The HUC-JIR Louchheim School for Judaic Studies at USC, USC Hillel, and the USC Office of Religious Life present:

Katka Reszke

*Return Of The Jew:*

*Identity Narratives of the Third Post-Holocaust Generation of Jews in Poland*

Responses by Rabbi Haim Beliak and Gosia Szymańska Weiss

Wednesday, January 22, 3:30-5pm, Hebrew Union College

A new generation of Jews appeared in Poland following the fall of the communist regime. Can there be 'authentic' Jewish life in Poland after fifty years of oppression? Katka Reszke will discuss her book, a study of identity narratives of third post-Holocaust generation of Jews in Poland. It provides a revealing account of the experience of being or rather becoming Jewish in uniquely compelling circumstances.

**Katka Reszke,** born in 1978 in Wroclaw, Poland, is a writer, documentary filmmaker, photographer, and researcher in Jewish history, culture, and identity. She holds a Ph.D. in Jewish Education from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in Israel and is the author of *Return Of The Jew: Identity Narratives of the Third Post-Holocaust Generation of Jews in Poland.* Her recent films focus on Polish Jewish history and identity, as well as on the Polish LGBTQ community.

**Gosia Szymańska Weiss,** a native of Łódź, Poland, graduated in 2006 with an MPA from USC and an MA in Jewish Communal Service from HUC. She now works as the Assistant Director for International Relations at the Los Angeles office of AJC and Coordinator of the Polish-Jewish Exchange program between AJC and Warsaw-based NGO, Forum for Dialogue Among Nations.

**Rabbi Haim Beliak** (ordained at HUC in 1976) works with Beit Polska, the umbrella organization of Progressive Judaism in Poland, and has served as visiting rabbi for Beit Warszawa in Warsaw. From 1974 to 1991, Rabbi Beliak was chaplain and adjunct professor of Modern Jewish History at The Claremont Colleges, and since then he has led HaMifgash, an educational project serving adult learners.

Questions? Contact the Jewish Studies office at louchheim@huc.edu or (213) 765-2113.