The Vienna Paradox: Jewish Identity and Austrian High Culture Between the World Wars

February 16 | 7 p.m.
Wallace All Faiths Chapel | Fish Interfaith Center

Marjorie Perloff was born Gabriele Mintz into a cultured and assimilated Jewish family in Vienna. Richard Schüßler, her maternal grandfather, was the Austrian delegate to the League of Nations after World War I. In the immediate aftermath of the Anschluss, Gabriele, her parents, and older brother escaped to Switzerland and later emigrated to the United States. She describes her transition from the German-speaking Gabriele to the English-speaking Margie, in her memoir The Vienna Paradox.

A prolific and groundbreaking scholar, Dr. Perloff has written more than a dozen books, including works on the poets W.B. Yeats, Robert Lowell, and Frank O’Hara, and on post-modern literature and art. A recipient of the Robert Penn Warren Prize, Dr. Perloff is Scholar-in-Residence and Florence Scott Professor of English Emerita, at USC, and Sadie Dernham Patek Professor of Humanities Emerita, at Stanford University. An elected Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Dr. Perloff received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Chapman University in May 2015.

Her book Edge of Irony: Modernism in the Shadow of the Hapsburg Empire will be published by the University of Chicago Press in May 2016.

Marjorie Perloff, Ph.D.
Author of Differentials: Poetry, Poetics and Pedagogy and the forthcoming Edge of Irony: Modernism in the Shadow of the Hapsburg Empire
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