

Press Release

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Exhibition on the U.S. Journalist Melvin J. Lasky Portrays Well-known Protagonist of the “Cultural offensive” During the Cold War

The U.S. journalist Melvin J. Lasky (1920 to 2004) was one of the best-known protagonists of the “cultural offensive” during the Cold War. An exhibition at the Heidelberg Center for American Studies (HCA) at Heidelberg university now documents the life of this anti-communist Jewish-American intellectual who dominated the political, cultural, and social networks of his time. “A tale of three cities“ is how Melvin J. Lasky once described his life. New York, Berlin, and London were the domains of the American publicist and the places featured in the exhibition that will open on March 22, 2012 at six p.m.

The objects of this exhibition range from Lasky’s childhood and youth in New York City over his time as a US-soldier and editor of the periodical *Der Monat* in West-Berlin to the years he spent as the editor of *Encounter* in London. The exhibition also takes a look at Lasky’s involvement with the CIA, which supported the periodical *Der Monat* for many years. The exhibition was conceptualized in 2010 on the occasion of the opening of the Lasky Center for Transatlantic Studies at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München and is presented in cooperation with the Lasky Center.

“Cold War Politics: Melvin J. Lasky: New York – Berlin – London“ will be showing at the HCA, Curt und Heidemarie Engelhorn Palais, Hauptstraße 120 from March 22 to April 26, 2012. Opening hours: Monday to Friday, 10-5. Admission is free. For more information, please go to www.laskycenter.amerikanistik.uni-muenchen.de and <http://www.hca.uni-hd.de>

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