

MEMORY, PROCESS, PRESENCE



MEMORY PROJECT EXHIBITIONS

CONTACT:

Office 212.691.1449

Mobile 917.763.9500

memory.proj@gmail.com

memoryprojectproductions.com



Oil paintings and kaleidoscopic videos focus on individual survivors of genocide in an exhibit that humanizes “the other.” The exhibit responds to loss and destruction and uses the creative process to build identity at the intersection of art and personal story.

I can't bring the person back but I can keep the connection alive. Roz Jacobs

Part 1 - FINDING KALMAN

A small black and white family photograph taken in the 1930s in Poland is the springboard for a multimedia exhibit that interweaves time-lapse sequences of nine portraits being made with an intimate conversation between a Holocaust survivor and her daughter, whose hand is seen making the paintings.

Requires a minimum of 110 linear feet and can occupy twice that.

Part 2 - NEVER AGAIN—AGAIN

The world pledged “Never again” in the wake of the Holocaust. Yet we’ve seen genocides and atrocities happening again—and again. The new addition to the Memory Project exhibitions includes paintings and stories of six survivors of the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda. Along with the paintings, a video draws viewers close to the canvases as we hear fragments of the survivors’ stories.

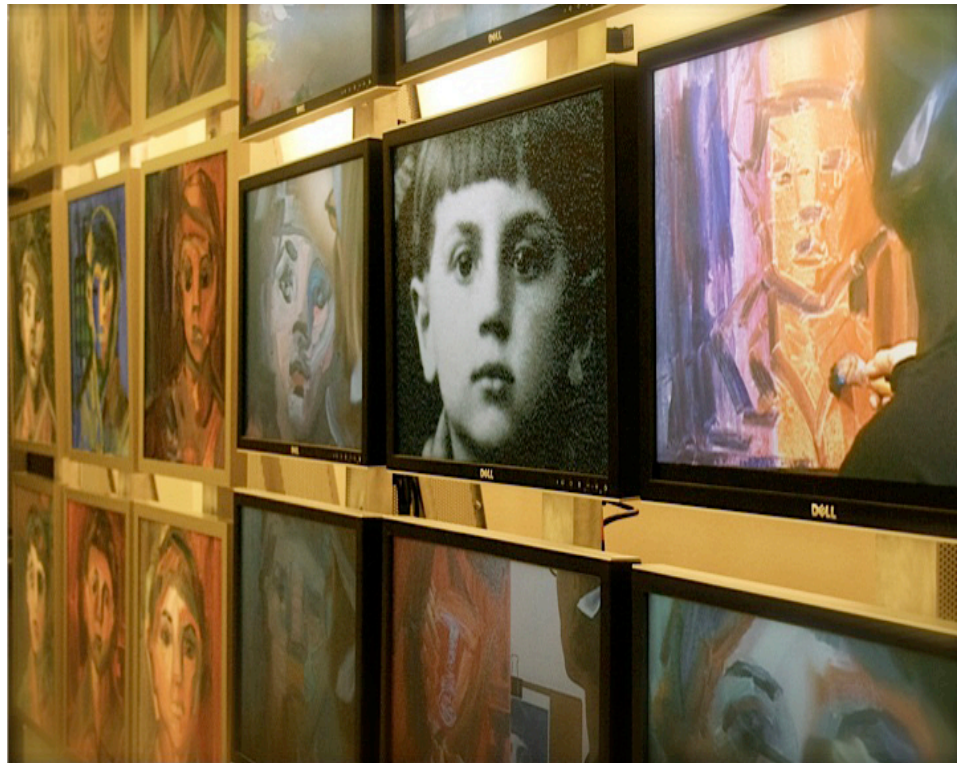
Requires a minimum of 30 linear feet.

The mission of The Memory Project Productions is to promote social justice through art and remembrance.



FINDING KALMAN EXHIBIT

The painting process is displayed for viewers so they can witness each painting being made adjacent to the painting itself. The movement of the brush tracing the boy's head, brings it forth again and again from the void of an empty canvas, each time with a different palette and different emotions. The process brings back a lost life from the void of forgetfulness as it invites viewers to become part of the creative process.



FINDING KALMAN COMPONENTS



Finding Kalman Matrix, Nine 18 x 18 inch oil paintings
Painting stand, 96 x 62 inches (30 inches deep)
Video stand, 88 x 73 inches (30 inches deep)

The *Finding Kalman Matrix* is a multimedia installation that includes oil paintings and video monitors mounted on two aluminum stands. The paintings are based on one black and white 1930s photograph that has been enlarged by 900%. A twelve-minute video loop choreographed across the nine screens interweaves three stories: The visual story of the paintings being made, Holocaust survivor Anna Jacobs' story of how she and her brother Kalman tried to escape from the Warsaw ghetto as teenagers, and the artist's story of connecting to the child, Kalman, through paint.



Kalman Grid
Oil on linen, 30 x 34 inches



Kalman 13
Oil on linen, 30 x 34 inches



OIL PAINTINGS



Kalman 10, 11, 12

A series of three portraits of Kalman, oil on canvas, 36 x 36 inches each. A three-minute video loop shows the painting process.



Kalman and Anna (detail)
Oil on linen, 34 x 30 inches



Family Diptych Top
Family Diptych Bottom
Oil on linen, 36 x 28 inches each

Family: Past and Present Diptych, with each canvas divided into grids of nine. Sections include miniature portraits of the paternal side of the artist's family, some of whom survived and some of whom did not. Some spaces on the grid are color fields, standing in for the lives of people for whom there are no photographs. Subjects include landscapes from the artist's life in France. This canvas bridges past and present in a tender evocation of life and place.



Huberman Family Portrait: Color
Oil on linen, 30 x 34 inches

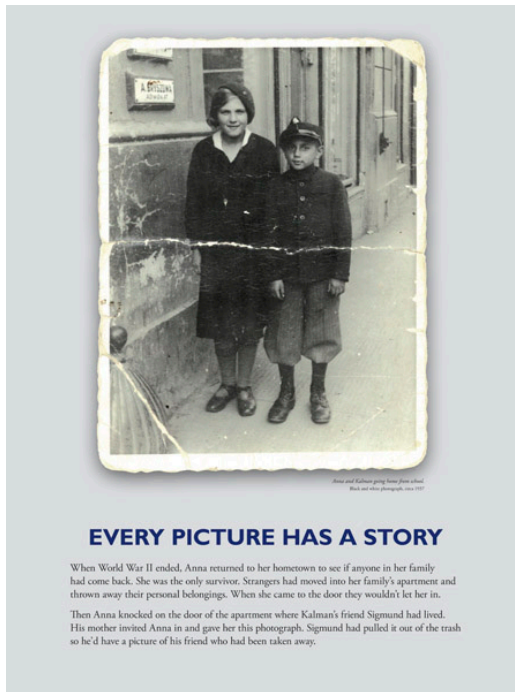
Huberman Family Portrait: Black and White
Oil on linen, 30 x 34 inches

Holocaust scholar Michael Berenbaum said about these canvases:

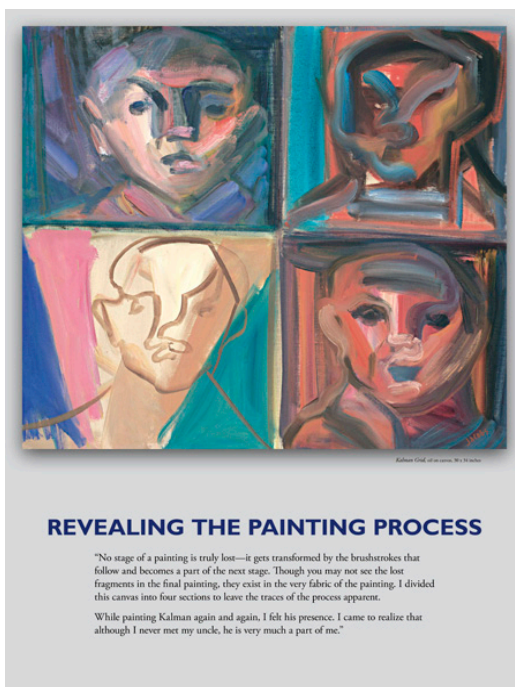
She's given black and white color. We experience the Holocaust primarily in black and white...but we experience the world in color and with the portraits she's painted she's brought it back to life and given it a sense of color and dimensionality, vibrancy and vitality.



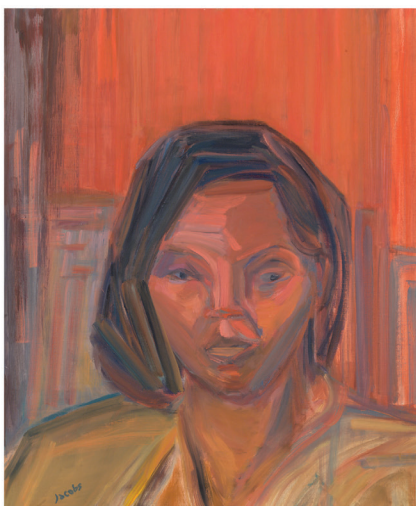
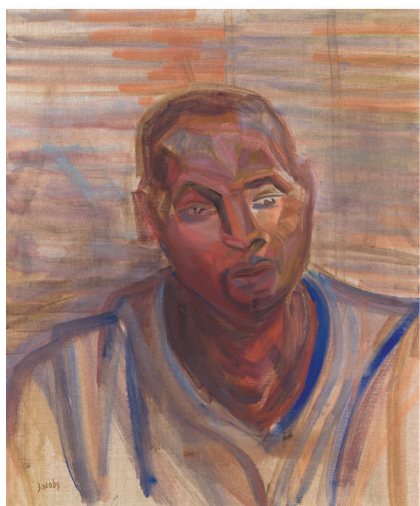
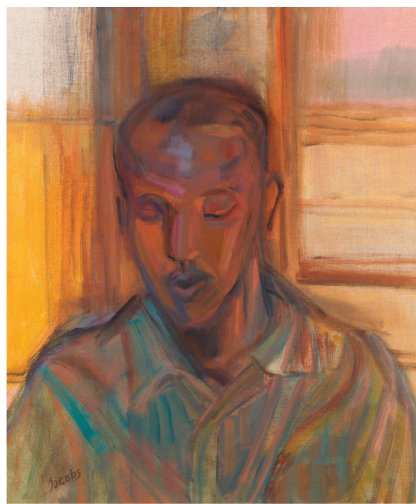
WALL PANELS



Six wall panels (42 x 32 inches) printed on aluminum dibond provide both the historical background of how the photographs of Kalman survived and were retrieved after the war, and the story of how the painting process recaptured his essence.



NEVER AGAIN — AGAIN



Six paintings of Tutsi survivors of genocide in Rwanda (all oil on linen, 25 x 30 inches) are accompanied by a video traversing the paintings' surfaces in close-up. Combined with fragments of testimony they remind us of the survivors' humanity and dignity and that we must keep working diligently toward "Never Again—Again."

In addition to the paintings, a wall of 100 rectangular pieces of paper painted in various colors represent people who were killed and have no one to remember them.

Paintings are based on images and stories from testimony in USC Shoah Foundation – The Institute for Visual History and Education's Visual History Archive®. Audio clips are from the same source. Used with permission.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Through the focus on individual survivors of genocide the exhibit humanizes “the other,” building identity at the intersection of art and personal story. It engages people in intergenerational communication, identity, family history, dealing with anti-Semitism and racism, art-making, African history, Jewish history, and more.

On campuses it can enrich interdisciplinary explorations in fields including psychology, genocide studies, art, education, religion, and history.

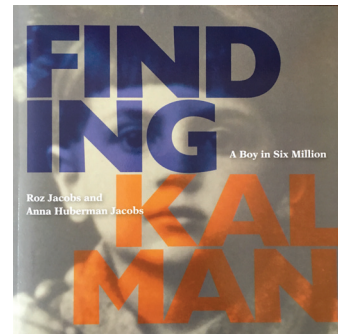
PROGRAMMING COMPONENTS

Finding Kalman, the award-winning 30-minute documentary explores four generations’ response to the trauma of the Holocaust through art, music and storytelling.

Finding Kalman A Boy in Six Million is a memoir authored by a mother and daughter. It’s about transmitting history through the generations, finding love after the darkest of days and the art of living. Discussion guide available.

Face-to-Face Art and Story Workshops

Community and school workshops teach portrait-making to artists and non-artists alike. They teach on two levels. One is about the Holocaust and the Rwandan genocide. The other is exploration of personal family history through stories and art. Participants learn about themselves and each other, cultivating empathy and respect.



I left the book with the feeling that this kind of brutalization must never happen again, and that I must do better to raise my voice against it right now, as it is happening someplace, on some level, in this world. I was inspired.

-James McBride, National Book Award winning author, *The Color of Water* and *The Good Lord Bird*



FACE-TO-FACE



BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH PORTRAIT MAKING

Around the world, the *Finding Kalman* exhibit and Face-to-Face workshops are generating beautiful portraits and meaningful conversations. People are learning about the past, deepening understanding of their own identity and each other. They're building bridges across generations and discovering a new relationship to the creative process.



I really liked learning about how observation and focusing on light and shadows can evoke feeling from a plain piece of paper; it's truly magic.

-Isabella C., 10th grade, NYC

I really, truly enjoyed this project. I also loved hearing about my classmate's experiences. I never really knew how much I don't know my classmates. It has taught me not to assume I know everything about someone.

-Tonya K., 10th grade, New York, NY



Sharing our past. Creating our future. www.memoryprojectproductions.com

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS



Books

Holokauszt Új Utak, Új Generációk (Holocaust: New Roads, New Generations) "Kik éltel itt?" ("Who lived here?") by Orsolya Egri, Publisher: Fiatal Írók Szövetsége, Budapest, 2016

The chapter describes several examples of poor Holocaust education and the falsification happening today. It highlights The Memory Project, which appears simple at first but brings the young generation closer to understanding and empathy.

Oskar am Auschwitz: Opowie ci rodzinne (I Accuse Auschwitz: Family Stories) By Mikołaj Grynberg, preface by Anki Grupi sk. i "Roz," p. 171. Publisher: Wydawnictwo Czarna, Poland, 2014

Twenty conversations with the children of Holocaust survivors.

Print

El Paso Times Living Section: "The Unknown Uncle: El Paso Holocaust Museum's 'The Memory Project' Celebrates Life, Not Loss" by Doug Pullen. October 7, 2012

Sun Sentinel: "A Survivor's Story" by Sergio Carmona
http://articles.sun-sentinel.com/2013-01-09/news/fl-jjdc-documentary-0109-20130109_1-holocaust-survivor-documentary-warsaw-ghetto
 January 9, 2013

Miami Herald, "Kalman Plumbs Holocaust Loss" by Glenn Garvin
 April 17, 2013

The Jewish Advocate, "Kalman Is Coming to Boston" by Alexandra Lipkin.
http://memoryprojectproductions.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/Kalman-is-coming-to-Boston_-www.thejewishadvocate.pdf
 April 5, 2013

Detroit Jewish News, "In Loving Memory" by Suzanne Chessler
 June 18, 2015

Jewish Currents Magazine. "The Memory Project: Trauma, Resilience and Repair Through Art" by Janlori Goldman,
<http://jewishcurrents.org/the-memory-project/>
 Spring 2016

Digital

San Diego Jewish World, Online Holocaust Memory Project Goes Interactive
<http://www.sdjewishworld.com/2014/06/24/online-holocaust-memory-project-goes-interactive/>
 June 24, 2014

The Detroit Hub "Memory Project Opens at Holocaust Memorial Center: Tells Story of Life, not Loss" by M. Lapham.
 May 22, 2015

NYSATA News Digital edition, "The Memory Project Productions: Face-to-Face Linking the Past with the Present to Promote Historical Understanding and Compassion" by Laurie Weisman with Roz Jacobs.
 Summer 2017

The Write Teachers "Memory Project Productions Launches Innovative Holocaust Remembrance Gallery" Posted by Megan Minuttillo
<http://www.thewriteteachers.com/?p=6447> July 7, 2014



Broadcast

KTEP, El Paso Public Radio
 State of the Arts: Interview with Maribel Villalba, Director of the El Paso Holocaust Museum and artists Roz Jacobs and Laurie Weisman. November 3, 2012
<http://ktep.org/post/state-arts-el-paso-holocaust-museum-and-study-center>

WDET, Detroit Public Radio
 "Bearing Witness: A Holocaust Survivor's Story Comes to Life Through 'The Memory Project.'" June 29, 2015
<https://wdet.org/posts/2015/06/29/80876-bearing-witness-a-holocaust-survivors-story-comes-to-life-through-the-memory-project-video/>



Sharing our past. Creating our future. www.memoryprojectproductions.com

MEMORY PROJECT EXHIBITION HISTORY

EXHIBITION HISTORY: USA

Nathan D. Rosen Museum
Boca Raton, FL 2007-8

Holocaust Resource Center
Manhasset, NY 2009-10

Anne Frank Center
New York, NY 2010

Holocaust Museum Houston
Houston, TX 2010-11

El Paso Holocaust Museum
El Paso, TX 2012-13

Florida Holocaust Museum
St. Petersburg, FL 2014

Holocaust Memorial Center
Farmington Hills, MI 2015

EUROPE (selected venues) POLAND

Auschwitz Jewish Center
Oswiecim, 2012

Galicja Jewish Museum
Cracow, 2012

Zamosc Synagogue Cultural
Center
Zamosc, 2013

Cultural Union of Łemów
Łemów, 2014

City Cultural Center
Skarzysko-Kamienna, 2014

Municipal Culture Center
Ramdomsko, 2015

Centers for Teacher Education
Bytom, 2016

Muzeum Podkarpackie
Krosno, 2018

Dozens of other venues in Poland
with an ongoing schedule

HUNGARY

Hungarian Jewish Archives
Budapest, 2014

Tranzit Art Café
Budapest, 2015-16



BIOGRAPHIES

LAURIE WEISMAN

Laurie Weisman works with media and new technologies to touch and educate wide audiences. She led teams that produced award-winning projects at Sesame Workshop and editorial initiatives at Scholastic, Bank Street College and Time for Kids. As co-founder and Executive Director of The Memory Project Productions, Inc. she co-creates exhibits and films including The Memory Project and Finding Kalman. She has a Masters in Museum Education from Bank Street College of Education.

CONTACT:

Office 212.691.1449
Mobile 917.763.9500
memory.proj@gmail.com


ROZ JACOBS

Roz Jacobs is an artist based in New York City and southwest France who has been exhibiting her paintings and drawings in the United States, Canada, France, England, Israel, Germany, Russia and Japan since 1987. Her studies at Norman Raebe's Carnegie Hall Studio during the 1970s provided the aesthetic foundations for her perceptual approach to painting.

Her screenplay, *Emily and Gitta* was produced by the American Film Institute. She co-wrote, -produced and -directed the documentary *Finding Kalman* viewed widely on PBS. She continues painting and drawing in France and NYC and is the Artistic Director of The Memory Project Productions.

CVs available





The mission of
The Memory Project
Productions is to
promote social justice
through art and
remembrance.

CONTACT:

Office 212.691.1449

Mobile 917.763.9500

memory.proj@gmail.com

memoryprojectproductions.com

THE MEMORY PROJECT PRODUCTIONS
is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization.

