

Contents

Index to Authors xiii

Preface xv

Introduction Jewish Writing in German Through the Ages / xvii

SANDER L. GILMAN AND JACK ZIPES

May–June 1096 Crusading assaults are launched against the Jewish communities of Worms, Mainz, and Cologne, the three great centers of late-eleventh-century life in northern Europe / 1

ROBERT CHAZAN

1150 The emergence of distinct intellectual schools changes the character of Jewish theology, esotericism, and mysticism / 8

JOSEPH DAN

ca. 1200 *Sefer Hasidim* (The book of the Pietists) is written by a group of rabbinic authors who come to be known as *hasidei ashkenaz*, the Pietists of Germany / 15

IVAN G. MARCUS

1250 During the latter part of the thirteenth century “Süßkind the Jew of Trimberg” is among the growing number of nonaristocratic *Spruchdichter*—poets writing on a wide range of social, religious, or political themes / 21

BRIAN MURDOCH

1286 R. Meir ben Barukh (Maharam) of Rothenburg, the leading rabbinic figure of his day, is arrested in Lombardy and delivered to Rudolph of Habsburg / 27

EPHRAIM KANARFOGEL

1300 Near the end of the thirteenth century, a body of literature emerges to help acquaint children with the texts and traditions of Judaism / 35

SIMHA GOLDIN

1382 An anonymous scribe completes the transliteration into Hebrew of a Germanic epic poem with the Yiddish title “Dukus Horant” / 42

ARTHUR TILO ALT

1689 Glikl of Hameln begins writing her memoir, which includes her distinctive yet representative view of the gentile world / 49

DOROTHY BILIK

1697 The earliest extant Yiddish purimshpil is traced to Leipzig / 55

JEROLD C. FRAKES

1769 Lavater's attempt to compel the conversion of Moses Mendelssohn abuses the friendship cult surrounding Jewish and Christian intellectuals / 61

KLAUS L. BERGHAIN

1779 David Friedländer and Moses Mendelssohn publish the *Lesebuch für jüdische Kinder* / 68

ZOHAR SHAVIT

1781 The publication of Christian Wilhelm von Dohm's *On the Civic Improvement of the Jews* prompts widespread public debate on the Jewish Question by both Jews and gentiles / 75

PETER R. ERSPAMER

March 23, 1782 ("Shabbat ha-Gadol," 5542) Chief Rabbi Ezekiel Landau responds to the Austrian emperor's Edict of Toleration (*Toleranzpatent*) / 84

MARC SAPERSTEIN

1783 Moses Mendelssohn writes *Jerusalem, oder Über religiöse Macht und Judentum*, which addresses the relationship between state, church, and the individual and refines the notion of religious toleration / 88

JULIUS H. SCHOEPS

1783 The final volume of Moses Mendelssohn's edition of the Pentateuch appears / 93

DAVID SORKIN

1783 The Haskalah begins in Germany with the founding of the Hebrew journal *Hame'asef* / 101

MOSHE PELL

1792-93 Salomon Maimon writes his *Lebensgeschichte* (Autobiography), a reflection on his life in the (Polish) East and the (German) West / 108

LILIANE WEISSBERG

1804 Madame de Staël pays a visit to the Berlin salons of the lucky Jewish dilettantes / 116

DEBORAH HERTZ

1812 The German romance with *Bildung* begins, with the publication of Rahel Levin's correspondence about Goethe / 124

MARION KAPLAN

1818 Ludwig Börne begins his professional career as a freelance German journalist and editor of *Die Wage* / 129

MARK M. ANDERSON

1833 Rahel Varnhagen, *salonnière* and epistolary writer, publishes *Rahel: Ein Buch des Andenkens für ihre Freunde*, a collection of letters and diary entries / 136

HEIDI THOMANN TEWARSON

1834 The Jewish historical novel helps to reshape the historical consciousness of German Jews / 143

NITSA BEN-ARI

1840 Heinrich Heine's ghetto tale "The Rabbi of Bacherach" is published / 152

JOST HERMAND

1843 Berthold Auerbach's first collection of *Dorfgeschichten* appears / 158

HANS OTTO HORCH

1843 Fanny Lewald's novel *Jenny* treats the issue of discrimination against the Jews in nineteenth-century Germany / 164

BRIGITTA VAN RHEINBERG

1843 Heinrich Heine and Karl Marx meet for the first time in Paris / 171

ANITA BUNYAN

1844 After a self-imposed exile in Paris, Heinrich Heine writes *Deutschland: Ein Wintermärchen* / 178

SUSANNE ZANTOP

January 31, 1850 Conversion to Judaism is protected under the constitution of the North German Confederation / 186

KATHARINA GERSTENBERGER

1857 Abraham Geiger's epoch-making book *Urschrift und Übersetzungen der Bibel in ihrer Abhängigkeit von der inneren Entwicklung des Judentums* disseminates the Jewish version of the origins of Christianity / 193

SUSANNAH HESCHEL

1872 Leopold Zunz declines an invitation to the inauguration of the Hochschule für die Wissenschaft des Judentums / 199

CÉLINE TRAUTMANN-WALLER

1873 Samson Raphael Hirsch oversees the secession of Jewish Orthodoxy in nineteenth-century Germany / 205

MORDECHAI BREUER

1893 Hugo von Hofmannsthal worries about his Jewish mixed ancestry / 212

PETER C. PFEIFFER

1895 The author, feuilletonist, and renowned foreign correspondent Theodor Herzl turns toward Zionism and writes the manifesto *The Jewish State* / 219

GISELA BRUDE-FIRNAU

February 1896 Publication of Theodor Herzl's *Der Judenstaat* begins a diverse tradition in Central Europe of Zionist writing in German / 227

MICHAEL BERKOWITZ

1897 Herzl draws international attention to Zionism, and the Young Vienna circle flourishes / 232

HARRY ZOHN

1898 Sigmund Freud's Passover dream responds to Theodor Herzl's Zionist dream / 240

KEN FRIEDEN

1901 Nineteen-year-old Stefan Zweig publishes his first volume of poetry / 249

KLAUS ZELEWITZ

1903 Gustav Mahler launches a new production of *Tristan und Isolde*, Otto Weininger commits suicide shortly after his *Geschlecht und Charakter* is published, and Max Nordau advocates the development of a "muscle Jewry" / 255

MARC A. WEINER

1904 Bertha Pappenheim establishes the Jewish Women's Federation in Germany / 262

AMY COLIN

1905 Karl Emil Franzos's masterpiece *Der Pojaz* is published posthumously / 268

KENNETH H. OBER

1906 The discipline of *Sexualwissenschaft* emerges in Germany, creating divergent notions of the sexuality of European Jewry / 273

DAVID BIALE

1908 Prussian universities allow women to matriculate for the first time / 280

HARRIET FREIDENREICH

1910 Ernst Bloch and Georg Lukács meet in Heidelberg / 287

MICHAEL LÖWY

1911 Julius Preuss publishes *Biblisch-talmudische Medizin*, Felix Theilhaber publishes *Der Untergang der deutschen Juden*, and the International Hygiene Exhibition takes place in Dresden / 293

JOHN M. EFRON

1912 The publication of Moritz Goldstein's "The German-Jewish Parnassus" sparks a debate over assimilation, German culture, and the "Jewish spirit" / 299

STEVEN E. ASCHHEIM

1913 After two hundred years in which virtually no work by a Jewish woman writer has appeared in Prague, Babette Fried writes two collections of ghetto stories / 306

WILMA A. IGGERS

1913 Karl Kraus writes "He's a Jew After All," one of the few texts in which he directly confronts his Jewish identity and suggests how it has affected his satirical writing / 313

LEO A. LENSING

1914 Franz Rosenzweig writes the essay "Atheistic Theology," which critiques the theology of his day / 322

PAUL MENDES-FLOHR

1914 Kurt Tucholsky withdraws from the Jewish community / 327

THOMAS FREEMAN

1915 In *Deutschtum und Judentum* Hermann Cohen applies neo-Kantian philosophy to the German Jewish Question / 336

MICHA BRUMLIK

1916 The first issue of Martin Buber's German-Jewish journal *Der Jude* appears / 343

MARK H. GELBER

1916 The German army orders a census of Jewish soldiers, and Jews defend German culture / 348

MICHAEL BRENNER

1918 This year of the dissolution of the Austro-Hungarian Empire marks a crucial historical and symbolic change for Joseph Roth / 355

RITCHIE ROBERTSON

1918 German-speaking Jewish writers visit the Soviet Union and encounter and report on Eastern Jewry in light of Lenin's decree abolishing anti-Semitism / 363

KATHARINA L. OCHSE

1919 The Bavarian Soviet is proclaimed, in a Socialist attempt to fuse cultural and political liberation / 368

STEPHEN ERIC BRONNER

1919 German-Jewish writers begin to give literary expression to memories of the Munich Revolution of 1918–19 / 377

STERLING FISHMAN

October 29, 1920 Paul Wegener's *Der Golem: Wie er in die Welt kam* debuts in Berlin / 384

NOAH W. ISENBERG

November 16, 1920 Czech nationalists occupy the German Landestheater / Ständetheater in Prague / 390

DIERK O. HOFFMANN

1920 The Free Jewish School is founded in Frankfurt am Main under the leadership of Franz Rosenzweig / 395

MARTIN JAY

1921 Walter Benjamin writes the essays "Critique of Violence" and "The Task of the Translator," treating the subject of messianism he discussed with Gershom Scholem during the war / 401

MICHAEL P. STEINBERG

1921 The staging of Arthur Schnitzler's play *Reigen* in Vienna creates a public uproar that draws involvement by the press, the police, the Viennese city administration, and the Austrian parliament / 412

EGON SCHWARZ

1922 *Milgroym*, a Yiddish magazine of arts and letters, is founded in Berlin by Mark Wischnitzer / 420

DELPHINE BECHTEL

1923 Kafka goes to camp / 427

SANDER L. GILMAN

1925 *Jud Süß* by Lion Feuchtwanger is published / 434

DAVID BATHRICK

1925 Hugo Bettauer's assassination by Otto Rothstock in Vienna marks the first political murder by the Nazis in Austria / 440

BETH SIMONE NOVECK

1926 Georg Hermann writes a pamphlet attacking the special issue of Martin Buber's *Der Jude* devoted to the topic of anti-Semitism and Jewish national characteristics / 448

LAUREEN NUSSBAUM

February 18, 1926 Playwrights and theater critics in the Weimar Republic assume the role of advocates for justice / 455

HANS-PETER BAYERDÖRFER

July 15, 1927 The Vienna Palace of Justice is burned in a mass uprising of Viennese workers, a central experience in the life and work of Elias Canetti / 464

KRISTIE A. FOELL

1928 Jakob Wassermann's novel *Der Fall Maurizius* presents the final expression of his views on the relationship of Germans and Jews / 471

MARCUS BULLOCK

1928 Erich Fromm joins the Institute for Social Research and begins a ten-year affiliation with the Frankfurt school / 479

DOUGLAS KELLNER

1928 The first issue of the *Jewish Children's Calendar*, edited by Emil Bernhard Cohn, is published in cooperation with the Commission on Literary Works for Youth of the Grand Lodge for Germany of the Independent Order of B'nai B'rith / 485

ANNEGRET VÖLPEL

1932 Gertrud Kolmar completes her poetry cycle *Weibliches Bildnis* and thus reshapes her identity as a Jewish woman poet / 492

JOHN BORMANIS

February 28, 1933 Karl Wolfskehl, member of the George Circle, carrying several books he loves too much to sell, boards a train for Basel and leaves Germany forever / 499

ALEXIS P. RUBIN

1933 The Cultural League is formed to concentrate all "Jewish" cultural life in one central organization under Nazi supervision / 506

EIKE GEISEL

September 15, 1935 Passage of the Reich Citizenship Act and the Law for the Protection of German Blood and German Honor in Nazi Germany forces the children's book author Mira Lobe to emigrate to Palestine / 512

KARL MÜLLER

1935 At the International Writers Congress in Paris, the exiled German authors lay down the foundation

of their opposition to the Nazis: the defense of the "Ideas of 1789" / 520

ALBRECHT BETZ

1936 Abraham Joshua Heschel's first major scholarly work, *Die Prophetie*, is published in Cracow, Poland, and distributed by Erich Reiss Verlag in Berlin / 526

EDWARD K. KAPLAN

1936 Philo Press publications mark a turning point in the Centralverein's practice and ideology, from ambivalence about Jewish "reemancipation" to an endorsement of the settling of Palestine / 532

RIMA SHICHMANter

1937 Hermann Broch writes a narrative entitled *The Return of Virgil*, thus beginning an eight-year project that culminates in the novel *The Death of Virgil* / 537

PAUL MICHAEL LÜTZELER

March 11, 1938 After German troops march into Austria, many Austrian- and German-Jewish writers flee / 544

GUY STERN

1938 During the Austrian *Anschluß* to the Third Reich, Friedrich Torberg escapes from Prague, first to Zurich and then to Paris / 551

RUTH BECKERMAN

1938 Sigmund Freud's departure from Vienna for exile in England marks a symbolic end to the wave of emigration of German-speaking Jewish psychotherapists and psychoanalysts in Germany and Austria / 558

UWE HENRIK PETERS

1939 Else Lasker-Schüler becomes permanently exiled in Jerusalem when Swiss immigration authorities deny her reentry to Switzerland / 563

DAGMAR C. G. LORENZ

1939 Max Horkheimer's "Die Juden und Europa" appears / 571

JACK JACOBS

1940 In the year of the Hitler-Stalin pact, Walter Benjamin dictates his *Theses on the Philosophy of History* and, attempting to escape from Nazi-occupied France, kills himself at the Franco-Spanish border / 577

IRVING WOHLFARTH

1941 A four-year debate on child psychoanalysis begins between Anna Freud and Melanie Klein within the British Psychoanalytical Society / 591

MEIRA LIKIERMAN

February 8, 1942 H. G. Adler is deported to Theresienstadt and begins his life's work of writing a scholarly testimony to his experience / 599

JEREMY ADLER

1944 Hannah Arendt writes "The Jew as Pariah: A Hidden Tradition," in which she describes the forgotten tradition of Jewish "conscious pariahs" / 606

ANSON RABINBACH

1944 Jewish writing in German continues in Theresienstadt and beyond / 614

RUTH SCHWERTFEGER

1945 World War II ends, and eight-year-old Jurek Becker is freed from a concentration camp and begins to learn German / 621

FRANK D. HIRSCHBACH

1945 An official Soviet stamp permits the exportation of cultural documents, including a draft version of *Die Buche*, a never-published anthology of German-language Jewish poetry from the Bukowina found in the estate of Alfred Margul-Sperber / 627

MARIANNE HIRSCH

November 9, 1945 Alfred Döblin, one of the first German-Jewish writers to return to Germany, arrives in the French occupation zone / 634

FRANK STERN

1946 Edgar Hilsenrath and Jakov Lind meet at the employment office in Netanya, Palestine, discuss literature, and contemplate their recent past / 642

PETER STENBERG

1946 Jewish playwrights in the postwar German theater begin to break the taboos associated with German-Jewish relations and the Holocaust / 648

ANAT FEINBERG

1946 Hans-Joachim Schoeps settles in Germany after eight years of exile in Sweden / 655

GARY LEASE

1947 Anna Seghers returns to Germany from exile and makes her home in East Berlin / 662

BARBARA EINHORN

1947 Arnold Zweig begins to work on *Freundschaft mit Freud* / 671

DETLEV CLAUSSEN

1948 Hannah Arendt appeals for Arab-Jewish reconciliation as the most plausible reaction to the German-Jewish catastrophe / 677

DAGMAR BARNOUW

1949 The Frankfurt school returns to Germany / 683

PETER UWE HOHENDAHL

1951 In his essay "Kulturkritik und Gesellschaft," Theodor W. Adorno states that it is barbaric to write poetry after Auschwitz / 691

LEONARD OLSCHNER

1952 Manès Sperber pursues the Jewish Question in *Wolyna* / 697

JACK ZIPES

1957 Hermann Levin Goldschmidt receives the first Leo Baeck Prize for *Das Vermächtnis des deutschen Judentums* / 704

WILLI GOETSCHEL

1959 Hilde Domin publishes *Nur eine Rose als Stütze* and Nelly Sachs publishes *Flucht und Verwandlung*, both of which deal with flight and exile / 710

EHRHARD BAHR

1960 Paul Celan wins the Georg Büchner Prize / 716

STÉPHANE MOSES

1964 On March 13, in the middle of rehearsals for the premiere of *Marat / Sade*, Peter Weiss attends the Frankfurt Auschwitz trial / 722

ROBERT COHEN

1965 The premiere of Peter Weiss's *The Investigation: Oratorio in Eleven Songs*, a drama written from the documentation of the Frankfurt Auschwitz trial, is staged / 729

ROBERT HOLUB

1967 Alexander and Margarete Mitscherlich's *Die Unfähigkeit zu trauern* is published / 736

ERIC L. SANTNER

1968 The translation of Isaac Bashevis Singer's *Gimpel der Narr* appears in the Federal Republic of Germany / 742

LESLIE MORRIS

1971 *Ein Sommer in der Woche der Itke K.* by American-born author Jeannette Lander is published / 749

LESLIE A. ADELSON

1973 Stefan Heym's *Der König David Bericht*, which fictionalizes the biblical account of David's reign to comment on the contemporary situation in the German Democratic Republic, is published / 759

NANCY A. LAUCKNER

November 17, 1976 Stephan Hermlin and Günter Kunert protest the expulsion of Wolf Biermann from the German Democratic Republic / 766

KARL-HEINZ J. SCHOEPS

October 1978 Jean Améry takes his life / 775

SUSAN NEIMAN

1979 The American television series *Holocaust* is shown in West Germany / 783

ANTON KAES

1979 Peter Lilienthal makes *David*, the first "post-Shoah German-Jewish film" / 790

ROBERT R. SHANDLEY

1980 The "Third Generation" of Jewish-German writers after the Shoah emerges in Germany and Austria / 796

KAREN REMMLER

1985 Rainer Werner Fassbinder's play *Garbage, the City and Death*, produced in Frankfurt, marks a key year of remembrance in Germany / 805

ANDREI S. MARKOVITS AND
BETH SIMONE NOVECK

1986 The Historians' Debate (*Historikerstreit*) takes place over the status and representation of the Nazi period, and more specifically of the Holocaust, in Germany's past / 812

DOMINICK LACAPRA

1990 Jenny Aloni's *Das Brachland* is published as volume 1 of her *Gesammelte Werke in Einzelausgaben* / 820

HARTMUT STEINECKE

1992 Robert Schindel's novel *Gebürtig* continues the development of Jewish writing in Austria after the Shoah / 827

INGRID SPÖRK

List of Contributors 833

Index 837