**Martina Kerlová**

Erich Heller: Bohemian German-Jewish Intellectual in Anglo-American exile

My project examines the life and work of Erich Heller, a prolific scholar of Austrian and German literature and philosophy. Born into a German-Jewish family in the borderlands of Habsburg Bohemia, Heller graduated from Prague’s German University, only to be forced to flee the Nazi invasion.  He found refuge in Britain before moving ultimately to the United States where he taught for two decades at Northwestern University. I will explore Heller’s intellectual development through his voluntary and forced migrations. My project will consider Heller’s life and thought in two main contexts: that of his generation of Bohemian-born émigrés who ultimately became influential in exile, and of the post war American atmosphere in higher education and the role of German speaking scholars within it. As a gay man, Heller was an outsider of yet another way.