

# Biographies of 2010 Company of Ideas Forum Speakers

## **Dr. Jay Winter – Yale University**

Jay M. Winter, the Charles J. Stille Professor of History, is a specialist on World War I and its impact on the 20th century. His other interests include remembrance of war in the 20th century, such as memorial and mourning sites, European population decline, the causes and institutions of war, British popular culture in the era of the Great War and the Armenian genocide of 1915.

Winter is the author or co-author of a dozen books, including *Socialism and the Challenge of War*, *Ideas and Politics in Britain, 1912-18*, *The Great War and the British People*, *The Fear of Population Decline*, *The Experience of World War I*, *Sites of Memory, Sites of Mourning: The Great War in European Cultural History, 1914-1918: The Great War and the Shaping of the 20th Century*, *Remembering War: The Great War between History and Memory in the 20th Century*, and *Dreams of Peace and Freedom: Utopian Moments in the 20th Century*.

Winter earned BA from Columbia University and his PhD and DLitt degrees from Cambridge University. He taught at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, the University of Warwick and the University of Cambridge before joining the faculty of Columbia University in 2000 and then the Yale faculty one year later. At Yale, his courses include lectures on Europe in the age of total war, and on modern British history, as well as seminars on history and memory and European identities.

## **Dr. Lawrence Badash – University of California, Santa Barbara**

Lawrence Badash received a B.S. in physics from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 1956, and a Ph.D. in history of science from Yale University in 1964. He is Professor Emeritus of History of Science at the University of California, Santa Barbara, where he taught for thirty-six years. He has been a NATO Postdoctoral Science Fellow at Cambridge University, a Guggenheim Fellow, Visiting Professor of International Studies at Meiji Gakuin University in Yokohama, Director of the University of California Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation's Summer Seminar on Global Security and Arms Control, a lecturer on the nuclear arms race at the Inter-University Center of Postgraduate Studies in Dubrovnik, Croatia, a Council member of the History of Science Society, a Member-at-Large of the Section on History and Philosophy of Science of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and a member of the Executive Committee of the Forum on Physics and Society of the American Physical Society. Badash is a Fellow of the American Physical Society and of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

His research is centered on the physical sciences of the past century, especially the development of radioactivity and nuclear physics; on the role of scientists in the nuclear arms race; and on the interaction of science and society. Badash has authored or edited six books, including *Radioactivity in America*, *Kapitza*, *Rutherford and the Kremlin*, *Scientists and the Development of Nuclear Weapons*,

and Reminiscences of Los Alamos 1943-1945. Several months ago MIT press recently published A Nuclear Winter's Tale: Science and Politics in the 1980s.

**Jenni Pace-Presnell – PhD Candidate, University of British Columbia**

Jenni Pace Presnell earned a master's degree in art history from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst and she is currently a doctoral student in art and architectural history at UBC. Her academic interests include: city planning and social housing, particularly British and French colonial design; orientalist art history; the history of public institutions including museums and libraries; and, museum collecting and stewardship. Jenni will be in residence at the Canadian Centre for Architecture in early 2010.

**Dr. Jeffrey E. Foss – University of Victoria**

Jeffrey Foss has a Ph. D., in Philosophy. He is currently a Professor in the Department of Philosophy at the University of Victoria. He is the Associate Editor of Philosophy in Review and a freelance writer for the Globe and Mail Toronto, reviewing books on the brain, the mind and consciousness. His major intellectual interests are the Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Mind and Philosophy of Nature. He has written numerous publications in scholarly journals, and most recently published a book called: Beyond Environmentalism: A Philosophy of Nature. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley and Sons (2009).

**Karun Koernig – Jeffrey Rubinoff Sculpture Park Company of Ideas Forum Director**

Karun Koernig has held the position of Activities Director for the Jeffrey Rubinoff Sculpture Park for the past 3 years. For the past 3 years he has worked with UN-HABITAT headquarters in Nairobi to establish an entrepreneurship, environment and most recently arts programmes for urban youth. For the past 15 years he has been the Senior Manager of the Environmental Youth Alliance International Division, and for the past 3 years managing micro-enterprise development projects for youth in the slums of Nairobi. He also founded consultancy in Vancouver, BC that focuses on environmental training and auditing. Karun Koernig graduated with honours from Simon Fraser University, where he majored in Political Science.

**Jeffrey Rubinoff, B.A., M.F.A. – Chair, The Jeffrey Rubinoff Sculpture Park**