

# A N N A - P O L I T K O W S K A J A - L E C T U R E S

The Bruno Kreisky Forum for International Dialogue kindly invites to the lecture of

## Orlando Figes

Professor of History at Birkbeck College, University of London

## THE WHISPERERS: PRIVATE LIFE IN STALIN'S RUSSIA

Moderator:

**FRANZ KÖSSLER**

## Elisabeth Orth

liest aus dem Buch "Die Flüsterer"

**Monday | September 22, 2008 | 19.00 h**

Bruno Kreisky Forum for International Dialogue | Armbrustergasse 15 | 1190 Vienna

**Please register:**

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### Orlando Figes

Professor of History at Birkbeck College, University of London. Born in London in 1959, he graduated with a Double-Starred First from Cambridge University, where he was a Lecturer in History and Fellow of Trinity College from 1984 to 1999. He is the author of many books on Russian history, including *A People's Tragedy: The Russian Revolution, 1891-1924*, which in 1997 received the Wolfson Prize, the NCR Book Award, the W.H. Smith Literary Award, the Longman/History Today Book Prize and the Los Angeles Times Book Prize. *Natasha's Dance: A Cultural History of Russia* (2002) was short-listed for the Samuel Johnson Prize and the Duff Cooper Prize. His latest is *The Whisperers: Private Life in Stalin's Russia* (2007), which is featured here. *The Whisperers* is published by Allen Lane in the UK and by Metropolitan in the US. His books have been translated into fifteen languages. He is a regular contributor to the *New York Review of Books*.

### Elisabeth Orth

Kammerschauspielerin. Born in 1936, member of the Vienna Burgtheater, Bayerische Staatsschauspielerin, awardee of the Grillparzer-Ring, the Kainz-Medaille, the Liselotte-Schreiner-Ring, the Hersfeld-Prize and the „Ehrenmedaille der Stadt Wien in Gold“. Elisabeth Orth is committed to fight anti-Semitism and xenophobia.

### Franz Kössler

Journalist, born in Italy in 1951, studied philosophy in Frankfurt/Main and Florence. He worked for the daily *il manifesto*, Rome, and has been with the ORF/Austrian Broadcasting since 1981. Correspondent in Moscow, Washington DC, and London, director for *Zeit im Bild* and currently director of the international weekly tv-magazine *Weltjournal*.

*Between 2003 and 2006, three teams of researchers from the Memorial Society in St Petersburg, Moscow and Perm recovered several hundred family archives (letters, diaries, personal papers, memoirs, photographs and artifacts) that had been concealed by the survivors of the Stalin Terror in secret drawers and under mattresses in private homes across Russia. In each family extensive interviews were carried out with the oldest relatives, who were able to explain the context of these private documents and relate them to the family's history. This represents a unique collection of documents and testimony about private life in the Stalin period, reflecting the interior world of ordinary families and individuals.*

Die deutsche Ausgabe *Die Flüsterer. Leben in Stalins Russland* ist Anfang August bei Berlin Verlag erschienen.