

Jewish Exiles and European Thought in the Shadow of the Third Reich

Hans Baron, Karl Popper, Leo Strauss, and Erich Auerbach were among the many German-speaking Jewish intellectuals who fled continental Europe with the rise of Nazism in the 1930s. Their scholarship, though not normally considered together, is studied here to demonstrate how, despite their different disciplines and distinctive modes of working, they responded polemically in the guise of traditional scholarship to their shared trauma. For each, the political calamity of European fascism was a profound intellectual crisis, requiring an intellectual response which Weinstein and Zakai now contextualize, ideologically and politically. Baron, Popper, Strauss and Auerbach exemplify just how extensively, and sometimes how subtly, 1930s and 1940s scholarship was used not only to explain, but to fight the political evils that had infected modernity, victimizing so many. An original perspective on a popular area of research, this book draws upon a mass of secondary literature to provide an innovative and valuable contribution to twentieth-century intellectual history.

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Preface

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David Weinstein
Avihu Zakai

Archives

Hans Baron Archive, Duke University Library, Durham, NC, USA

Papers of Sir Isaiah Berlin, Bodleian Library, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK

Martin Buber Archive, National Library of Israel, Jerusalem, Israel

Popper Archiv, Universität Wien, Wien, Österreich

Karl R. Popper Papers, Macmillan Brown Library, University of Canterbury,
Christchurch, New Zealand

Karl-Popper-Sammlung, Universitätsbibliothek Klagenfurt, Klagenfurt,
Österreich

Leo Strauss Papers, Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago
Library, Chicago, IL, USA

Abbreviations

References to the following works within brackets in the texts will be abbreviated thus:

Erich Auerbach

- F “Figura” (1938)
 LLP *Literary Language and Its Public in Late Latin Antiquity and the Middle Ages* (1993)
 M *Mimesis: The Representation of Reality in Western Literature* (2003)
 PM “Purpose and Method” in *Literary Language and Its Public in Late Latin Antiquity and the Middle Ages* (1993)
 PW “Philology and *Weltliteratur*” (1952)

Hans Baron

- C *The Crisis of the Early Italian Renaissance: Civic Humanism and Republican Liberty in an Age of Classicism and Tyranny* (1955)

Karl Popper

- OS *The Open Society and Its Enemies* (1945)
 PH *The Poverty of Historicism* (1957)
 UQ *Unended Quest* (1992)

Leo Strauss

CM	<i>The City and Man</i> (1964)
NRH	<i>Natural Right and History</i> (1953)
OT	<i>On Tyranny</i> (2000)
PL	<i>Philosophy and Law</i> (1995)
PPH	<i>The Political Philosophy of Hobbes</i> (1936)
SCR	<i>Spinoza's Critique of Religion</i> (1965)