

The Jewish Bucovina In Search Of Clues

Die jüdische Bukowina - Eine Spurensuche

Publication (volume of photos, interviews and essays) and public exhibits

Volume of photos, interviews and essays:

Publisher: Edition Exil, Vienna, Austria. Date of publication: Spring 2010.

exhibits 2010 – 2011 in Berlin and Vienna.

Holocaust education workshop series for school groups: Vienna, May 2010.

A joint project by photographer Shani Bar-On and author Emil Rennert.

The Jewish Bucovina

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About the Book

The volume “The Jewish Bucovina – In Search Of Clues” is a literary and photographic investigation into a region whose shared past has all but fallen into oblivion. With a deep awareness of the history and culture of the Jewish Bucovina, the authors explore the multi-ethnic diversity of the past as well as contemporary life in the region, nowadays split between the Ukraine and Romania. The volume strives to both commemorate the nearly vanished Jewish culture and to build bridges to the lives of the contemporary inhabitants of the Bucovina. Even today, the Bucovina still remains home to many different cultures. This diversity ought to be documented. To realize the project, a three month long research trip to the region has been planned.

Focus of the Book

The photographic documentary “The Jewish Bucovina” will focus attention on three closely connected topics.

The Jewish Bucovina – A Vanished World?

Czernovitz – capital of the Bucovina – is a city full of history and stories. In the form of prose and photography, the volume will survey the great cultural heritage of the Jewish Bucovina. This literary and photographic exploration shall capture the Jewish Bucovina at its peak.

The Shoah in the Bucovina – Survivors Tell Their Stories

Following the personal life stories of Holocaust survivors from the Bucovina, the events of the Shoah are conveyed and made palpable to the readers. In literary form, personal portraits are created that recount the life stories of the survivors. These witness reports give insights into the human dimension of annihilation and displacement.

The Bucovina Today – Divided and Forgotten

The Romanian-Ukrainian border today is an ethnic, cultural and political division. This volume of photographs, interviews and essays will portray people living on both sides of the border. The differing cultures and living conditions, along with the similarities, shall be documented. The book will explore the various languages and ethnic diversity of the region as well as the daily life of its inhabitants. Notably, the heritage and memories of German and German-Jewish culture shall be specifically documented.

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Intended Audience

This volume of photographs, interviews and essays will appeal to all who are interested in Eastern European German and Jewish culture. In order to make the book accessible to as large an audience as possible, exhibits and readings are planned in different cities and countries. In addition, a Holocaust education workshop series for school groups will make the topic and the life stories of the Holocaust survivors tangible for young people between the ages of fourteen and eighteen. To further increase the scope of readers, the publication will be bilingual (in German and English). An additional target audience are the people who live in the Bucovina today as well as the numerous descendants of Bucovina Jews in the worldwide diaspora – especially in the United States, Canada and Israel.

Activities Accompanying the Book Release

The Jewish Bucovina - Exhibit

The volume of photographs, interviews and essays will serve as the basis for a traveling exhibit about the Bucovina. The exhibit will showcase the published photographs and texts as well as interactive film documents. The original interviews with the Holocaust survivors from the Bucovina will be accessible to the public via audio terminals. The Jewish Museum of Vienna, the Jewish Museum of Berlin and the Leo Baeck Institute in New York, among others, have been contacted about displaying the exhibit. *We hope to present the exhibit in a variety of locations around the world.*

Holocaust Education Workshops for School Groups

The exhibit in Vienna will be accompanied by a Holocaust education workshop series for school groups. During these one-day workshops, students between the ages of 14 and 18 will engage in the history of the Shoah from the viewpoint of the survivors from the Bucovina. In 2005, Emil Rennert conducted a similar workshop series for 10 high school classes from Vienna. The workshop series, planned for spring of 2010, will be organized and sponsored by the Viennese Verein Exil. It shall include 10 workshop days and a total of 20 high school groups.

Publication Details

Planned Format: 25 x 22.5 cm (approx. 9.8 x 8.9 inches)

black and white, approx. 136 pages, hardcover, first release: 1,000 copies.

The volume of photographs, interviews and essays, "The Jewish Bucovina", will be published in Spring 2010 by the Viennese publishing house Edition Exil.

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Cost Estimate

Research trips to the Bucovina	7,500€
Research trips to Israel	2,000€
Book - printing costs (REMA Print Wien)	8,000€
Book – cost of layout	1,000€
Book – author's remuneration	1,000€
Book – photographer's remuneration	1,000€
Holocaust education workshop series for 20 school groups	6,500€
Exhibit – concept and design	2,500€
Exhibit – production (printing of wall panels and brochures)	3,000€
Exhibit – production (oral-history interview audio stations)	2,000€
Exhibit – production (documentary - filmproduction for video station)	2,000€
Exhibit – travel costs (incl. Postage) Vienna - Berlin - New York	3,500€
Translation costs - book & exhibit	<u>1,500€</u>
TOTAL COST	41,500€

Obtained Funding (as of June, 2009)

SECURED SPONSORING:

Edition Exil will cover the costs involved in publishing the book (see above).	11,000€
Verein Exil will sponsor the Holocaust education workshop series for school groups in Vienna.	6,500€
Gerald's Hotel in Radautz, Romania, is sponsoring the project by providing free accomodation worth approx. 2,000€.	2,000€
Fakultätsvertretung Geistes- und Kulturwissenschaften, University of Vienna	1,500€
Fakultätsvertretung Human- und Sozialwissenschaften, University of Vienna	1,000€
Basisgruppe / Studienrichtungsvertretung Politikwissenschaft, University of Vienna	1,000€
Studienrichtungsvertretung Geschichte, University of Vienna	1,000€
Theater, Film und Medienwissenschaft at the University of Vienna	1,000€
Institutgruppe Philosophie at the University of Vienna	500€
Institutgruppe Internationale Entwicklung, University of Vienna	500€
Studienrichtungsvertretung Komparatistik, University of Vienna	<u>200€</u>

FUNDING, TOTAL (as of June, 2009)

26,200€