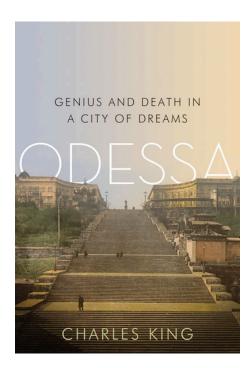
PROFESSOR CHARLES KING

Georgetown University

Odessa: Genius and Death in a City of Dreams



Italian merchants, Greek freedom fighters, and Turkish seamen; a Russian empress and her favorite soldierbureaucrats; Jewish tavern keepers, traders, and journalists—these and many others seeking fortune and adventure rubbed shoulders in Odessa, the greatest port on the Black Sea. Here a dream of cosmopolitan freedom inspired geniuses and innovators, from Alexander Pushkin and Isaac Babel to Zionist activist Vladimir Jabotinsky and immunologist Ilya Mechnikov. Yet here too was death on a staggering scale: not only the insidious plagues common to seaports but also the mass murder of Jews carried out by the Romanian occupation during World War II. Drawing on a wealth of original source material, Odessa is an elegy for the vibrant, multicultural tapestry of which a thriving Jewish population formed an essential part, as well as a celebration of the survival of Odessa's dream in a diaspora reaching all the way to Brooklyn's Brighton Beach.

THURSDAY, APRIL 21 // 4:30 - 6:00 PM

Flom Auditorium, 6th Floor Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars One Woodrow Wilson Plaza 1300 Pennsylvania Ave., NW Washington, DC 20004-3027 www.wilsoncenter.org/kennan // Tel: 202-691-4100

For directions and instructions on entering the Wilson Center, please visit www.wilsoncenter.org/directions.

Please RSVP to Joseph Dresen at joseph.dresen@wilsoncenter.org.

Additional information can be found at: http://www.charles-king.net/.



