

A few words about some of the signers of the letter to the JNF:

Aleida Assmann and her husband Jan Assmann, joint recipients of the Balzan Prize in 2017, Germany's highest honor. Both are among the most conspicuous public intellectuals in Germany (or for that matter, in Europe)

Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett, recipient of the 2019 Dan David Prize

Charles Malamoud, one of the most influential and beloved of French scholar-intellectuals

Georges Dreyfus, perhaps the world's finest Tibetologist

Giovanni Galizia, Director of the Zukunfts Kolleg, the Institute of Advanced Studies at the University of Konstanz, and a renowned life-scientist

Ian Buruma, world-renowned public intellectual, scholar of Japan. Erasmus Prize, 2008.

Jeffrey Veidlinger, Director of the Frankel Center for Judaic Studies, University of Michigan, one of the top names in Judaic studies in the US

Karthika Nair, world-famous poet, dance-producer, librettist and choreographer, performances all over the world, including Opéra National du Rhin, and many with Ahmad Khan's dance company

Kesavan Veluthat, probably the finest historian of pre-modern South Asia in this generation in India, even world-wide

Kenneth Mann, well known here in Israel, founder of the Public Defense Unit in the Ministry of Justice, which provides legal representation for suspects and defendants.

Lorraine Daston, Max Planck Institute, Berlin. Perhaps the world's leading historian of science and a major figure in Germany and the US, former director of the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science

Michael Walzer, Institute for Advanced Studies, well known public figure in US and in Israel, a major voice in political philosophy and ethics

Mike Grossberg, Indiana University, former editor of the *American Historical Review*, the flagship publication for American historians

Natalie Zemon Davis, Princeton University. One of the world's most famous historians, winner of all the major prizes

Peter Cole, Yale University, MacArthur Prize winner, internationally known poet

Peter Mandler, leading British historian at the University of Cambridge, former president of the Royal Historical Society

Sheldon Pollock, Arvind Raghunathan Distinguished Professor, Columbia University—
probably the world's finest scholar of South Asia

Robert Schneider, Indiana University, former editor of the *American Historical Review*

Robert Storr, internationally known painter, critic, and curator. Former Senior Curator at the
Museum of Modern Art. First US-born director of the Venice Biennale

Vanalyne Green, iconic feminist artist

Stephen Weitzmann, University of Pennsylvania, , director of The Herbert D. Katz Center for
Advanced Judaic Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, the leading center of
Judaic studies in the US

W. J. T. Mitchell, University of Chicago, Gaylord Donnelley Distinguished Service Professor,
University of Chicago. Leading figure worldwide in media studies, visual art, and
literature. Editor of *Critical Inquiry*.

Wendy Doniger, University of Chicago. Academic super-star, historian of religion, specialist
in South Asia

In addition to all these, many other of the names, actually most of them, are of highly
distinguished academics and intellectuals.