

Deutsches Spionagemuseum/German Spy Museum

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Deutsches Spionagemuseum

Leipziger Platz 9 | 10117 Berlin

info@deutsches-spionagemuseum.de

www.deutsches-spionagemuseum.de

Tel +49 (0)30 - 39 82 00 45 - 0

Fax +49 (0)30 - 39 82 00 45 - 9

**»The Bridge of Spies in Berlin«****Gary Powers Jr. at the German Spy Museum****Presentation on November 7th, 2017 at 7 p.m.**

Berlin, November 2nd, 2017. The »Bridge of Spies« was not only a very successful Hollywood-movie by Steven Spielberg, but also elevated the phrase for an otherwise ordinary bridge on the outskirts of the German capital Berlin into pop culture. Where today the river Spree calmly divides Berlin and Potsdam, pedestrians and public buses cross a former hotspot of the Cold War: The Glienicker Bruecke.

In 1962, Francis Gary Powers, an outstanding Air Force pilot that the CIA engaged to fly their state-of-the-art U-2 spy-plane over Soviet territory, was the first Western citizen ever to be exchanged on Glienicker Bridge. Power's plane was shot down over the Urals in 1960 and his martyrdom began. After long years of hard negotiations, Powers was finally exchanged for the KGB-spy in the USA, Rudolf Ivanovich Abel. Quite unlike the 1980's, when the Glienicker Bridge was chosen as a setting for spy swaps because the sight lent itself perfectly for a dramatic media-staging, in 1962 hardly any place along the borderline between East and West was more secluded.

After the fall of the Berlin Wall and the collapse of the Soviet Union, the media, movie-makers, researchers, and the public were interested in this hotspot of the Cold War. However, who would be better suited to talk about the intermingling of Cold War history with personal fate than Francis Gary Powers Jr., son of the world-famous U-2-pilot?

Gary not only founded The Cold War Museum on the outskirts of Washington D.C., but also works hard to keep the memory of his father alive. The German Spy Museum is pleased to welcome Mr. Gary Powers Jr. as a guest speaker on November 7th, 2017 at the German Spy Museum in Berlin.

**Participant**

Francis Gary Powers Jr., The Cold War Museum Vint Hill, VA, son of Francis Gary Powers

The Bridge of Spies in Berlin. Gary Powers Jr. at the German Spy Museum

Presentation on November 7th, 2017 at 7 p.m.

German Spy Museum/Deutsches Spionagemuseum, Leipziger Platz 9, 10117 Berlin

Free entrance

Presentation in English

For further information please call 030/398200450

or send an email to [presse@deutsches-spionagemuseum.de](mailto:presse@deutsches-spionagemuseum.de)