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Photo essayist Loli Kantor to present talk about her book, *Beyond the Forest*, in Dallas September 29

Fort Worth, Texas --- Fort Worth-based photo essayist Loli Kantor will discuss the story behind her multi-year project, *Beyond the Forest: Jewish Presence in Eastern Europe, 2004–2012*, in a program on Tuesday, September 29, 2015, at HKS Inc. at 350 North St. Paul Street #100 Dallas. A reception is at 6:30 p.m., with the presentation and book signing at 7:00 p.m. The event is sponsored by [The World Affairs Council of Dallas/Fort Worth](#). [Tickets](#) are available online, \$15 for members and \$30 for non-members,

The [book](#) was published by the University of Texas Press last fall. In it, Kantor's photographic language of color juxtaposed with black and white creates a dialogue between past and present, allowing a wide look at a people and a culture. Her photographs present engaging, touching portraits of people and places, food and objects which simultaneously express the spirit of a people and celebrate tradition and ambition in a homeland that has been reshaped by history. She has documented Jewish life in a range of urban and rural communities in Poland and Ukraine for nearly a decade.

What started as a personal project to research her own family history developed into a broader engagement with the daily life of Jews in Eastern Europe in the early 21st century.

"My own family connection to the history of the Jews of Eastern Europe inspired my long-term project and my book, [Beyond the Forest](#)," Loli said. "I will be speaking about personal and universal implications of the journey and address my photographic vision for this multifaceted work."

Although her book and work invoke memory and loss, they also portray a realistic sense of the present and of survival --- a testament to the strength of the spirit and how Jewish traditions and identity have endured and are continuing to evolve in Eastern Europe today.

The author was born in Paris to Holocaust survivors from Poland, both of which lost most of their families, and raised in Tel Aviv. For three decades, [Kantor](#) has made her home in Fort Worth, working as a fine art photographer and a freelancer for *The Fort Worth Star-Telegram*. Kantor's work includes a Fort Worth-focused publication entitled *Heaven on a Biscuit* about the legendary Hip Pocket Theatre. She is also an award-winning photographer with works in the collections of The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Lviv National Museum in Ukraine, Drohobych Palace of Art in Ukraine, the Harry Ransom Center at the University of Texas at Austin, Lishui Museum of Photography in China and The Center for Fine Art Photography in Colorado. ##