Hofstra Cultural Center

presents

“IF THIS IS A MAN”
THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF PRIMO LEVI

Wednesday and Thursday
October 23 and 24, 2002

Conference Director:
Stanislao G. Pugliese
Associate Professor of History
Hofstra University

Conference Coordinator:
Deborah Lom
Assistant Director for Conferences
and Special Events
Hofstra Cultural Center

REGISTRATION PROGRAM
Tuesday, October 22, 2002

8 p.m.  PRE-CONFERENCE EVENT

Hofstra Cultural Center
and
Hofstra USA Productions
present
POETRY, VIOLENCE AND PASSION:
A PERFORMANCE INSPIRED BY THE LIFE AND WORKS
OF PRIMO LEVI

conceived, directed and performed by Bob Spiotto
musical accompaniment and original compositions by Herb Bradensten

Comprised of literary excerpts, inspiring music and imagery, interviews and poetry, in both Italian and English, this powerful and unique theatrical collage pays tribute to a man who became the conscience of a nation and an icon of the international human rights movement, as well as the author of many books, essays and poems.

Wednesday, October 23, 2002

9 a.m.-5 p.m.  CONFERENCE REGISTRATION
Student Center Theater Lobby
Sondra and David S. Mack Student Center, North Campus

10-11:30 a.m.  OPENING CEREMONIES

Welcome
Stanislao G. Pugliese
Associate Professor of History
Hofstra University
Conference Director

Greetings
Stuart Rabinowitz
President and
Andrew M. Boas and Mark L. Claster
Distinguished Professor of Law
Hofstra University

Keynote Address
William Weaver
Professor of Literature and Bard Center Fellow
Bard College
Annandale-on-Hudson, NY
Translator of Primo Levi's If Not Now, When? and The Monkey's Wrench
Joseph G. Astman Distinguished Conference Scholar

“Primo Levi's Partisans: Reconsidering If Not Now, When?”

11:30-11:45 a.m.  BREAK
CONCURRENT PANELS

PANEL I-A: POLITICS, PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS I

Dan Lesham
Ph.D. Candidate in English
State University of New York at Buffalo
Buffalo, NY
“Levinas and Levi: An Ethics of Discourse”

Delia Fabbroni-Giannotti Nisbet
Associate Professor of German and Italian
Oxford College/Emory University
Atlanta, GA
“Shame and Guilt in Primo Levi and Franz Kafka”

William McClellan
Associate Professor of English
Baruch College, CUNY
New York, NY
“Primo Levi, Giorgio Agamben and the Ethics of Reading”

PANEL I-B: LITERATURE AND TRANSLATION I

Letizia Argenteri
Assistant Professor of History
San Diego Mesa College
San Diego, CA
“Problems of Translation and Interpretation Within the Levi Literary Domain”

Fred Misurella
Professor of English
East Stroudsburg University
East Stroudsburg, PA
“Casting a Cold Eye on Life”

Lina Insana
Visiting Professor of Italian Literature
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA
“Infinite Transaction: Primo Levi and the Economics of Narrative Exchange”

1:15-2:15 p.m. LUNCH (on your own)
2:15-3:45 p.m. CONCURRENT PANELS

PANEL II-A: JUDAISM

Joseph Sungolowsky
Professor Emeritus of French and Jewish Studies
Queens College, CUNY
Flushing, NY
“The Jewishness of Primo Levi”

David Mendel, M.D.
Eastling near Haversham
Kent, England
“Primo Levi and the Jews”

Sergio Parussa
Visiting Assistant Professor of Italian Studies
Wellesley College
Wellesley, MA
“Primo Levi’s Concept of Literature and Its Impact on Jewish Thought”

PANEL II-B: SCIENCE

Johan Åhr
Teaching Fellow of History
Hofstra University
“From Argon to Carbon: Primo Levi and the Paradigm of the Periodic Table”

Marcia Allentuck
Professor Emerita of English
The Graduate School, CUNY
New York, NY
“Physics and Survival”

Antoine Phillipe
Ph.D. Candidate in French and Italian
University of California, Irvine
Irvine, CA
“The Drowned as Saviors of Humanity: The Anthropological Value of Survival in Auschwitz”

3:45-4 p.m. BREAK
4-5:30 p.m. PANEL III: THE HOLOCAUST I

Sara Valentina Di Palma
Vigevano, Italy
“Children and Teenagers in the Holocaust”

Henry Huttenbach
Professor of History
City College of New York, CUNY
New York, NY
“Primo Levi or Eli Wiesel? Two Mutually Exclusive Renditions of the Holocaust?”

Nancy Harrowitz
Associate Professor of Italian
Boston University
Boston, MA
“Lunch at Auschwitz: Primo Levi and Holocaust Tourism”

6-8 p.m. RECEPTION AND BANQUET

Greetings
Stuart Rabinowitz
President and
Andrew M. Boas and Mark L. Claster
Distinguished Professor of Law
Hofstra University

Banquet Speaker
Alexander Stille
Staff Writer
The New Yorker, The New York Times
Author of Benevolence and Betrayal: Five Italian Jewish Families Under Fascism

“Primo Levi: Life and Work”
Thursday, October 24, 2002

8 a.m.-5 p.m.  REGISTRATION
Student Center Theater Lobby
Sondra and David S. Mack Student Center, North Campus

9-10:30 a.m.  CONCURRENT PANELS

PANEL IV-A: POETRY AND LINGUISTICS

George Jochnowitz  
Professor Emeritus of Linguistics  
The College of Staten Island, CUNY  
Staten Island, NY  
“Primo Levi as Linguist”

Prithvi Karthikeyan  
Philadelphia, PA  
“The Power of Babel”

Jay Losey  
Associate Professor of English  
Baylor University  
Waco, TX  
“The Pain of Remembering: Primo Levi’s Poetry and the Function of Memory”

Ilona Klein  
Professor of French and Italian  
Brigham Young University  
Provo, UT  
“Meta-, Inter- and Intralinguistic Considerations in Primo Levi’s Poem ‘Ladri’ (‘Thieves’)”

PANEL IV-B: THE GRAY ZONE

Regula Christina Zürcher  
University of Berne  
Berne, Switzerland  
“Primo Levi’s Concept of the Gray Zone”

Joram Warmund  
Professor of History  
Long Island University, Brooklyn Campus  
Brooklyn, NY  
“The Gray Zone Expanded”
PANEL IV-B: THE GRAY ZONE (continued)

Timothy E. Pytell
Visiting Assistant Professor of History
Colorado College
Colorado Springs, CO
“A Typology of Gray Flowers: Levi and Frankl in Auschwitz”

Marie L. Baird
Associate Professor of Theology
Duquesne University
Pittsburgh, PA
“The Gray Zone’ as a Complex of Tensions: Primo Levi on Holocaust Survival”

10:30-10:45 a.m.  BREAK

10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. CONCURRENT PANELS

PANEL V-A: LITERATURE AND TRANSLATION II

Raniero Speelman
Professor of Italian
University of Utrecht
The Netherlands
“Primo Levi’s Short Stories”

Marco Belpoliti
Milan, Italy
“Primo Levi scrittore”

Nicholas Patruno
Chair and Professor of Italian
Bryn Mawr College
Bryn Mawr, PA
“Levi, Dante and ‘The Canto of Ulysses’”

PANEL V-B: POLITICS, PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS II

Dustin Howes
Ph.D. Candidate in Political Science
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Chapel Hill, NC
“Knowing Violence and Politics”

Risa Sodi
Senior Lector of Italian Language and Literature and Language Program Director
Yale University
New Haven, CT
“‘Henri’ Responds: Paul Steinberg and Primo Levi”

Andrew Martino
Ph.D. Candidate in Comparative Literature
Binghamton University, SUNY
Binghamton, NY
“Shadow of the Man: Primo Levi and Homelessness”

12:15-1:15 p.m.  LUNCH (on your own)
1:15-2:45 p.m.  
**PANEL VI: THE HOLOCAUST II**

**Isabella Bertoletti**  
Assistant Professor of Foreign Languages  
Fashion Institute of Technology  
New York, NY  
“Primo Levi’s Odyssey: The Drowned and the Saved”

**Timothy Campbell**  
Assistant Professor of Italian Studies  
Cornell University  
Ithaca, NY  
“The Object(s) of Memory: Models of Remembering in Primo Levi’s *Survival in Auschwitz*”

**Marla Stone**  
Chair and Associate Professor of History  
Occidental College  
Los Angeles, CA  
“Primo Levi, *La Tregua* and the Politics of Holocaust Representation”

2:45-3 p.m.  
**BREAK**

3-4:30 p.m.  
**PANEL VII: SUICIDE?**

**David Mendel, M.D.**  
Eastling near Haversham  
Kent, England  
“Levi’s Suicide: A Personal Reminiscence”

**Mark L. Taff, M.D.**  
Long Island University, C.W. Post Campus  
Brookville, NY  
and

**Lauren Boglioli, M.D.**  
North Shore University Hospital  
Manhasset, NY  
“Primo Levi’s Death: A Forensic Science Perspective”

**Jonathan Drucker**  
Assistant Professor of Foreign Languages  
Illinois State University  
Normal, IL  
“On the Danger of Reading Suicide Into the Works of Primo Levi”

5-6 p.m.  
**DINNER** (on your own)
6-8 p.m.  

**FILM SCREENING**  
*The Truce*  
Directed by Francesco Rosi, 1996  

**ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION:**  

**Mark Bernheim**  
Associate Professor of English  
Miami University  
Oxford, OH  

**Leonard Quart**  
Professor of Film Studies  
College of Staten Island, CUNY  
Staten Island, NY  

**Marla Stone**  
Chair and Associate Professor of History  
Occidental College  
Los Angeles, CA  

8 p.m.  

**CLOSING RECEPTION**
OFFICIAL CONFERENCE HOTELS:
The Long Island Marriott Hotel in Uniondale, Wingate Inn in Garden City, and Red Roof Inn in Westbury have been designated as the official Conference hotels. Following are the room rates and cutoff dates for room reservations.

LONG ISLAND MARRIOTT HOTEL AND
CONFERENCE CENTRE
101 James Doolittle Blvd.
Uniondale, NY 11553
Att: Reservations Manager
Tel: (516) 794-3800 or (800) 832-6255
Fax: (516) 794-5936
Room rate: $155 per night, single/double occupancy
Cutoff date: September 23, 2002

WINGATE INN
821 Stewart Avenue
Garden City, NY 11530
Tel: (516) 705-9000
Fax: (516) 705-9100
Room rate: $152 per night, single/double occupancy.
Cutoff date: September 23, 2002

RED ROOF INN
699 Dibblee Drive
Westbury, NY 11590
Tel: (516) 794-2555 or (800) RED-ROOF
Room rate: $89.99 per night, single/double occupancy.
When making your reservation, please refer to CP518984 to receive the Hofstra University discounted rate.
Cutoff date: Based on availability

NOTE: Please make your reservations early, as the number of rooms is limited. All reservations will be held until 6 p.m. on day of arrival unless accompanied by the first night’s room deposit or secured by a major credit card. When making your reservations, please identify yourself as a participant in Hofstra University’s Primo Levi Conference. Scheduled complimentary van transportation will be arranged between the Hofstra University campus and contracted hotels. Schedules will be available at the Conference Registration Desk as well as at each of the participating hotels.

DINING FACILITIES ON CAMPUS
There are several dining facilities on the Hofstra University campus. Only one dining facility, the Hofstra University Club, requires reservations. You may make reservations for lunch/dinner by calling (516) 463-6648. Reservations are limited.

LOCATION OF HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY
HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY is located in Hempstead, Long Island, New York, about 25 miles east of New York City, less than an hour away by train or automobile.
The Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) has frequent trains to the Hempstead Station from Pennsylvania Station, located at 34th Street and 7th Avenue, New York City, as well as from the Flatbush Avenue Station in Brooklyn, New York. Use local taxi service to the Hofstra campus.

LOCAL TAXI SERVICE:
All Island Taxi Service: (516) 481-1111
Pub Taxi Service: (516) 483-4433
Hempstead Taxi: (516) 489-4460

BY CAR:
Travel on the Long Island Expressway, Northern State Parkway or Southern State Parkway to Meadowbrook State Parkway to Exit M4 (Hempstead Turnpike). Proceed west on Hempstead Turnpike to the Hofstra campus (approximately one mile).

TRANSPORTATION FROM AIRPORTS:
The campus is located approximately 30 minutes by car from either John F Kennedy International Airport or LaGuardia Airport.
Call in advance for reservations:
Horizon Transportation Service
Personalized Transportation Service: (516) 538-4891
Hempstead Limousine Service Corporation
Personalized Transportation Service: (516) 485-4399
Long Island Airport Limousine Service (LIALS)
LIALS can be called upon arrival at either JFK or LaGuardia Airport, at a public telephone: 656-7000 (no area code required). The phones are monitored from 4 a.m. through midnight, seven days a week.
NOTE: Please be advised that there are no set fares charged by New York City yellow cabs between the airports and the Hofstra campus. Please confirm fee with the driver before starting your trip.

ROOM ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE LISTED IN THE FINAL PROGRAM, WHICH WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE REGISTRATION DESK DURING THE CONFERENCE.

FOR INFORMATION:
Hofstra Cultural Center
200 Hofstra University
Hempstead, New York 11549-2000
Tel: (516) 463-5669
Fax: (516) 463-4793
E-mail: HOFCULCTR@hofstra.edu
www.hofstra.edu/campusL/culture
Deborah Lom
Assistant Director
Hofstra Cultural Center
Tel: (516) 463-5293
Fax: (516) 463-4793
E-mail: culdsl@hofstra.edu
www.hofstra.edu/campusL/culture

Hofstra University continues its commitment to extending equal opportunity to all qualified individuals without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, national or ethnic origin, or physical or mental disability in the conduct and operation of its educational programs and activities, including admission and employment. This statement of nondiscrimination is in compliance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and other federal, state and local laws. The Director of Environmental Safety in the Plant Department (516) 463-6622 is the individual designated by the University to coordinate its efforts to comply with Section 504. The Equal Rights and Opportunity Officer is the University’s official responsible for coordinating its adherence to Title IX and other equal opportunity regulations and laws. Questions or concerns regarding Title IX or other aspects of this policy (other than Section 504) should be directed to the Equal Rights and Opportunity Officer (516) 463-6976.
**CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM**

Mail to:  
**Primo Levi Conference**  
Hofstra Cultural Center  
200 Hofstra University  
Hempstead, NY 11549-2000  
Tel: (516) 463-5669  
Fax: (516) 463-4793

Make check(s) payable to: **Primo Levi Conference**

Name______________________________________________
Address______________________________________________
City/State/Zip__________________________________________
Affiliation______________________________________________
Telephone______________________________________________
Fax No._________________________________________________
E-mail_________________________________________________

**CONFERENCE FEES**

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<tr>
<th>REGISTRATION FEE</th>
<th>NO. OF PERSONS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Regular $60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Citizens (over 65 with ID) $45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matriculated Non-Hofstra Students (with ID) $25</td>
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<td>Reception and Banquet (Wednesday, October 23) $35</td>
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Registration fee includes one ticket to the October 22 performance of “Poetry, Violence and Passion.” Additional tickets $10 _____________ ________

**TOTAL** _____________

**Method of Payment:**  
☐ Check payable to **Primo Levi Conference**  
☐ MasterCard*  
☐ Visa*

Cardholder’s Name _________________________________
Card # _____________ Exp. Date _____________

Cardholder’s Signature _________________________________

*Please add a $3 handling fee for credit card orders.

Full conference registration includes one ticket to the pre-conference event, coffee breaks and closing reception. **All events (with the exception of meals) are free to Hofstra students, faculty and staff upon presentation of a current HofstraCard.** Hofstra University is 100-percent program accessible to persons with disabilities.

**Cancellations:** A $10 handling fee will be deducted from registration refunds; however, written notice must be received by October 13, 2002.

**Returned Checks:** A $20 handling fee will be charged for returned checks.