

The Temple Judea Museum

Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel
8339 Old York Road, (SE corner Township Line Road)
Elkins Park, PA 19027

EXHIBITION ANNOUNCEMENT:

March 19th – June 30, 2021

Journey into Darkness....Heal with the Beauty of Life

From the collections of the Temple Judea Museum and HAMEC - The Holocaust Awareness Museum and Education Center
Guest Curator: Lise Marlowe

Listed here is information about the attached images. They are a few of the objects displayed in the exhibition from both the HAMEC collection and the Temple Judea Museum Collection: Holocaust, Oppression and Resistance.

TJM COLLECTION:

1. **JDC Huppah,** M21.780
1946, Land of Israel
TJM purchase, 1999

This huppah (wedding ceremony canopy) was made under the supervision of the Joint Distribution Committee, founded in 1914 to provide relief to Jews living in Palestine during World War I. The JDC was key in organizing and supporting Jews after The Holocaust. They helped organize the Displaced Persons Camps where many homeless and bereft survivors lived, some for many years after the war.

According to the appliqué, this huppah was commissioned by the JDC, and was made in the "Land of Israel" (before 1948 - not the State of Israel). It was used in the Foerenwald Displacement Camp. There were many marriages in the camps as shattered remnants of the Jewish community tried to rebuild their lives and move forward. At first glance it seems rather unremarkable. But the idea of the broken lives, re-affirmed and renewed under this simple piece of fabric is enormous. It is truly a symbol of the tenacity of the Jewish people.

2. ***Purge; The Nazi Seizure of Power,*** 1995 J-H32.17.3336

Altered book, matches, 8 ½ " x 5 ½ " x 5 ¾ "

Artist: Doug Beube

TJM purchase, 2017

"The altered book is a synthesis of language and sculpture. This found book is a critical document of my own, although initially written by another author and commercially bound. Transforming the book draws attention to both the literal and metaphorical

aspects of a horrific event. Instead of relying solely upon mental or abstract levels of thinking in understanding the content of the book, readers view the cluster of matches, by reading it as 'potentially explosive.' Its contents of paper, ink and sulfur are revealed through the language of both physical touch and sight." Doug Beube

3. **Scroll "Staircase of Death"**

JH13.782

Flax and cotton rag paper

Found material, computer generated photography, burning, and graphite

Artist: Robbin Ami Silverberg

USA, 2000

"In the quarry (Wiener Graben) of Mauthausen I encountered its Todes Stiege (Staircase of Death). When I have since been in crises those stairs are immediately evoked - a true image of the ultimate life trial...and my conflicts recede in perspective. I looked at the stairs unable to imagine the endless stream of men carrying blocks weighing well over one hundred pounds up those stairs, struggling up that insidious incline."

Robbin Ami Silverberg

Gift of Herb Altman, 2000

4. From "**Songs of the Ghetto**"

JH29.16.3136

Drawing, Approx. 5x5"

Artist: Arthur Syzk

Nazi soldiers with guns march a Jew wearing a Star of David

5. **Holocaust**

J-SC162.20

Artist: Danny Campbell

Mixed Media sculpture

"Several years ago I read "The Holocaust Chronicle" by John Roth. I had known about and studied the Holocaust, but after reading the book, I was appalled by the systematic brutality towards, and humiliation of the European Jewish population by the Nazis.

Richard Glazar's interview transcripts from 1979 located in the National Holocaust Museum archives gave me the inspiration which I reinterpreted into this sculpture. Glazar was an inmate at Treblinka where prisoners had to polish boots; wash clothes, and clean the barracks of the SS guards. This piece was three years in development."

Danny Campbell

Gift of the Artist, 2020

HAMEC Collection (Descriptions of Root's and Somers' works are attached)

Untitled

Oil painting

Artist: Harry Somers

Boxcar

Homasote carving with mixed media

Artist: Frank Root