

# JEDNAK KSIĄZKI

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The Holocaust and the Contemporary World

## EDITORS' NOTE

### INTRODUCTION

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Although Holocaust studies is a thriving research area, boasting many important recent publications and projects, a truly broad, interdisciplinary perspective is still felt to be lacking. Hence, the current issue of “Books Now” is meant as an opportunity to look at the theme of the Shoah in as diverse and wide-scoped contexts as possible. Our authors write not only about the genesis, essence, or events of the Holocaust, but also about the influence of that monstrous genocide on the history of humankind, and its role and place in shaping the reality of our lives today. They discuss the Holocaust as a decisive phenomenon in transformations of multiple aspects of our contemporary world: from politics to ethics, from norms of behaviour to religious beliefs, from art to mass culture, from philosophy to dreams. Special attention has been paid to representation of the Holocaust in literature, because, as we believe, literature is still the most important medium of diagnosing and influencing human souls.

Our contributors represent various academic disciplines: anthropology, history, philosophy, psychology, cultural studies, literary studies and other. We hope that due to its interdisciplinary nature, the current issue of our journal will bring many interesting observations on the role of the Holocaust in the past and in the present-day world.