

Glossary of Terms from Essays

James Agee: (1909 in Knoxville – 1955 in New York), American author and important poet

Max Beckmann: (1884 in Leipzig – 1950 in New York), painter and graphic artist, member of the *Berliner Sezession*; classified as a “degenerate artist” by the Nazis

Charon: in Greek mythology, the boatman who ferries the souls of the dead across the underworld river Acheron to the infernal regions of Hades

William Sloane Coffin: (born in 1924), from 1958 to 1975, chaplain at Yale University; activist in the civil rights and peace movements

Walker Evans: (1903 in Saint Louis – 1975 in New Haven), important American photographer whose scenes of life during the Depression made a lasting impact on documentary photography

Joseph Floch: (1894 in Vienna – 1977 in New York), painter; moved to Paris in 1925; due to his Jewish origins, he fled to New York in 1941

Seymour Gresser: (born in 1926 in Baltimore), sculptor and author; numerous exhibitions in Europe, the US and Mexico

Hagar: woman mentioned in the Old Testament (Genesis 16: 1-16; 21: 8-21); Egyptian slave of Sarah, concubine of Abraham and mother of his son Ishmael; her grave is venerated by Muslims in Mecca

John (Richard) Hersey: (1914 in Tientsin, China – 1993 in Key West), journalist, war correspondent, author, winner of the Pulitzer Prize in 1945; political activist opposed to atomic weapons

Ernst Ludwig Kirchner: (1880 in Aschaffenburg – 1938 in Frauenkirch-Wildboden), painter and graphic artist; co-founder of the artists’ association *Die Brücke* (the bridge); classified as “degenerate” by the Nazis; suicide

Paula Modersohn-Becker: (1876 in Dresden – 1907 in Worpswede), painter; resettled in 1898 to the Worpswede artists’ colony; the landscape of northern Germany and the peasant farmer milieu are characteristic motifs in her work

Emil Nolde: (1867 in Nolde – 1956 in Seebüll), member of *Die Brücke* and one of the most important German expressionists; although he was a member of the Nazi Party, his works were classified as “degenerate” and confiscated

OSS: Office of Strategic Services, so named in 1942

Max Pechstein: (1881 in Zwickau – 1955 in Berlin), expressionist, member of *Die Brücke* as well as the *Berliner Sezession* and the *Neue Sezession*, and the politically active November Group; officially forbidden to paint by the Nazis

Styx: mythological river forming the border between life and death

