

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Survivors' Memoirs Showcased at Montreal Holocaust Museum

**Montreal, Thursday, August 17, 2017** – The Montreal Holocaust Museum is opening its doors for the fifth edition of the Holocaust survivor book fair on August 27, from 1-4 pm, at the Museum (located at 5151 chemin de la Côte-Ste-Catherine). Members of the public will be able to meet survivors and their children who have written about their life experiences. Copies of the books will be available for purchase and admission to the Museum will be free-of-charge.

Over 30 authors will be present at the book fair, including survivors, <u>Sarah Engelhard</u>, <u>Eva Kuper</u>, <u>Leslie Vertes</u> and <u>Sidney Zoltak</u>. Hearing the life stories of survivors first hand is a diminishing opportunity. The event will also include brief bilingual readings from the following authors:

<u>2 PM:</u> Holocaust survivor, **Muguette Szpajzers-Myers** will read from her memoir, *Where Courage Lives*. Muguette and her family survived the Holocaust in the French village of Champlost. She credits her survival to the bravery of the villagers who protected them. (*In French*)

Montreal-born **Helen Mitsios** will read an excerpt from her novel, *Waltzing with the Enemy,* which she co-wrote with her mother and Holocaust survivor, Rasia Kliot. This novel explores the multi-generational impacts of the Holocaust. (*In English*)

3 PM: Survivor and author of *In Hiding*, Marguerite Elias-Quddus will read an award-winning poem she wrote about the Drancy transit camp in France. Marguerite fled Paris with her sister during the Holocaust and survived under a false identity. (*In French*)

Daughter of two Hungarian survivors, **Judy Egett Laufer** will read from her novel for young adults, *Choices*. Her book explores the true story of how her family fled Hungary during the revolution, and how her parents' experiences during the Holocaust affected this decision. (*In English*)

"Sharing survivor testimony is one of the most powerful ways to fight Holocaust denial today," stated Alice Herscovitch, Executive Director of the Montreal Holocaust Museum. "We are incredibly fortunate to work with survivors and their families who are dedicated to educating the public about the dangers of antisemitism, prejudice and discrimination. The book fair is an opportunity to bring them together, and celebrate their hard work."

Survivors have published their memoirs with the support of their families, various publishers, and organizations like the Azrieli Foundation. While the range of featured books covers different literary genres and personal stories, they all serve to remind the reader of the diversity of individual experiences before, during and after the Holocaust.

**About the Montreal Holocaust Museum:** The Montreal Holocaust Museum educates people of all ages and backgrounds about the Holocaust, while sensitizing the public to the universal perils of antisemitism, racism, hate and indifference.

For additional information or to schedule an interview with a Holocaust survivor, contact: Audrey Licop, Communications and Events Coordinator | 514-345-2605 ext. 3026 | 514-892-2605(cell.) | audrey.licop@museeholocauste.ca OR Sarah Fogg, Communications and Events Assistant | 514-345-2605 ext. 3437 | sarah.fogg@museeholocauste.ca



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# List of participating authors and titles:

Second Hand Shoes	Mrs.	Ajzenkopf	Brenda
Tenuous Threads and One of the Lucky Ones	Mrs.	Abrams	Judy
Various books published by the Polish-Jewish Heritage Society	Mrs.	Axt	Andrea
The Inheritors: Moving Forward from Generational Trauma and Poems of Angst and Awe	Mrs.	Baack	Gita
Millions of Souls / Des millions d'âmes	Mrs.	Baulu- MacWillie	Mireille
So You Can Tell: Prisoner 48378, Auschwitz	Mrs.	Burman	Faiga
Mina's Story: A Doctor's Memoir of the Holocaust	Mrs.	Deutsch	Mina
Cachée	Mme	Elias-Quddus	Marguerite
Sarah and Abraham	Mrs.	Engelhard	Sarah
Never, Again	Mr.	Farkas	Endre
After Auschwitz: One Man's Story	Mr.	Gruenwald	Hermann
Shoshanna's Story and Journey to Vaja	Mrs.	Kalman Naves	Elaine
Witness to Horror	Mrs.	Kazimirski	Ann
Preserving our Memories: Passing on the Legacy	Mrs.	Kon	Grunia
Before All Memory is Lost (anthology)	Mrs.	Kuper	Eva
Choices	Mrs.	Laufer	Judy
The Aftermath: A Survivor's Odyssey through War-Torn Europe	Mr.	Lilienheim	Henry
Shards of Memory	Mr.	Lindeman	Yehudi

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Echoes of the Soul and the Mind	Mrs.	Matalon	Effie
Tell No One Who You Are	Mrs.	Miller	Regine
Waltzing with the Enemy	Mrs	Mitsios	Helen
Where Courage Lives	Mrs.	Myers	Muguette
Czech Mate: A Life in Progress as told to Joe King	Mr.	O. Hecht	Thomas
Tell Me a Story, Tell me the Truth; My Mother, the Nazi Midwife and Me (DVD)	Ms.	Roitman	Gina
Light from the Shadow	Mrs.	Sandberg- Mesner	Mila
Good Blood	Mrs.	Schaffer	Irit
Silent Refuge	Mrs.	Stenge	Margrit
Of Men, Monsters and Mazel	Mr.	Tenenbaum	Marcel
The Story of a Hidden Child	Mrs.	Treitel	Tuky
Alone in the Storm	Mr.	Vertes	Leslie
Sheymes	Mrs.	Wajnberg	Elizabeth
My Silent Pledge: A Journey of Struggle, Survival and Remembrance	Mr.	Zoltak	Sidney