

V Walter Benjamin Summer School

Portbou 2020. From 25 to 27 September

Languages: Catalan, Spanish and French.

Free admission, reservations:

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Organized by:

 ANGELUS NOVUS

FUNDACIÓ PER A L'ESTUDI DE LES ARTS,
LA HISTÒRIA I EL PENSAMENT



PASSATGES
CULTURA CONTEMPORÀRIA

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THE BORDER OF MEMORY

80th ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF WALTER BENJAMIN
75 YEARS SINCE THE END OF THE HOLOCAUST



V WALTER BENJAMIN SUMMER SCHOOL
PORTBOU 2020
FROM 25 TO 27 SEPTEMBER

PROGRAM

From 25 to 27 September 2020
Ca l'Herrero Civic Center
Méndez Núñez, 2. Portbou

THE BORDER OF MEMORY

80th anniversary of the death of Walter Benjamin
75 years since the end of the Holocaust

This year marks the 80th anniversary of the death of the thinker and intellectual Walter Benjamin in Portbou, when he decided to end his life on September 26, 1940 in this border town when he fled into exile and learned that he would be repatriated. It was a fateful date for this intellectual who in the same year of his death and after seven years of exile (1933-1940) wrote the theses *On the concept of History*, premonitory of the historical situation today, of the rise of authoritarianisms, of the advance of unbridled capitalism and of the possibilities of emancipation breaking the course of history, when the past bursts into the present. The conditions of the exile of Walter Benjamin, an intellectual devoted to research and investigation in turbulent times, undermined a personality of privileged intelligence that still sheds light on the leading intellectuals of our time. Portbou, a wild border of smuggling culture, is also a "border of memory", but where 300,000 people fled in exile from the Civil War from south to north, but also many German intellectuals who crossed the Pyrenees from north to the south, as Alma Mahler, Heinrich Mann, Franz Werfel, and also Walter Benjamin. The 5th edition of the Walter Benjamin Summer School is dedicated to the "frontier of memory". We will talk about Benjamin's years of exile through his correspondence, but also about the literature, art, and theater that some women, educators, and intellectuals brought to culture and who died victims of the Holocaust. We will remember their poetry and their creations.

Friday, September 25th

4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Cari Oriol Serres

Philologist and professor of literature.

Women writers and victims of the Holocaust, including Gertrud Kolmar, Walter Benjamin's cousin.

5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

Carme Alda

Psychoanalyst. Member of the World Association of Lacanian Orientation Psychoanalysis (AMP). *Walter Benjamin: "A fantastic melancholy dominated"*.

6:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.: **Break**

6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

Poetic readings

Gertrud Kolmar, Charlotte Delbo, Anna Akhmatova, Hermann Hesse, among others.

Saturday, September 26th

10 a.m.-11:15 a.m.

Marta Simó

PhD in Sociology from the UAB. Specialist in Jewish Identities and the Holocaust from Jagiellonian University in Krakow and Moscow University. Researcher in the ISOR Research Group (UAB) and Professor in the MIDE Department of the UB. *The memory of the Holocaust in Spain.*

11:15 a.m.-11:30 a.m. **Break**

11:30 a.m.-12:00 m.

Jean-Yves i Michèle Troel

Translators.

Presentation of the translation of the book *Le passage de frontière* by Ann Bridge from English to French, with a chapter especially dedicated to Cerbère-Portbou

12:00 a.m. -13:00 p.m.

Claudia Kálasz

Claudia Kálasz. PhD in philosophy with a thesis on Friedrich Hölderlin. She has been a professor at the Goethe-Institut Barcelona. She is a literary translator of 20th century Catalan poetry into German. He has written about the correspondence between the artist Francesc Abad and Walter Benjamin. *Infinite hope, only not for us. Why wasn't Walter Benjamin saved?*

4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Maria Maïlat

Anthropologist, writer and teacher at the ARTEFA center. She has been an associate professor at the University of Paris V and Paris VIII. *Walter Benjamin and the concept of History ... 80 years later.*

5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

Christian Gattinoni, artist, critic, theorist and teacher of photography, Paris.

The Porous Borders of Photography and Walter Benjamin.

A collaboration with the Fotolimo Festival.

6:00 p.m.-19:30 p.m.

Round table on photography

from the "ALADERIVA" workshop held in Portbou. Topic: "*Inhabiting borders*" Participants: **Irma Estrada**: Anthropologist and specialist in urban contexts; **Sebastià Masramón**, co-founder of the group "Les Octavianes", who have collaborated with Macba and **Neus Solà** and **David del Campo**, co-founders of "ALADERIVA".

Walter Benjamin House

8:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Performance show *Jamel Ibntrewan-Lost in Berlin*, by **Catherine Estrade** and **Vincent Commaret**, with music, texts and projections.

Sunday, September 27th

Portbou station. Duane Customs Hall

10.00 a.m. -10:30 a.m.

Performance by **Rosa Brugat**: *Passeport to the stars.*

10:30 a.m. -11 a.m.

Opening of the exhibition of photographs INSULA from the ALADERIVA workshop. Participants: Max Álvarez, Paolo Bernardi, Irma Estrada,

Francisco García, Marta García, Sebastià Masramon, Daniel Morán, Vanessa Roca, Alex Wix. Curators. Neus Solà and David del Campo. A collaboration with Fotolimo Festival.

Walter Benjamin House

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Presentation of the new edition of Walter Benjamin's book.

Art and mass literature. Translation by Antoni Pous (Manlleu, 1932-1976), professor in Tübingen, published by the Angelus Novus Foundation and Edicions Reremús, with cover by Sacha Brylla, participant from Berlin in the Walter Benjamin Summer School 2016. Presentation of the book: **Carles Duarte.**

Screening of the short film

The Angel of History (Angelus Novus), by **Eric Esser**, with the presence of the director. Resident of the Portbou Border Film Festival 2014 and awarded a scholarship for the Rencontres Cinématographiques de Cerbère.

Cimetière de Port-Bou

12:30 p.m.-1:00 p.m.

Floral offering and poetic readings. Commemorative event with Mayor Portbou, Xavier Barranco, and other authorities.