



Newsletter 9

September 28, 2005

Dear Friends of the Jewish Museum in Vilnius,

5766 Shana Tova! Mazl Tov!



Opening of the Telz exhibition

We are happy to continue our tradition of communicating with you on the New Year. We wish you and your families and all Jewish people around the world—and mostly in Israel—Peace and Health! We owe this miracle not only to our dedicated staff, but also to our **dear friends**. Without you our work could not be accomplished. We are very proud and happy to mention the museum's major contributors: Semion Blumental, Gene Le Pere, Rolf Kidepfer, Graeme Levin, Dora and Arnold Boom, Ray Shapero, Avigail Barel, Moe Finkelstein, Bob Margol, Henry Massie and Family Bloch. Your help is indispensable. We thank foundations such as the Claims Conference, the Hanadiv, the Shefa and the Zeit Foundations, the Association of American

and Latvian Jews, the Center for Studies of the Culture and History of East European Jews for their wonderful contributions. We continue the list of our **dearest friends** in this Newsletter. It is with their help that this year three new books were published: "The Museum Almanac No. 3," "Hands Bringing Life and Bread," vol. 3, and "Guide to Jewish Vilna" (English). We also produced our first film on the Righteous Gentiles, our first opportunity to professionally record the last Rescuers' testimonies and the testimonies of the saved.

A third project was also achieved. An interesting guide book in English dedicated to one hundred known and important sites of Jewish history and culture in our "Yeroshalayim" was published in conjunction with the Jewish Community.

The pamphlet devoted to Chatzkel Lemchen is also a major event in the Litvak world.

We have two new exhibitions on show in our bright and open Tolerance Center, dedicated to the once famous city Telsiai (Telz) and its yeshiva.

On exhibit there are colorful paintings of our "Van Gogh"—Solomon Teitelbaum.

We continue our educational projects all around Lithuania, lectures, guided tours, reports for academic conferences, and publicizing articles. The latest project is a lecture on Tolerance prepared by our Austrian volunteer Johannes Langer. It reached fifteen schools around Lithuania.

We have received wonderful words of appreciation for our work from devoted **great friends** such as, known artist Samuel Bak; Prof. Myra Sklarew; Prof. Dovid Katz; the "Pianist" playwright, Ronald Harwood; Prof. Benjamin Harshav; and others; also from many many visitors.

Thanks a lot to all our staff members for the painstaking work.

Great thanks to all who care about Jewish continuity and historical justice.

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Markas Zingeris
Rachel Kostanian



The museum has a new director – Markas Zingeris



**Markas Zingeris in
the Tolerance
Center**

On August 3, 2005, Markas Zingeris was appointed as the new director of the museum. In a hard competition the jury of the Ministry of Culture chose the well-known Jewish-Lithuanian poet and writer. On August 9, the inauguration took place at the Tolerance Center. Among the participants were the Minister of Culture, Vladimiras Prudnikovas; the representative of the Government of Lithuania, Vilnius Kavaliauskas; the former director, Emmanuelis Zingeris; and the head of the museum's department at the Ministry of Culture, Romanas Senapedis; museum staff; and guests.

"All cultures are invisibly connected; they have ties to each other. In this museum I would like to uncover the Jewish past, the richness of our great Jewish part here in Lithuania. I'd like to lead this museum in an effective and modern way that it will find its right place among Europe's cultural institutions. It is going to be hard but I take my job as a joyful challenge," said Markas Zingeris during his speech.

Among priorities he mentions the aim to invigorate the gathering of artifacts for the museum's collections, new exhibition space, new sponsors helping to install a general exhibition of Lithuanian Jewish history, and an updated and modernized Holocaust exhibition. Markas Zingeris is also looking forward to acquire a house in the Vilnius Old City for a gallery of stars of Litvak ancestry.

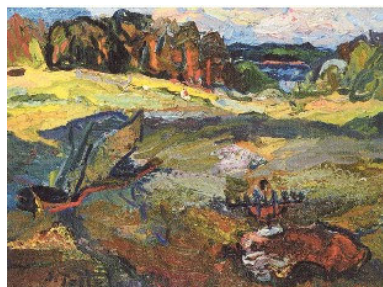
For this, he will need a cooperative and highly-qualified team. Some historians and researchers of the younger generation have to be employed at the museum helping to create a team to meet the challenges, says Markas Zingeris.

Exhibitions

- On June 29, 2005, two exhibitions were opened at the Tolerance Center. One about Chaim Kaplanski, a famous photographer from the end of the 19th c. till the middle of the 20th c. in Telsiai. We got them from the Alka Museum of Telsiai. Telsiai has a very rich and deep history of photography starting with the 1860s and the most renowned photographer was Kaplanski.

The second exhibition, a modern metal-plastic exhibition compiled by Romualdas Incirauskas, is dedicated to commemorate the Telsiai Jewish Community. The artist aims to give tribute to culture, traditions and personalities of the known community and its creations. Museum staff members J. Razumiene, A. Jacovskyte and G. Leonenko organized the exhibition. More information about the artifacts and the author you can get at www.telz.projektas.lt.

- On April 11, 2005, an exhibition of the young Jewish-Lithuanian



"Menorah and Dragonfly", 2004

painter Solomon Teitelbaum was opened in the Tolerance Center. S. Teitelbaum, 33. He is considered to be one of the most talented Lithuanian painters of the new generation. He graduated from the Vilnius Academy of Art and exhibited his paintings in Lithuania, Austria, the USA, Sweden, Iceland and Germany. Solomon Teitelbaum is influenced by Ch. Soutine, M. Kikoine, P. Kremegne and the ARS group. The expressiveness of Soutine and constructive thinking of



Solomon Teitelbaum

Cezanne have an especially strong influence on his art aesthetic. It is pleasure for the museum to host his expressive paintings.

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Compiled by Johannes Langer and Stefan Pierer, based on the museum staff texts

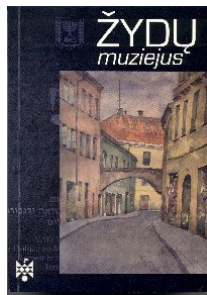
Edited by Rachel Kostanian



NEW BOOKS

“The Third Jewish Museum Almanac”

The brand-new third volume of the Jewish Museum Almanac was recently published. The book, compiled and edited by Dalija Epsteinaite, is dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the liquidation of Vilnius ghetto (September 23, 1943) and to the 50th anniversary of the Institute of Martyrs and Heroes of Catastrophe of Yad Vashem in Jerusalem.

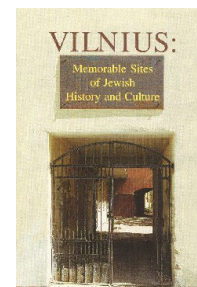


The volume opens with a poem by Thomas Mutis, followed by a rubric "On the tracks of Lithuanian Jerusalem." "The noble Mendel de Trachtenberg," by R. Trakchimas, explores the situation of tolerance of different religions in Vilnius at the end of the 19th C. "The Echo of the Catastrophe" reflects events surrounding WW II that are still pertinent today. The article "The Statistics from the Archives," by Irina Guzenberg, provides statistical data regarding the Jewish population on the eve of the war and its sharp drop seen in the census May 27, 1942. "My small Town," by J. Lupshitz, sketches the generalized view of the Jewish shtetl with its structure in the pre-war years, though the story of the shtetl, Butrimonys. A former student of Schwabe gymnasium, the architect Joseph Yudelevichius, tells us about Berl Plavine and the "Green Toad." In "The Library in the Vilnius Ghetto," Dr. Rachel Margolis raises the crucial issue of the spiritual atmosphere in the ghetto. We learn about the unprecedented kindness and the dignity of the Rescuers from the recollections of Dr. Prof. Mark Petukhauskas "A Man to a Man.." and from the "Story" by Stanislovas Rubinovas. Fragments from the book by Dr. M. Ginkas "Through the Barbed Wire" are also published. The chapter is completed by an interesting article by Sergey Rapoport "The everyday Holocaust."

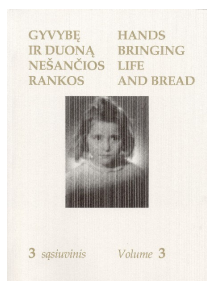
"The Valley of the Righteous" is opened by an article of Milan Kchersonski "Yad Vashem and Us," where the history of this Institute and its activities is described. "The disclosed names" portray an energetic journalist and public man Lazarus Greis ("Bachi," by B. Znaidzilowska) who possessed a rare feeling of anything new. They also acquaint the reader with a scientist almost unknown in Lithuania, the botanist Yankel Movshovich. "The Jewish Muze" contains a lyric short story of Baruch Halperin "My forefathers" and "The Last Supper," by Itzhokas Meras. It was published on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of one of the leading novelists of Lithuania now living in Israel. Ausra Poskute—Stasiuleviciene analyzes the work of the painter Arje (Leo) Mergoshilski. The brief biographic essay by the son of the artist, Barukh Marganit, opens important pages in the life of this fervent servant of Art. The chapter is completed by the article of Dalija Epsteinaite "In the Monastery of Barefooted Carmelites"—about the difficult road in life of the native of Nuremberg, poet Hermann Adler, during his escape from the ghetto of Vilnius. H. Adler dedicated his book "Ostra Brama" to his rescuer – a priest of the church, the monk Carmelite Andrezej Gdowski. Basic facts about participants are summarized in English and Russian and given for foreign readers of the issue. The book was published in June 2005 and can be acquired at our museum for 12 \$*.

Guide-book through Jewish Vilna

The guide-book "Vilnius. Memorable Sites of Jewish History and Culture" dedicated to 100 Jewish historical sites and personalities in Vilna was recently published, in September 2005. This long awaited pamphlet contains four different: Remembering the Past; The Catastrophe; Jewish Cemeteries; Present Day. In each there is a short description accompanied by a photograph. For a long time there was a lack of a guide book for sites, significant in Jewish history and culture, a number of which are commemorated by plaques and monuments. Compiled by Irina Guzenberg and Genrich Agranovski and edited by Dalija Epsteinaite, the pamphlet has 48 pages, and includes beautiful and rare historic photographs. It is in English and can be ordered from our museum for 12 \$*. We thank here Debbie Berliner for her sincere assistance as well as the Joint for its support.



“Hands Bringing Life and Bread 3”



The Department of Righteous published the third volume of "Hands Bringing Life and Bread" dedicated to the Rescuers of Jews in Lithuania. It contains stories of those who showed humanity in the darkest time of history. This volume is dedicated to Ona Simaite to celebrate the 110th anniversary of her birth. This Righteous Gentile is well-known for her deeds during WWII. In the archives of the Righteous Gentiles of Yad Vashem it is written "...her aim was to rescue not only individuals but the Jewish nation and its culture..." O. Simaite is only one of 72 Righteous Gentiles presented in this volume. The book is compiled by Viktorija Sakaite and edited by Dalija Epsteinaite. The book can be purchased at our museum for 15 \$*.

* Postage is included



People of the museum—Ruta Puisyte



Ruta Puisyte

To give our readers better insight into the museum's work and achievements and the characters behind it, we present each year a member of our museum staff. In this series we continue with Ruta Puisyte who left the museum a little while ago. We express our gratitude for her great involvement.

Ruta Puisyte, 30, was our scientific secretary. She is, however, leaving seven years of devoted work to the museum. Eight years ago as a history student of Vilnius University she came to the museum and was strongly shocked by our Holocaust exhibition in the Green House. She had never known the whole truth about the dimensions of evil that happened here, of the mass murder of Lithuania's biggest minority, about the participation of the worst and darkest part of her people, the Lithuanians, in it and of course nothing about the holy Rescuers.

R. Puisyte dedicated her work to this part of history—the Holocaust in Lithuania, to learn and to teach others to contribute to the formation of a civil society. And she did a lot! Thanks to her dedication and profound

work together with the Anne Frank House and our Austrian volunteers the museum accomplished very important educational projects on both a national and international scale. For instance, the exhibition "Anne Frank—history for today" traveled around Lithuania. Then in cooperation with our partners Anne Frank House and the History Institute of Lithuania another project "Jewish Life in Lithuania" was started. A traveling exhibition with a beautiful catalogue has been created, as well as two video films produced by our Austrian volunteers and Ruta. Again she was the main contributor to the success of the project: visits to 17 venues, official presentations of the exhibition and its publicity in media, teacher training seminars, lectures and discussions. The catalogue and videos were distributed to schools and educational departments all around Lithuania.

Her last educational project in the museum was the compilation of the pamphlet "Uncle Chatzkel." Five-hundred copies have already been distributed to schools followed by 350 video copies of the film "Uncle Chatzkel" produced by Rod Freedman of Australia. In addition that she guided schoolchildren and visitors of the Green House Holocaust exhibition. Her support for other projects of the museum was equally essential. Thank you, Ruta, in name of the entire staff; we shall obviously miss you very much. We wish you much success in your future life.

In memoriam of Josifas Shapiro

Josifas Shapiro (born 1921 in Kaunas) used one exhibition room in a part of our museum on Pylimo 4. There he organized a show of his collection of "ex libris" (bookplates). It is said to be one of the largest private collections in the world, with close to 120,000 examples—more than are in the collection of the British Museum in London. Included in his collection are 4,000 entries on Jewish themes, some dating from as early as 1800. He had once over 300 correspondents throughout the world. In addition to this collection, he also collected stamps, coins, sea shells, ceramic vases, and amber. His bookplate collection, however, was his real pride and joy. The core of the collection's contents relate to judaica, historical and cultural events, or are personal.

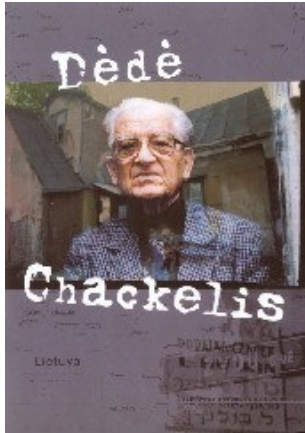
Shapiro fought in the ranks of the 16th Lithuanian Division of the Soviet army. Josifas said, from the first to the last day of the war "as long as my heart beats and my hand holds a gun I continue to fight fascism." He was wounded four times and had scars on his leg from shrapnel shells. When the war was over he returned to Vilnius where he worked many years as an engineer with a printing firm. He retired some fourteen years ago. From then on his main interest was the preservation and presentation of his bookplate collection.

In autumn 2004 Josifas Shapiro died after a long and painful illness. The museum staff expressed deep condolences. We lost a unique man who was always linked to the museum. The family of J. Shapiro donated the unique collection of Shapiro's bookplates to the museum for preservation and to make it accessible to Lithuania and the world. The museum plans to open a memorial room in his remembrance. For the important task to digitalize the "ex libris" compilation the museum urgently needs money of private sponsors.



A new educational resource "Uncle Chatzkel" for Lithuanian schools

In January 2005 the museum has completed a new educational resource consisting of a documentary "Uncle Chatzkel" accompanied by a pamphlet. It was distributed to Lithuanian schools as a teaching material about the Lithuanian Jewish history, Jewish-Lithuanian co-existence and Jewish culture. The booklet contains lesson plans to be used during lessons of history, ethics and literature.



The cover of the booklet

Chatzkel Lemchen (1904-2001) was a famous Jewish Lithuanian scholar, and lexicographer. He lived through the Russian revolution, two world wars, the communist regime and the transition of Lithuania from a Soviet republic to an independent state. His parents and his two children, Azarye and Vigele, perished in the Holocaust. Chatzkel and his wife Ella survived the Kaunas ghetto and the concentration camps. After the war they both returned to Lithuania. Ella Lemchen died in 1979. Thus Chatzkel remained without family or any relatives in Lithuania and he fully committed his life to scientific work. Ch. Lemchen was the author of sixteen dictionaries. His role in science was described as a bridge among Russian, Lithuanian and Yiddish languages and cultures. In 1994 the scholar was honored with the Lithuanian Grand Duke Gediminas Order.

The documentary "Uncle Chatzkel" is produced by the Ch. Lemchen's grand-nephew Rod Freedman from Australia. Looking for his family roots Rod Freedman visited Lithuania in 1997 where he met his grandmother's brother, uncle Chatzkel. This meeting and the relationship of Freedman to uncle Chatzkel resulted into the film about this extraordinary individual. Five hundred booklets and 350 video tapes have been distributed via the Ministry of Education to Lithuanian schools all around the country. The remaining copies are given to school groups when they are visiting the museum together with material to use for various educational activities of the museum. The project was sponsored by Ch. Lemchen's family from Australia: Rod Freedman, Brian and Gene Sherman, as well as the Australian Embassy in Stockholm.

Educational program "They Were Among Us"

Historians Valentinas Brandisauskas and Ilja Lempertas and museum employee, Viktorija Sakaite prepared a series of lectures on the topics of Jewish traditions and the issue of the Holocaust. In the period of January 8—March 1, 2005, the three lecturers participated in seminars that were organized in the following Lithuanian schools: Uzliekne, Lazdijai, Utena, Kaunas Jesuits gymnasium, and Vilnius "Rytas."

Ilja Lempertas lectured on the Jewish tradition and religion. Valentinas Brandisauskas explained the preconditions of the Holocaust in Lithuania. Viktorija Sakaite presented stories of the rescue of the Jews in WWII. Our traveling exhibition "The Righteous of Lithuania" was opened in every visited school. A copy of a war period newspaper of 1941 was shown to the schoolchildren as an example of the anti-Semitic propaganda. The schoolchildren were invited to taste matzos. After the lectures a discussion took place. The schoolchildren wrote their feedback and filled out anonymous questionnaires. To the satisfaction of the seminar organizers most of the answers were honest and direct. Thanks to the efforts of the local teachers the seminars were very well organized. In every school the lecturers noticed in the schoolchildren a desire for deeper knowledge and information in this field.



V.Sakaite at one of her lectures

Please note that the museum has a new email address: jewishmuseum@jmuseum.lt. We are already very much looking forward to your feedback of our Newsletter. Please check also our webpage www.jmuseum.lt regularly to be informed and up-to-date what is going on in the museum.



Educational Project: "A lecture about the Holocaust, anti-Semitism and the EU"

The Vilna Gaon Jewish State Museum successfully finished its new educational project "A lecture about the Holocaust, anti-Semitism and the EU" on June 7, 2005. More than 475 school students participated in the lectures provided by the young Austrian volunteer of our museum, Johannes Langer. Between two months, from April 12 to June 7, 2005, fifteen schools all around Lithuania were visited.



Johannes Langer at a lecture in Zagare

The project had the main aim to speak with students of secondary high schools. The importance of tolerance and understanding of peoples and nations as well as the need for an open society was stressed in the youthful presentation and open discussion afterwards.

It is quite hard for schools in the countryside to get speakers, primarily for financial reasons. Thanks to our sponsors—the German and the Austrian Embassies and the American Center—the lecture was offered free of charge. Sometimes the lecturer was faced with

intolerance and many biases that are still alive, making it all the more important to discuss the stereotypes and use the lecture as a possibility to diminish and perhaps remove prejudices. The young people were primarily worried about restitution of former Jewish property. They often mentioned that "the Jews" are taking "our" (the Lithuanian) money and property away. One participant hated "the" Jews because in his view the Jews only want to make money out of the Holocaust... But during the discussion the participants often realized what effect their stereotypes have and how important an open and tolerant point of view is.



Group picture of the participants in Palanga

The experience showed that there is an enormous need for this kind of a project. We thank Johannes Langer for his mighty contribution to his work. The project is going to be continued by our new Austrian volunteer, Stefan Pierer.

News from the Department of Righteous (headed by Danute Selcinskaja)



At the ceremony of awarding the "Righteous Gentiles"

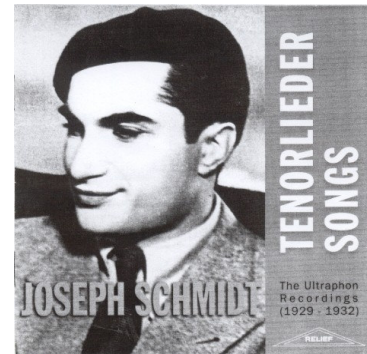
As usual the department undertook much work in close cooperation with Yad Vashem. On June 9, 2004, Icchokas Meras, a well-known Lithuanian-Jewish author, initiated a project: "Rescuers of the Jews—the Righteous Among the Nations." Seeking for partners in this project he contacted the Head of the Jewish Community, the Director of our museum, prominent figures of the Lithuanian society and Lithuanian Jewish immigrants in Israel. As a result 142 people were recommended to Yad Vashem to be granted the Righteous among the Nations award up to June 15, 2005. Forty-six of them received the award this year. The others are under research and the collected information will be given to the Commission for awards from the Presidency of Lithuania.

The department initiated a documentary film "I leave my baby to you...". It is based on a true story. During the wartime period, Pranas Laucevicius from Telsiai hid a Jewish girl, Ruta Gurviciute, in his house. They fell in love and soon the fruit of their love, their son Telesfor, was born. The love of Pranas and Ruta cost them their lives, as they were reported to the Gestapo and both were shot. Pranas could have saved himself, yet he didn't leave Ruta. It was on the last day of German occupation of the place. Little Telesfor was hidden and raised by Pranas's sister Jadvyga. This wonderful woman has lived to an old age in her native town Telsiai. Ruta's brother Jakov Gurvich was imprisoned during the wartime in Rainiai and Geruliai camps and later in the ghetto of Telsiai. He managed to survive this terrible time thanks to the help of 35 Gentiles. Due to our initiative, Jakov Gurvich came from Israel to Lithuania in June 2005 and visited his native places and people. We recorded their memoirs and now have a chance to see and hear this shocking story. On September 23, 2005, the film premiere was in our Tolerance Center.



Events at the Tolerance Center

▪ On August 23, 2005, a lecture about Joseph Schmidt was held. The audience enjoyed the beautiful voice, music, and film fragments of this extraordinary Jewish singer. The evening was moderated by Leonid Fleiderman from Moscow. Schmidt, a native of Tschernowitz, studied music in Vienna and Berlin. From 1929 on he sang on the German radio performing operettas and operas. Due to his amazing voice and the first movies broadcasted in the early 30s, Joseph Schmidt became famous all around the world. He was called the "other Caruso".



Poster of world-famous singer Joseph Schmidt

In cooperation with the museum following events took place:

- On March 14 to 16, 2005, the International Commission for the investigations of the crimes of the Nazi and Soviet regimes in Lithuania and the Center for European Jewish Culture and History Inst. organized a seminar "Lithuanian-Jewish literature and art." R. Beliauskiene delivered a lecture about our exhibition "The Vanished World."
- On March 2 to 3, 2005, a seminar entitled "Arranging expositions and exhibitions in museums" was organized by the Lithuanian Cultural Center for improving skills of museum employees. The participants were guided through the mentioned exhibition by J. Razumiene and V. Palcinskaite.
- On February 24, 2005, the Lithuanian Cultural Center organized a seminar called "Methods of organizing expositions and exhibitions." A speech was given by MP E. Zingeris. J. Razumiene and G. Leonenko were guided along the exhibition.
- On January 24, 2005, the Center for European Jewish Culture and History Institute organized a seminar. R. Beliauskiene delivered a lecture there.
- From November 22 to 23, 2004, the conference titled "Christian-Jewish values in Europe: the past and the future. Church and Israel" was organized by the Lithuanian Evangelical Reformist Church Synod.
- On November 16, 2004, conference "Contribution of national minorities to the culture of Vilnius" was organized by the Young Conservatives League in partnership with the Institute of Democratic Policy.
- On September 23, 2004, a scientific seminar was organized by the International Commission for the investigations of the crimes of the Nazi and Soviet regimes in Lithuania.
- On September 22, 2004, the second part of the museum's book "Shoah (Holocaust) in Lithuania" by Josif Levinson was presented in the Tolerance Center. It was published in May 2004 and consists of 4 parts: Jewish Resistance against Nazis; the Righteous Gentiles; the theory of two genocides (which was never definitely established by historians); and the standpoint on the Shoa of the Catholic Church in Lithuania, the Lithuanian society, some politicians and cultural and scientific leaders.
- On September 22, 2004, our exhibition "The Vanished World" was opened. It was an enormous event in Jewish life here and around. Three floors of the beautifully restored "theatre" present unique artifacts and creations. The superb design and layout was embodied by our designer Jurate Razumiene and artist Alexandra Jacovskyte. It was curated by Em. Zingeris, Director.
- On September 22, 2004, the museum showed a documentary film "Living Jewish History" by Saulius Berzinis for the day of the Holocaust in Lithuania.

Future Plans of the museum

- The update of the exhibition on Ponar
- Translation and publication of the books "Spiritual Resistance in the Vilna Ghetto" and "Shoa in Lithuania"
- Finish such projects as the book about 'Smaller Ghettos' around Vilnius, a new bibliographical directory, a catalogue on Vilna Ghetto posters, a book-catalogue on Vabalninkas, work on exhibitions "saved children," "Butrimonis," "The Litvaks," etc.



Comments of our visitors

Every year hundreds of visitors from all over the world come to visit our museum. Among them are survivors of the Holocaust, as well as Litvaks, ordinary tourists, students and well known personalities of political, scientific and cultural backgrounds. Here we include a few entries from our guest book from 2004-2005:

Tolerance Center:

„We extend to you, and to all those involved in your enterprise, the Tolerance Center in Vilnius, our congratulations and best wishes for success. In the climate of hatred and intolerance in which we live, your vision and dedication is a shining light. As members of a family who were murdered in 1941 in Plunge, we welcome your efforts to record the life and times of what was a vibrant Jewish community in Lithuania.“

September 22, 2004, of Abel and Glenda Levitt, Israel

When we were in Vilnius last week we paid a visit to the Tolerance Centre and would like to congratulate you and all your associates on a really wonderful museum. The building is beautiful and the exhibition very well set out and interesting.

May 24, 2005, of Sylvia Budd, UK, by E-Mail

Holocaust exhibition:

“The exhibits of the Holocaust are among the finest I have seen anywhere in the world. I congratulate and thank you.”

June 16, 2005, of Ronald Harwood (Screenwriter and Playwriter of the film 'The Pianist'), UK

The Jews of Vilna must not be forgotten. Your work must be perpetual.

September 12, 2005, of Mary Cohen

After sending our work update to a number of known scholars we received their thoughts on our work (all of them can be seen on our homepage: www.jmuseum.lt):

“People from around the world continue to be amazed that so much critical information can be so powerfully imparted in so small a space and with so limited a budget.”

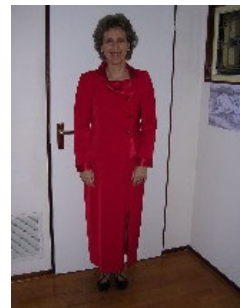
Professor Dovid Katz (Director of Research, Vilnius Yiddish Institute, Vilnius University), August 2005

“If it had not been for those who have labored in these vineyards all these years, those with sufficient historical memories to know the importance of carrying on this work, the earth and the landscape of Lithuania and of our history would be a tabula rasa, as if it had never existed.”

Professor Myra Sklarew, August 2005

“The more time passes, the more mounts my admiration for your extraordinary work.”

Samuel Bak, artist, August 2005



Dora Boom, one of our generous annual sponsors. Thank you so much for all your efforts, Dora!

Friends

We would like to thank all our Dear Friends who supported us generously. Thanks to you we can continue our work: *Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture, USA Holocaust Memorial Museum, American Fund, German Embassy in Vilnius, Austrian Embassy in Vilnius, American Center in Vilnius, Yad Vashem, The Shefa Fund; Semion Blumenthal, Gene Le Pere, Garbaravicius Kaunas, Ella Lidsky, Phyllis Morgan, Ray Shapero, Avigail Barel, Maurice Finkelstein, Dora Boom, Jay Goldberg, E. Kremer, Jack Bloch, Miriam Margolyes, Howard Margol, Henry Massie, Rolf Koepfer, Stuart M. Brenner, Diane & Martin Trust, Judith Schlager, Debbie Berliner, Zina Kramer, Robert Heditt, Arnold Issenman, Daniel Shulruff, Howard Erdman, Gladys Mayers, Mr. Pogos, Harold & Elaine Globstein, Jonathan Bindman, Helaine S. Greenberg, Magdalena Langer, Alex & Anna Kremer, Gordon Schochet, Daniel Gordon, Cohen Family, Ariane Saius, Sam Keren, Louise Gans, Tevis Margolis-Gordon, Helga Schultz, Leonhard Stoch, Norma K. Stone, Peter Ferry, Oscar Schachter, Temmy Lehman, Johannes Schopp, Robert Margolis, Musel Moshe, Guido Gad Coen, Disegni Gulio, Stanley Komaroff, Wolfgang Moser, Beba Leventhal, Zvi Gitelman, T. & M.B. Lundy, Chaja-Fruma Gilinski, Meller Pillichowski, Camilla Eadie, Norman Levine, Hans Rudolf Hartman, Deborah L. Taylor, Rachel Shalita, Jerry Hochbaum, Graeme Levin, Chaim and Lea Steinberg, Nicholas Lane and more.*

We are also very thankful to those people who donated books, CD-ROMs, or pictures to us:

Moreshet (Mordechai Anielewicz Memorial), USA Holocaust Memorial Museum, New York YIVO Institute, Uzupis Gymnasium in Vilnius; Dovid Katz, Mary Cohen, Sandra Braude, Solomon Atamuk, Toby Harris, Vallentine Mitchell, Tedd Smith, Robert Hewitt, David Wolpe, Chana Brener, Ariela Andresen, Frederik Erens, Gary Koren, Itskochas Neborskij, Robert & Edna Southard, John Bernstein, Sara Vaisslep, Norman Patz, Cvi Katz, Itshokas Meras, Howard Erdman, Henry Massie, Dora Boom, Eileen Douglas, Alexandra Zapruder and more.