# "Every generation has a new history, because it has a different future." Eugen Rosenstock-Huessy Universal History

December, 2022

Dear Friends,

February 24, 2023 will mark the 50th anniversary of Rosenstock-Huessy's death. Soon after his death, a small group of people who believed that what Rosenstock-Huessy had to say was of lasting importance, even urgency, started the Eugen Rosenstock-Huessy Fund to keep his works in print and his memory alive.

Looking back from 2022, it is gratifying to see how successful that effort has been. His English-language books are distributed by Wipf and Stock and continue to sell; the Fund has a website that allows world-wide access to his work; his papers are secured in archives at Dartmouth College and at the German Literary Archive in Marbach; and there continues to be a small stream of references to his work in academic journals and elsewhere.

Projects that the ERH Fund undertook and finished this year include a new edition of the "Gritli Briefe " with Eugen and Margrit Rosenstock-Huessy's letters to each other interweaved with Franz Rosenzweig's; the ebook is available for free download on our website at <a href="The "Gritli" Letters">The ERH Fund owes a debt of gratitude to our board member, Dr. Stephanie Brenzel, whose commitment, and dedication made this achievement possible. To support interest in the new ebook, the Fund is hosting its first essay contest on the subject of Rosenstock-Huessy and Rosenzweig's philosophical dialogue. More information is available <a href="about the contest">about the contest</a> on our website. And we are pleased to share that Wipf and Stock published <a href="Understanding Rosenstock-Huessy">Understanding Rosenstock-Huessy: A Haphazard Collection of Ventures</a> authored by Norman Fiering, ERH Fund past-president and board member.

Looking ahead, the ERH Fund will be hosting a celebration of Rosenstock Huessy's life and work next summer, on Saturday, July 8th at Four Wells, the house that the Rosenstock-Huessys built in Norwich, Vermont, in 1937. *Please let us know if you will be interested in joining us.* 

In the year ahead, we will be adding materials to the digital archive and transcribing its contents, making the website more accessible, and creating an online space where scholars can visualize Rosenstock-Huessy's vast network of correspondents. We are also determined to rescue Hal Stahmer's oral history project, for which he interviewed over 60 people who knew Eugen Rosenstock-Huessy well. The tapes are now languishing and require restoration and transcription. We have other projects that are under consideration, and we are eager to collaborate with anyone who has suggestions for projects that deal with Rosenstock-Huessy's life and work. We invite you to let us know of your interest.

A great test of any person's contribution is whether its impact can survive generational change. Few who knew Rosenstock-Huessy personally are still alive. Rapid cultural change in the postwar world and the inevitable emergence of new fashions in academia work against the survival of any older writer's influence. Much of the current interest in Rosenstock-Huessy results from his friendship with Franz Rosenzweig. Rosenstock-Huessy confidently expected to be "discovered" seventy years after his death. Will there be a revival in the next twenty years that establishes Rosenstock-Huessy in the Western canon? Many believe, as I do, that nothing could be more beneficial in our time than wider influence of many of Rosenstock-Huessy's ideas.

We are dependent on the generous donations of our supporters to continue our work. We hope you will consider making a tax-deductible gift to the Eugen Rosenstock-Huessy Fund. Donations can be securely made on our website or mailed to me at the address below. Donations can be earmarked either for a particular interest or in memory of someone who cared deeply about keeping the work of Rosenstock alive. Please review our Wish List below and consider supporting the <a href="ERH Fund">ERH Fund</a>. We appreciate your support.

Sincerely, Lynn K. Jones, President Eugen Rosenstock-Huessy Fund 1226 ½ State St., Ste 5 Santa Barbara, CA 93101

# **Eugen Rosenstock-Huessy Fund Wish List**

# **ERH Fund Projects**

Please support our work by gifting one of these projects or by making a gift for any amount to the ERH Fund.

#### **ERH Fund website**

Our website continues to develop and to be a vital resource for scholars and others interested in the work of Rosenstock-Huessy.

✓ Make a monthly donation of \$25 to underwrite the cost of maintaining and developing our website.

## Support a Scholar with a Travel Grant

The ERH Fund offers a Travel Grant toward the cost of traveling to Dartmouth's Rauner Library to work with the archive materials onsite. Dr. Stephanie Brenzel who is on the ERH Fund Board and completed the Gritli Briefe (mentioned in my letter) first became involved with the ERH Fund as a travel grant recipient to complete research for her doctoral dissertation.

√ \$750 will fund a scholar with a travel grant.

#### Preservation and Digitization of biographical interviews recorded by Harold M. Stahmer, Jr.

Harold M. "Hal" Stahmer credited the start of his distinguished career to the profound and lifelong influence that his mentor and professor Eugen Rosenstock Huessy had on him. He was a scholar in religion and philosophy, an academic administrator, and a civil rights activist. The ERH Fund has been given the tapes of over 60 interviews that Hal completed with former friends, colleagues and students of Eugen Rosentock-Huessy, including Freya von Moltke, Hans Rosenstock Huessy, Mariot Huessy, Harold Berman, Fred Berthold, Mather Elliott, Clint Gardner, Nahum Glatzer, Rivka Horwitz, Bas Leenman, "Spiff" Little, Maurice Mandelbaum, Dick McFalls, Gottfried Michaelis, Uli Michel, Lise van der Molen, George Morgan, Bob O'Brien, Cynthia and Leo Oudejans-Harris, Fr. Benedict Reid, and Anca Wittig.

- ✓ Support the launching of this project with a \$5,000 seed grant donation.
- √ \$500 will underwrite the preservation and digitization of an individual interviewee.

#### **Memorial Funds**

Donors may create a Memorial Fund that supports the Eugen Rosenstock-Huessy Fund as a way to remember and honor a loved one. You may create a Memorial Fund on our website by indicating when you make a gift that it is in the memory of the person you wish to honor.

## C. Russell Keep, Jr Memorial Fund

A Memorial Fund has been created for C. Russell "Russ" Keep, Jr. You can read about the fund that has been set up for Russ at <u>In Memoriam Russ Keep</u>

## Harold M. Stahmer, Jr. Memorial Fund

A Memorial Fund has been created for Harold M. "Hal" Stahmer.