

Remembering and Imagining the Holocaust

This is a meditation on memory and on the ways in which memory has operated in the work of writers for whom the Holocaust was a defining event. It is also an exploration of the ways in which fiction and drama have attempted to approach a subject so resistant to the imagination. Beginning with W. G. Sebald, for whom memory and the Holocaust were the roots of a special fascination, Bigsby moves on to consider those writers Sebald himself valued, including Arthur Miller, Rolf Hochhuth, Peter Weiss and Jean Améry, and those whose lives crossed in the bleak world of the camps, in fact or fiction. The book offers a chain of memories. It sets witness against fiction, truth against wilful deceit. It asks the question who owns the Holocaust – those who died, those who survived to bear witness, those who responded to it as metaphor, those who appropriated its victims to shape their own necessities?

CHRISTOPHER BIGSBY is Professor of American Studies at the University of East Anglia and has published more than thirty books covering American theatre, popular culture and British drama, including *Modern American Drama* (Cambridge, 1992), *Contemporary American Playwrights* (Cambridge, 2000) and *Arthur Miller: A Critical Study* (Cambridge, 2005). He is co-editor, with Don Wilmeth, of *The Cambridge History of American Theatre* (1998), which received the Barnard Hewitt Award for Outstanding Research from the American Society for Theatre Research. He is also an award-winning novelist, has written plays for radio and television, and is a regular radio and television broadcaster.

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the Holocaust**
The Chain of Memory

Christopher Bigsby



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To the memory of Max Sebald

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