By 1940, the Second World War had become a duel between two artists. In profoundly different but parallel ways, Churchill and Hitler were both aesthetes of war -- and both were bestselling authors. And we can only fully understand their political agendas and methods if we understand their approaches to literature, art, music, and film.

Jonathan Rose is the William R. Kenan Professor of History at Drew University. His fields of study are British history, intellectual history, and the history of the book. He is author of several books, most recently 2015’s *The Literary Churchill: Author, Reader, Actor.* “This strikingly original book introduces a Winston Churchill we have not known before. Award-winning author Jonathan Rose explores in tandem Churchill’s careers as statesman and author, revealing the profound influence of literature and theater on Churchill’s personal, carefully composed grand story and on the decisions he made throughout his political life.”

This talk is part I of a three-part study seminar: *Modern Aesthetics / Nazi Aesthetics.* It will explore the way that the modern conception of art clashed with that of the German National Socialist Party. Modern art, often called modernism, stressed innovation, irony, and subversion. Nazi art, by contrast, sought to emphasize heroism, clarity, and racial superiority. By comparing these two very different aesthetic paradigms, participants will learn about the ways that art can be misused for political purposes. The other two sessions in the three-part study seminar:

**Session II:** March 22, 2016: “The Moral Complexity of French Composers during World War II”
**Session III:** March 29, 2016: “Modern Art in Nazi Germany”

$10.00 per session / $30 for all three

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