Emanuel Gottlieb Leutze was born in Gmünd, Württemberg, in 1816 and came to the United States as a child. He received his first art instruction in Philadelphia and supported himself painting portraits after the death of his father. In the 1840s, Leutze studied at the Kunstakademie Düsseldorf and in Munich and visited Venice and Rome. His iconic pictures “Washington Crossing the Delaware” and “Washington Rallying the Troops” were painted in Düsseldorf to encourage European revolutionaries. In 1859 Leutze returned to the United States where he once more dedicated himself to portrait painting. In 1860 the U.S. Congress commissioned him to decorate a stairway in the capitol building with a large composition, “Westward the Course of Empire Takes Its Way.” Leutze died in Washington, D.C. in 1868. Our cover shows Catherine Van Rensselaer Schuyler (1734-1803), wife of General Philip Schuyler, setting fire to her wheat fields during the Battle of Saratoga to keep them from the enemy, whose imminent arrival is announced by a messenger.

The Heidelberg Center for American Studies (HCA)

The Heidelberg Center for American Studies (HCA) is a central academic institution of the Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg. Dedicated to the study of the United States, the HCA serves as an institute for higher education, a center for interdisciplinary research, and a forum for public debate. Building on long-standing ties between Heidelberg and the United States, the HCA fosters multidisciplinary and intercultural exchange across the Atlantic and offers excellent research and education opportunities for international scholars and students. As a private-public partnership, the HCA depends on the generosity of corporate benefactors and the support of people like you.

Baden-Württemberg Seminar of The Heidelberg Center for American Studies

Each spring and fall, the Heidelberg Center for American Studies invites distinguished scholars, public policy experts, journalists, writers, and artists to its Baden-Württemberg Seminar. The program was initiated in the spring of 2007. Participants present their current work, discuss issues of transatlantic interest, or read from their writings at selected institutions throughout the state.

The Heidelberg Center for American Studies of The Heidelberg Center for American Studies

Baden-Württemberg’s profound interest in the United States is reflected in many of its cultural, political, and economic institutions, its corporations, museums, and libraries. The Heidelberg Center for American Studies is pleased to present the eighteenth semester of the Baden-Württemberg Seminar. We wish to thank our committed network of partners for their continued support.
October

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 7:30 P.M.
A Reading from Little Failure
Gary Shteyngart, Author, New York
In cooperation with the Carl-Schurz-Haus / Deutsch-Amerikanisches Institut e.V.
LOCATION: Alter Wiehrebahnhof, Kinosaal, Urachstr. 40, Freiburg

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 6:15 P.M.
Harriet Beecher Stowe and the Holiness Movement
Joan D. Hedrick, Charles A. Dana Professor of History, Trinity College, Hartford, Connecticut (Pulitzer Prize 1995)
LOCATION: HCA, Curt und Heidemarie Engelhorn Palais, Hauptstr. 120, Heidelberg

November

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 6:45 P.M.
Ruins of the New Deal: Dismantling Social Housing in the U.S.
Edward Goetz, Humphrey School of Public Affairs, and Fulbright Professor, Université Paris Ouest, Nanterre-La Défense
LOCATION: HCA, Curt und Heidemarie Engelborn Palais, Hauptstr. 120, Heidelberg

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 5:15 P.M.
Transnational Cinema and Memory of the U.S. Air War in Vietnam
Christina Schwenkel, Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of California at Riverside, and Bosch Fellow in Public Policy, the American Academy in Berlin
LOCATION: Universität Mannheim, Schloss, Raum EW 145 (EhrenhofWest), Mannheim

November

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 6:15 P.M.
Practices of Description: Reading the Social in the Post-War Period
Heather Love, R. Joan Brooks seniors’ Associate Professor, Department of English, University of Pennsylvania
LOCATION: HCA, Curt und Heidemarie Engelborn Palais, Hauptstr. 120, Heidelberg

December

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 6:15 P.M.
Small Places, Close to Home: U.S. Cities and Human Rights
Martha Davis, Professor of Law, Northwestern University School of Law, and Fulbright Distinguished Chair in Human Rights and Humanitarian Law at the Royal Wallenberg Institute, Lund University, Sweden
LOCATION: HCA, Curt und Heidemarie Engelborn Palais, Hauptstr. 120, Heidelberg

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 6:15 P.M.
A Reading from The Czar of Love
Anthony Marra, Writer, Jones Lecturer in Fiction, Stanford University, and Mary Ellen von der Heyden Fellow in Fiction, the American Academy in Berlin
LOCATION: HCA, Curt und Heidemarie Engelborn Palais, Hauptstr. 120, Heidelberg

January

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 6:15 P.M.
Empowerment, Assimilation and Renewal: Recent Trends in the American Jewish Community
Rabbi David Teutsch, Louis and Myra Wiener Professor of Contemporary Jewish Civilization, Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
In cooperation with the Hochschule für Jüdische Studien, Heidelberg
LOCATION: HCA, Curt und Heidemarie Engelborn Palais, Hauptstr. 120, Heidelberg