



## HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY EVENTS AT IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM LONDON

### **FILM SCREENINGS**

#### **Saturday 22 January**

**11.30am** *The World Was Ours – The Jewish Legacy of Vilna* (2006)

**2pm** *Loving the Dead* (1991)

#### **Sunday 23 January**

**11.30am** *Back from the Brink* (2010)

**2pm** *Chasing Shadows* (1990) followed by a Q&A with the director Naomi Gryn.

#### **Saturday 29 January**

**11am** *The World Was Ours – The Jewish Legacy of Vilna* (2006)

**2pm** *Loving the Dead* (1991)

#### **Sunday 30 January**

**11am** *Chasing Shadows* (1990)

**2pm** *Back from the Brink* (2010) followed by a Q&A with Dr Scarlett Epstein.

**Free admission to all film screenings and Q&As**

#### ***The World Was Ours – The Jewish Legacy of Vilna (2006)***

A history of the Jewish community in Vilna (now Vilnius) in Lithuania during the twentieth century, *The World Was Ours* covers the rich artistic and cultural life of the community prior to the war and the Holocaust, the ghetto into which Jews were forced, and the armed resistance by Jews to their oppressors. Produced and directed by Mira Jedwabnik Van Doren. *60mins*

#### ***Loving the Dead (1991)***

Writer and filmmaker Mira Hamermesh returns to Poland to search for the grave of her mother who died in the ghetto. On one level, *Loving the Dead* is an intensely personal journey of an individual trying to come to terms with the fate of her family and to reconcile this with her own life. However Hamermesh's compassion and understanding, together with her striking imagery, elevate the film into a broader arena. It becomes at once a look at the surviving Jewish communities of Eastern Europe, and also a moving statement about the dark shadow that the Holocaust has cast over so many lives. Although the film deals directly with the director's Jewish history its emotional resonance is universal, and follows in the humanitarian tradition she has established in her previous work. Director Mira Hamermesh. *52mins*

#### ***Back from the Brink (2010)***

Three Jewish refugees now living in Britain (Scarlett and Otto, both originally from Vienna, and Cêska from Tarnow in Poland) recount their harrowing escapes from the clutches of the Nazis and certain death, thanks to the compassion and bravery of ordinary people. Directed by Ric Wasserman. The screening on Sunday 30 January will be followed by a Q&A with Dr Scarlett Epstein. *28 mins*

#### ***Chasing Shadows (1990)***



After 45 years, Hugo Gryn returned to the hometown, Berehovo, from where he was deported to Auschwitz in 1944 at the age of 13 along with 15,000 Jews. He survived nearly a year as a slave labourer and two death marches before coming to Britain as a child. Hugo Gryn went on to become a popular rabbi and broadcaster, perhaps best known as a regular panelist on Radio 4's Moral Maze. The film is directed by his daughter Naomi Gryn, a writer and documentary filmmaker, and the screening on Sunday 23 January will be followed by a Q&A with her. *52 mins*

## **LECTURES**

### **After the War: The Allied Relief Effort for Survivors**

**A lecture by Ben Shephard**

**Wednesday 26 January 2011**

**7pm (doors 6.30pm)**

To mark Holocaust Memorial Day 2011, Ben Shephard will be giving a lecture exploring the key themes in his book *The Long Road Home: the Aftermath of the Second World War*. Before the end of the Second World War, the Allies began planning the resolution of a refugee crisis in Europe, where millions of people had been left destitute and starving. This lecture will look at the difficulties faced by those refugees, and the Allies' struggle to organise both their relief and repatriation.

Ben Shephard's other titles include *After Daybreak*, *The Liberation of Bergen-Belsen, 1945* and *A War of Nerves*. He was previously a television producer on numerous documentaries for the BBC and Channel Four. The lecture will be followed by music from the Solaris Quartet and the event is supported by the Leo Baeck Lodge.

**Admission £7.50/£5.00 including wine and nibbles**

**Book by calling 020 7416 5439 or visiting [www.iwm.org.uk](http://www.iwm.org.uk)**

## **FAMILY ACTIVITIES**

### **Family Introduction to the Holocaust**

**29-30 January 2011**

**11am-12pm**

This free drop in session is a useful starting point for families who wish to learn more about the Holocaust. This session is suitable for children aged 11 and above but please note that the Holocaust Exhibition is recommended for children aged 14 and above. For further information contact Grant Rogers, Informal Learning Manager, at [grogers@iwm.org.uk](mailto:grogers@iwm.org.uk) or 020 7416 5329.

**Free admission. Please arrive at the beginning of the session**

## **ELSEWHERE IN LONDON**

### **Alicia Melamed Adams**

An exhibition of paintings by Alicia Melamed Adams, a Holocaust survivor and artist whose work is part of the Imperial War Museum's collection, will be shown at London Jewish Cultural Centre from Monday 10 January to Friday 4 February.

London Jewish Cultural Centre, Ivy House, 94 - 96 North End Road



London NW11 7SX  
Monday 12pm - 5pm  
Tuesday-Thursday 4pm - 7pm  
Wednesday 10am - 2pm  
Sunday - by appointment

*A Child Survives in Drohobycz: the story behind Alicia Melamed Adams's paintings* by Suzanne Bardgett, Head of Research at the Imperial War Museum, will be published in David Cesarani, Suzanne Bardgett, Dieter Steinert and Jessica Reinisch (eds) *Justice, Politics and Memory in Europe after the Second World War. Landscapes after Battle Volume II* to be published by Vallentine Mitchell this spring. The book is the second volume of research papers produced for the third conference *Beyond Camps and Forced Labour: current research into survivors of Nazi persecution* which took place in January 2009.

**ENDS**

### **Imperial War Museum London**

The London branch of the Imperial War Museum explores how the history of modern conflict affects us all, from the front line to the home front. Exhibits range from tanks and aircraft to photographs and personal letters; they include film and sound recordings and some of the twentieth century's best-known paintings. Visitors can explore six floors of exhibitions and displays, including a permanent exhibition dedicated to the Holocaust and a changing programme of special temporary exhibitions.

Imperial War Museum London, Lambeth Road, London, SE1 6HZ

Open daily 10.00am – 6.00pm except 24, 25 and 26 December. Last admission 5.45pm  
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