



Musée Holocauste Montréal  
Montreal Holocaust Museum

## ANNIVERSARY OF KRISTALLNACHT TO BE COMMEMORATED WITH AUTHOR OF “I SEEK A KIND PERSON”

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Montreal, Tuesday, October 29, 2024** – On Sunday, November 10, 2024, at 6:00 pm, the Montreal Holocaust Museum will host an event to commemorate the 86<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Kristallnacht, the violent pogrom that took place against Jewish communities under Nazi occupation in 1938. During the event, host **Tarah Schwartz** will interview Guardian journalist and author **Julian Borger**, marking the Canadian launch of his latest book, **I Seek a Kind Person**.

After the events of Kristallnacht, some Jews sought refuge in other countries. In exceptional cases where individuals were able to flee, many families were torn apart, and parents made the heartbreaking decision to send their children to safety alone.

Journalist and author, **Julian Borger**, explores his own family’s plight in his deeply personal new book, **I Seek a Kind Person: My Father, Seven Children and the Adverts that Helped Them Escape the Holocaust**:

“In 1938, Jewish families are scrambling to flee Vienna. Desperate, they take out adverts offering their children into the safe keeping of readers of a British newspaper, the Manchester Guardian. The right words in the right order could mean the difference between life and death.

Eighty-three years later, Guardian journalist Julian Borger comes across the advert that saved his father, Robert, from the Nazis. Robert had kept this a secret, like almost everything else about his traumatic Viennese childhood, until he took his own life. Drawn to the shadows of his family's past and starting with nothing but a page of newspaper adverts, Borger traces the remarkable stories of his father, the other advertised children and their families, each thrown into the maelstrom of a world at war.” (Penguin Random House)

The ceremony portion of the evening will include musical pieces performed by Bertha Rosenohl, Luis Grinhauz, and Cantor Daniel Benlolo.

“Beyond the physical and human damage, the November pogroms signaled the triumph of Nazi oppression and the beginning of mass deportations of Jews. The deafening silence of other nations sealed the fate of Europe's Jewish communities,” says Daniel Amar, Executive Director of the Montreal Holocaust Museum. “Today, this silence reminds us of the importance of awareness, vigilance and resistance to all forms of tyranny. This is the obligation that accompanies freedom.”



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This is a hybrid event (taking place in-person at the Museum and being screening online). Tickets can be reserved on [the Museum's website](#).

**About the Montreal Holocaust Museum:** The Montreal Holocaust Museum educates people of all ages and backgrounds about the Holocaust, while sensitising the public to the universal perils of antisemitism, racism, hate, and indifference. Through its Museum, its commemorative programs and educational initiatives, the Montreal Holocaust Museum promotes respect for diversity and the sanctity of human life. Its new custom-built Museum will open in 2026 on Blvd. St-Laurent and is currently supported by its [Give Voice](#) fundraising campaign.

**About Kristallnacht:** Kristallnacht was a coordinated pogrom of antisemitic violence in Nazi Germany and the annexed countries (Austria and Sudetenland). On November 9 and 10, 1938, thousands of Jewish businesses were vandalized, hundreds of synagogues were burned, Jewish families were terrorized in their own homes, and 30,000 Jewish men were arrested and sent to concentration camps. In the years that followed this violent pogrom, millions of Jews became the targets of further persecution and genocide.

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