#### *Specifications*

- 1st prize \$2500 | 2nd prize \$1500 | 3rd prize \$500
- Submissions took many forms:
  - Essays and short stories
  - Poetry
  - Posters
  - Photo Essays
  - Video work
  - Musical Compositions
  - Design Projects

*Lecture by Eduard Fuehr*

*German Architectural Historian and Theorist*

**5:30pm | Auditorium, Harrison Institute &**

**Small Special Collections Library**

**Co-sponsored by the Department for Germanic Languages & Literatures and Center for German Studies**

The WALL or, in English, BERLIN WALL, between West Berlin and East Berlin, and extending along the entire border between the German Democratic Republic (GDR) and the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG)—the IRON CURTAIN—is mostly exhibited today in the form of one or more upright L-shaped concrete slabs. This is how it appears in most German museums and at other displays—e.g., the East Side Gallery (Berlin), the *Reagan Presidential Foundation and Library*, the CIA (Langley), and *Ripley's Believe It or Not! Times Square*—one of several New York sites. Since April 11, 2014, four such panels of the Wall are also installed on the grounds of the University of Virginia.

One needs to bear in mind, though, that such concrete slabs formed only that part of the BERLIN WALL furthest to the west, a part moreover only visible from the West. Yet, the entire WALL was a complex system between East and West, equipped, beyond the initial L-shaped panels, with anti-vehicle trenches, patrol tracks, flood lights, guard dogs, signal fencing, and an additional high concrete wall that, facing the East, marked the starting point of the Wall complex there. GDR citizens could not see where border guards were stationed or what transpired on the strip of land between the initial concrete structures in East and West. “No go” areas in the East adjoined the WALL. The GDR’s Ministry for State Security (*Stasi*) operated a tough, complex machinery for exclusion and control over the population.

The Wall was more still: a particular mental space, erected, used and abused by governments in both East *and* West; a space onto which struggles for identity and propaganda wars were projected, a ‘WALL in the head,’ in the mind, something even expressed by the terms for it. The Federal Republic spoke of THE WALL (DIE MAUER) and IRON CURTAIN, the GDR of the ANTI-FASCIST RAMPART (*antifaschistischer Schutzwall*). German governments in East and West battled for three decades over both name and meaning of the Wall—a battle fought in images, texts, and publicity campaigns, seeking to shape, in accord with their political views, the perception of the border.

The physical wall complex was torn down after the events of 1989-1990; the mental space was not. It was, rather, avoided for a time. Now the BERLIN WALL and IRON CURTAIN are again being used for retroactive historical projections meant to buttress identities in the Federal Republic of Germany, serving various competing groups in the political public sphere. The WALL is in mind, having been brought back to the minds of the German citizenry.

*Wings of Desire*

*Introduction by Jeffrey Grossman (U.Va.)*

**8:00pm | Downtown Mall - Regal 1**

**Co-sponsored by the Virginia Film Festival**

1987, West Germany/France, 128 min. Director: Wim Wenders Cast: Bruno Ganz, Solveig Dommartin, Otto Sander



The Art of the Wall, Gar Hoover, Photographer, Fences surrounding the Rotunda

The Art of the Wall, Gar Hoover, Photographer, Fences surrounding the Rotunda



The sky over war-scarred Berlin is full of gentle, trenchcoated angels who listen to the tortured thoughts of mortals and try to comfort them. One, Damiel, wishes to become mortal after falling in love with a beautiful trapeze artist, Marion. Told from the angel's point of view, the film is shot in black and white, blossoming into color only when the angels perceive the realities of humankind. Widely acclaimed from famed German director Wim Wenders comes the visually entrancing film that earned Best Director when it screened at the 1987 Cannes Film Festival.

## **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7:**

*Ghetto, Wall, Curtain, Shield: Berlin and the Bordered Urban Condition*

*Lecture by Janet Ward, University of Oklahoma*

*Launching the German Cities in Transnational Context Series*

**2:30pm | Byrd Seminar Room, Harrison Institute**

**Co-sponsored by the Department for Germanic Languages & Literatures and Center for German Studies**

Janet Ward, Professor of History at the University of Oklahoma and a Faculty Fellow for Humanities & Social Sciences Research, is an interdisciplinary scholar of urban studies and visual culture. A recipient of grants from the ACLS, Getty Research Institute, and NEH, she is the author and coeditor of six books, most recently *Transnationalism and the German City* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2014). She earned her Ph.D. in German Studies at the University of Virginia with the late Professor Walter Sokel. Dr. Ward is writing a book, *Sites of Holocaust Memory*, for Bloomsbury Academic; and she is preparing another book project on racial and spatial planning in the Third Reich. Ward will speak on Germany's relation to space and boundaries in the modern era, focusing on the Nazi's ghettoization of European Jews during World War II, the

global political divide represented by the Iron Curtain and Berlin Wall during the Cold War and beyond to our counter-terrorist era after 9/11 – and focusing on the idea that while walls, borders and boundaries are exclusionary and containing, they are ultimately not sustainable impermeable systems.

*W\|E: a Theatrical Piece of The Wall*

*Performance*

**5:00pm | Helms Theatre, Drama Building, Culbreth Road**

**Co-sponsored by the Department of Drama**

Based on true events, this live presentation imagines life on both sides of the Berlin Wall. Eight actors, members of the MFA Professional Actor Training Program, perform original short scenes that explore life before and after the fall of the wall.

No tickets are needed for this event, but please plan on arriving early as seating is limited. Patrons will be admitted until seating capacity is reached.

*See more on W\|E: a Theatrical Piece of The Wall on page 30.*

## **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8:**

*41 on 41*

*Discussion with Executive Producer Mary Kate Cary, Andrew Card, Marlin Fitzwater, and Barbara Perry (U.Va.)*

**3:45pm | U.Va. Newcomb Hall Theater**

**Co-sponsored by the Virginia Film Festival & the Miller Center**

2014, USA, 90 min. Director: Lisa Lax, Nancy Stern Winters Cast: Barbara Bush, George W. Bush, Marlin Fitzwater, Roger Ailes, General Colin Powell, Jeb Bush, Doro Bush Koch

41 storytellers weave a multidimensional profile of President George H. W. Bush, the 41st President of the United States. Their anecdotes enlighten not only his historic policy decision, but also insightful personal life experiences told by those closest to him. These storytellers, led by First Lady Barbara Bush, range from family members, world leaders, sports figures, White House staff, to celebrities, and more. Executive Producers, former White House speechwriter Mary Kate Cary and renowned journalist Rick Kaplan, incorporate never-before-seen footage from the George Bush Presidential Library and Museum and family photos to bolster this intimate account of George H. W. Bush as an influential political leader, and also as a husband, father, and friend.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9:**

*Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb*  
*Discussion with Douglas Keeney and Allen Lynch (U.Va.)*

**1:00pm | U.Va. Newcomb Hall Theater**

**Co-sponsored by the Virginia Film Festival, the Library of Congress, the Miller Center, and Virginia Festival of the Book**

1964, USA, 95 min. Director: Stanley Kubrick Cast: Peter Sellers, George C. Scott, Sterling Hayden, James Earl Jones, Peter Bull

Political satire abounds in this Cold War era, Oscar-nominated black comedy. Chaos ensues in the War Room when a paranoid, psychotic

American general Jack D. Ripper launches an unstoppable nuclear strike on the Soviet Union after what he believes was a Soviet sneak fluoridation attack. Advised by the Joint Chiefs of Staff, a Royal Air force officer, and former Nazi nuclear expert Dr. Strangelove, the President of the United States watches the situation escalate. A nuclear apocalypse seems inevitable because the bomb will trigger a Soviet secret weapon, a Doomsday Machine which will destroy all life on Earth. With Peter Sellers turning in a series of hilarious performances in a variety of roles, and an uncharacteristically over-the-top comic turn by George C. Scott, Stanley Kubrick's irreverent comedy cuts to the core of the issues at the heart of Cold War.

*Red Army*

*Discussion with director Gabe Polsky*

**2:15pm | Downtown Mall – Regal 4**

**Co-sponsored by the Virginia Film Festival**

2014. USA/Russia. 85 min. Director: Gabe Polsky. Featuring: Slava Fetisov, Alexei Kasatonov Scotty Bowman, Mark Deakins.

Fueled by the height of Cold War passions, hockey served as a form of propaganda in the Soviet Union and latent warfare on the international stage. The Soviet Union's Red Army hockey team represented a sort of ideological bastion for their government that pushed its players to their personal, emotional, and professional limits. This documentary layers probing interviews with poignant archival footage to paint a fascinating and intricate portrait of these Red Army players. Director Gabe Polsky frames the experience largely through the eyes of its team captain Slava Fetisov, one of the most celebrated Soviet players of all time, who became a political enemy when he decided to defect

to America and play in the NHL. Red Army turns a unique lens on the social and cultural transformation of the Soviet Union leading up to the fall of Communism, mirroring the rise and fall of the Red Army team.

*W\|E: a Theatrical Piece of The Wall*  
*Performance*

**4:00pm | Helms Theatre, Drama Building, Culbreth Road**

**Co-sponsored by the Department of Drama**

Based on true events, this live presentation imagines life on both sides of the Berlin Wall. Eight actors, members of the MFA Professional Actor Training Program, perform original short scenes that explore life before and after the fall of the wall.

No tickets are needed for this event, but please plan on arriving early as seating is limited. Patrons will be admitted until seating capacity is reached.

*See more on W\|E: a Theatrical Piece of The Wall on page 30.*

*Ceremony & Moment of Remembrance*

**5:30 pm | Kings of Freedom Berlin Wall exhibit | Followed by Reception in Newcomb Hall Ballroom**

**Co-sponsored by the Office of the President**

On November 9, 2014, the world will mark the 25th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. We invite you to join us in commemorating this monumental day in world history by sharing a moment of remembrance, followed by a reception in Newcomb Hall Ballroom.

*Walesa: Man of Hope*

**7:00pm | Downtown Mall – Regal 2**

**Co-sponsored by the Virginia Film Festival**

2013, Poland, 127 min. Director: Andrzej Wajda Cast: Robert Wieckiewicz, Agnieszka Grochowska, Zbigniew Zamachowski, Cezary Kosinski

Famous journalist Oriana Fallaci conducts a daringly brazen interview, with former Polish “Solidarity” movement leader Lech Walesa. This biopic uses the interview as a springboard to delve into a dramatic, biographical portion beginning in 1970 after the communist authorities have bloodily suppressed the workers’ protest, forcing Walesa to collaborate with the Security Services. Sustained by his family’s unflinching support, he balances not only the hardships of daily life, but also surmounting, dangerous political pressure. Fear and sense of security, necessity of subordination and a will to rebel – the film, just as Lech Walesa’s life, is full of contrast.

## INSTALLATION

### *The Art of the Wall*

*Gar Hoover, Photographer*

*Fences surrounding the Rotunda*

Award-winning screenwriter, filmmaker, photographer, and playwright Gar Hoover shares, “The Art of the Wall,” a solo show of photographic prints that breathe new life into the political murals and accompanying graffiti on the east side on the longest surviving stretch of the Wall. It became known as the largest outdoor gallery in the world. The Chicago-based artist recaptures, through digital enhancement, the work of an international array of artists who came together shortly after the Wall fell to transform a symbol of oppression into a symbol of freedom. Since that time the effects of time, weather and vandalism have served to dull the images, Hoover said. “My goal was to bring back – through selective enhancement – the color, vibrancy and emotion those works originally expressed, while keeping intact the euphoric response to the art.” For the multi-talented Hoover, a screenwriting teacher at Chicago’s Loyola Marymount University and creative director of ideafarm films, the exhibit is about sharing these stirring images with a broader audience, few of whom have visited the Wall or will visit it in their lifetimes. “Even if they do, the art that once constituted the East Side Gallery – which lost much of its artistic character when it was recreated for the gallery’s 20th Anniversary – will most likely have vanished.”

*[theartofthewall.com](http://theartofthewall.com)*





The Art of the Wall, Gar Hoover, Photographer, Fences surrounding the Rotunda



## INSTALLATION

*Kings of Freedom*

*U.Va. Library Quad*

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Last April 11, University of Virginia officials, faculty, students and community members came together to see the unveiling of a remarkable piece of history. That day, four panels of the Berlin Wall, entitled “Kings of Freedom,” made their public debut at the University, adjacent to Alderman Library and the Albert and Shirley Small Collections Library. The panels, on loan to U.Va. by Robert and MeiLi Hefner as the centerpiece of a year-long commemoration of the fall of the Wall in 1989. The panels, measuring sixteen feet in length and twelve feet high, contain two contrasting murals by graffiti artist Dennis Kaun. Working under the cover of night to avoid prosecution, Kaun painted a brightly-colored king juxtaposed with a largely-colorless blindfolded king on the West German side, representing the joy of freedom versus the desperate monotony of oppression.

The East German side remains dull gray cement, creating a contrast that, to Hefner, represent the character of freedom and enslavement. Shortly after the fall, Hefner sent a representative to negotiate for a substantial piece of what he believed was a monument to the “power of personal freedom.” It was a power that could only be suggested by the immortal exhortation of President Ronald Reagan (“Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!”), but took the will of a people to translate into historic change.

## FEATURED STORY

*W\E: a Theatrical Piece of The Wall*

*World Premiere*

Helms Theatre, Drama Building, Culbreth Road

8:00pm | Tuesday, November 4

5:00pm | Friday, November 7

4:00pm | Sunday, November 9

Co-sponsored by the Department of Drama

Based on true events, this live presentation imagines life on both sides of the Berlin Wall. Eight actors, members of the MFA Professional Actor Training Program, perform original short scenes that explore life before and after the fall of the wall.

This free performance, approximately one hour in length, is a collaborative project initiated by the MFA Acting Company (listed below), Associate Professor Doug Grissom and Associate Professor Colleen Kelly and developed with the assistance of Associate Professor Marianne Kubik and Associate Professor Kate Burke. Set, lighting and sound design was under the supervision of Jeremy Hodges and costumes were designed by members of the MFA Costume Design Program.

### **MFA Acting Company:**

Roger Ainslie

Evan Bergman

Joseph Bromfield

Dana Colagiovanni

Alexandra Deglise-Umble

Carolyn Demanelis

Lauren Elens

Les Rorick

No tickets are needed for this event, but please plan on arriving early as seating is limited. Patrons will be admitted until seating capacity is reached.



## PERFORMANCE SYNOPSIS

*W/E: a Theatrical Piece of The Wall*, presented by the U.Va. Drama Department, is a production created by Associate Professor Colleen Kelly and Associate Professor and noted playwright Doug Grissom that features original vignettes developed and performed by members of the MFA Professional Actor Training Program. The piece, which incorporates narrative drama along with music and movement by Associate Professor Marianne Kubik, takes a look at this world-changing moment from a variety of angles.

“The Berlin Wall is such a huge, iconic symbol,” Grissom said. “There are so many ways to approach it, from putting it up to all those years that featured all the drama inherent in families being divided, people trying to escape, and then of course the fall of the wall and the reintegration of a country.”

The piece that is emerging, Kelly said, is a flexible collage of stories set against a spare set and propelled not just by a script, but by art, music and movement. For all the complexity of the event and the era, so many of the stories are built around universal human emotions.

“Doug has given us a beautiful reunion scene where we had just a man and a woman divided by the wall,” said actor Joseph Bromfield “It was just about what that moment of reunion was, that moment of recognition, and coming together for that brief moment. It’s something you can read about all you want, but when you see it come alive as if for the very first time... that is what theatre does, and that is what makes it so exciting.”

For actress Lauren Elens much of the experience has been about digging down past the historical context and into territory that resonates across generations. “It has been about being able to figure out what that moment was really like. Not only did it end something, but it began so many different stories.”

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5:

### *Yaa Samar! Dance Theatre*

#### Public Performance

4:00pm | Ruth Caplin Theatre | FREE

Co-sponsored by the Department of Drama and the Dance Program

Tickets at the Arts Box Office

Yaa Samar! Dance Theatre (YSDT) is a contemporary dance company committed to collaborating with artists across disciplines, cultural geographies, and physical borders in order to forge stimulating and transformative experiences through dance. Founded in 2005 in New York City, YSDT has been based between New York and Palestine since 2011. With artists in the US and the Arab World, the company has developed innovative creative techniques that utilize social media and video conferencing to rehearse and collaborate across continents. Most recently their work has been focused on *Bound*- an evening length multi-media performance that addresses the subtle and gross effects of occupation- which has premiered in both NYC and Ramallah, with wider touring anticipated in 2015.

YSDT Artistic Director Samar Haddad King and Associate Artistic Director Zoe Rabinowitz will wrap up their week-long residency at the University of Virginia with a free, public presentation on their work. This presentation will include contributions from international artists via Skype, video footage of the rehearsal process and final performance, and the directors will discuss the political and cultural contexts that have contributed to the company's unique approach.

*Bound* is an international collaboration between Yaa Samar! Dance Theatre, Sareyyet Ramallah, and disabled and able-bodied artists throughout Palestine. Situated between mobile planes that act as buildings, borders and projection surfaces, the performers are continuously confronted by an evolving landscape of boundaries that test their physical and emotional limits. Layered over and between the live action, the story of two lovers separated by circumstance unfolds via Skype; accompanied by images of a couple divided by time and memory. Created by Samar Haddad King and set to an original score by boikutt, this multi-media performance examines what it means to be bound: to a place, a person, an ideology, to noise, to silence.

Tickets for this free event are limited to two per patron and can be reserved now and picked up at the Arts Box Office, located within the lobby of the Drama Building at 109 Culbreth Road, Monday through Friday from 12 pm to 5 pm or at the door on December 5th.

**We want thank everyone who supported and attended The Berlin Wall Symposium at U.Va!  
We also want to extend a special thank you to our donors, speakers, partners, sponsors and  
volunteers for their generous and inspiring support – we could not have done it without you!**

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