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## Newsletter des Collegium Carolinum 10/2012

(30.4.2012)

### Vortragsankündigung

Das [Collegium Carolinum](http://www.collegium-carolinum.de) lädt herzlich zu einer Vortragsveranstaltung ein:

**Mittwoch, 16. Mai 2012, 18 Uhr c.t.**

Seminarraum des Collegium Carolinum (Hochstr. 8, 2. OG, München)

**Prof. Cathleen M. Giustino, Ph.D.**

(Auburn University, Alabama/USA)

### **Heritage on the Move in Czechoslovakia, 1918–1989: Transfers and Resettlements of Confiscated Cultural Property under Democracy and Dictatorship**

From the beginning of the First Czechoslovak Republic until the end of the socialist era, government offices in Czechoslovakia were involved with managing sequestered art, antiques, castles, and chateaux. This paper outlines the history of confiscated cultural property in Czechoslovakia from 1918 to 1989, showing some continuity in the transfer and resettlement of tangible heritage before and after World War II. It presents national and international legal stipulations allowing the state to seize privately held cultural objects and official justifications given for the takeovers. It discusses the fate of displaced works of art and antiques, including their relocation, display, and political re-appropriation in state-owned museums, some of which were established in castles and chateaux formerly belonging to individuals and families.

Cathleen M. Giustino is Mills Carter Associate Professor of History at Auburn University. Her book, *Tearing Down Prague's Jewish Town* (East European Monographs, 2003), examines Czech attitudes towards modernization through the history of Josefov's urban reconstruction in 1900. She is now completing research for a book-length manuscript, "Displaced/Replaced Heritage: Identity, Politics, and Confiscated Cultural Property in Czechoslovakia, 1918-1989." Together with Catherine Plum and Alexander Vari, she is editor of *Socialist Escapes: Breaking Away from Ideology and Everyday Routine in Eastern Europe, 1945-1989* (Berghahn, forthcoming). Her most recent article, "Industrial Design and the Czechoslovak Pavilion at EXPO '58," is in the *Journal of Contemporary History* (January 2012).

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