

A MOVING FILM EVENT
ONE SECRET DIARY. ONE IMAGINARY FRIEND. FIVE SURVIVORS WHO SHARED THE SAME FATE

With the touching testimony of
Arianna Szörenyi
Sarah Lichtszejn-Montard
Helga Weiss
Andra and Tatiana Bucci

#AnneFrank

PARALLEL STORIES

FEATURING THE ACADEMY AWARD® WINNER
HELEN MIRREN

COMING SOON TO CINEMAS

3D PRODUZIONI and NEXO DIGITAL PRESENT ANNE FRANK FONDS BASEL FEAT. #ANNEFRANK, PARALLEL STORIES, 3D PRODUZIONI and NEXO DIGITAL, PRODUCED BY HELEN MIRREN and MARTINA GATTI
DIRECTED BY SABINA FEDELI and ANNA MIGOTTO EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS VERONICA BOTTANELLI ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY BY LELE MARCHITELLI EDITOR VALENTINA GHILOTTI
PRODUCTION DESIGNER ALESSIO VIOLA BASEL BY SABINA FEDELI and ANNA MIGOTTO
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1929-2019

To mark the 90th birthday of Anne Frank

#ANNEFRANK.PARALLEL STORIES

featuring

HELEN MIRREN

A FILM EVENT DIRECTED BY SABINA FEDELI AND ANNA MIGOTTO

Produced by 3D Produzioni and Nexo Digital
in cooperation with Anne Frank Fonds, Basel

and the Piccolo Teatro di Milano-Teatro d'Europa

Original soundtrack by Lele Marchitelli

The event is sponsored by

UCEI

The Union of Italian Jewish Communities

Trailer <https://youtu.be/tfIJgmrwLe0>

Furthermore:

backstage <https://vimeo.com/349898634/25d8a97c6f>

Interview Helen Mirren: <https://vimeo.com/349919529/acfaf207bf>

*One single Anne Frank moves us more than the countless others who suffered just as she did
but whose faces have remained in the shadows*

Primo Levi

Actress Helen Mirren, Oscar®-winner for best performance in *The Queen*, will be the very special guide in the documentary **#AnneFrank. Parallel Stories**, written and directed by **Sabina Fedeli and Anna Migotto**, original soundtrack by **Lele Marchitelli**, produced by **3D Produzioni and Nexo Digital** in collaboration with **Anne Frank Fonds, Basel** rolling out this autumn to cinemas all over the world.

"This is a story we must never forget. We are beginning to lose the generation of people who are living witness of what happened in Europe in those terrible days, and so it's all more important to keep the memory alive looking into the future. With the advent of the wars in Siria, Libia, Iraq, with the immigration issue that's happening in Europe, it's so easy to start pointing your finger at different races, different tribes, different cultures, different people and say 'you're to blame for my problems'. So, I just feel the diary of Anne Frank is an amazing teaching tool, an amazing vessel to carry the real understanding of human experiences of the past into our present and very much into our future. I find it very, very important and that's why I wanted to do this piece".

Helen Mirren

Anne Frank, born in Frankfurt on 12th June 1929, would have turned 90 this year.

The documentary film dedicated to her tells the story of her life through the pages of her diary: an extraordinary text that has made the tragedy of Nazism known to **millions of readers all over the world**, and revealed the brilliant, enlightening intelligence of a young girl who wanted to become a writer. Anne's story is intertwined with that of five Holocaust survivors, teenage girls just like her, with the same ideals, the same desire to live, the same courage: **Arianna Szörenyi, Sarah Lichtsztejn-Montard, Helga Weiss and sisters Andra and Tatiana Bucci**.

SYNOPSIS

What would Anne Frank's life have been like had she survived Auschwitz and Bergen-Belsen? What would have happened to the hopes and dreams she wrote about in her diaries? What could she have told us about persecution, about concentration camps? How would she have interpreted the reality of today, the rekindling of antisemitism and new racisms? One thing for sure is that Anne is still a reference point, a looking glass through which teenagers can learn how to see the world and what questions to ask themselves. Anne wrote about herself, about what was happening to a Europe in flames, about Nazism. And in order to confide her fears and thoughts she invented an imaginary friend called Kitty.

Helen Mirren will introduce audiences to Anne's story through the words in her diary. The set will be her room in the secret refuge in Amsterdam, reconstructed in every detail by set designers from the **Piccolo Theatre in Milan, part of the Union of European Theatres**. It is a remarkably faithful, authentic reconstruction of the interior that will take us right back to 1942. The room contains the objects in Anne's life, the photographs she covered the walls of her room with, and the notebooks she wrote.

The young actress, **Martina Gatti** - @KaterinaKat, has the role of guiding us through the places that were part of Anne Frank's life and those of the Holocaust survivors. She travels through Europe showing us the stages of Anne's short life. She is a young girl of today who wants to know about the story of the Jewish teenager who became a symbol of the greatest tragedy to befall the 20th Century, and she speaks to us through social networks. Photos and posts are her language, and in this way, Martina gives us her interpretation of what she discovers, what she sees, from the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in Germany (where Anne and her sister Margot died) to the Holocaust Memorial in Paris, up to and including her visit to the secret refuge in Amsterdam. Martina is one of the thousands of teenagers who feel close to Anne, and one of the many imaginary friends, the many Kitties all over the world who dream of having a special place in her heart.

Martina writes a sort of digital diary that speaks to her peers: a swift, effective way to place the tragedies of the past in relation to the present, to understand what an antidote could be today against all forms of racism, discrimination and anti-Semitism. It is her curiosity, her desire not to remain indifferent that allows us to rediscover how absolutely

contemporary Anne Frank's words are, but also how powerful are the words of those who can still remember - those of **Arianna, Sarah, Helga, Andra and Tatiana**, and their parallel stories. Like Anne Frank they all suffered persecution and deportation when they were very young. They were denied the carefree light-heartedness of their youth, they lost their mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, friends and loved ones in concentration camps. The stories of the survivors of the Holocaust put words on the blank pages of Anne's diary, since hers fell silent when everyone in the secret refuge in Amsterdam was arrested on August 4th, 1944. These women tell their stories, and sometimes their voices break with emotion, like Arianna, deported when she was 11, when she recalls meetings with her mother through the barbed wire at Auschwitz - but they also tell their stories with strength, defiance, and irony. One example is the description of the "surreal" game Sarah would organize in the camp with the other girls: a flea contest. Nobody won anything but it helped them survive.

In the documentary we also hear the voices of **Rabbi Michael Berenbaum**, historian and professor of Jewish studies at various American universities, Holocaust historian **Marcello Pezzetti**, director of the Holocaust Museum in Rome, French ethno-psychologist **Nathalie Zajde**, the testimony of **Doris Grozdanovicova** and **Fanny Hochbaum**, world-renowned violinist **Francesca DeGo**, **Yves Kugelmann** publisher and member of **Anne Frank Fonds, Basel**, **Ronald Leopold** - director of the **Anne Frank House**, **Alain Granat** director of the online magazine **Jewpopo**, and photographer **Simon Daval**.

Anne Frank Fonds was founded in Basel in 1963 by Otto Frank as a non-profit organization. The foundation holds the rights to the works, letters and photos of Anne Frank and members of her family.

#AnneFrank. Parallel Stories – is a **3D Produzioni and Nexo Digital production** in collaboration with **Anne Frank Fonds, Basel** and the **Piccolo Teatro, Milan-Teatro d'Europa, (part of the Union of European Theatres since 1990)**. It will be distributed in over 50 countries. The event is sponsored by **UCEI, the Union of Italian Jewish Communities**.

#AnneFrank. Parallel Stories (Nexo Digital / Sony Masterworks), the original film soundtrack is by **Lele Marchitelli** and will be available on all digital platforms from October 11th, 2019.

@CaraAnneFrank

An Instagram profile in Italian **@CaraAnneFrank** has also been created for the occasion of this documentary film release: like contemporary Kitties, we can all talk to Anne and the survivors telling them about our thoughts and our emotions on the theme of memory. This is an invitation addressed to students and readers on the occasion of the release of **#ANNEFRANK. PARALLEL STORIES**, which aims to highlight once again how absolutely contemporary the message and the testimony given by Anne, Arianna, Sarah, Helga, Andra and Tatiana is as a tool to decipher the current world and as an antidote against all forms of racism.

ANNE FRANK (1929-1945)

Anne Frank was given a red and white diary by her father for her thirteenth birthday on 12th June 1942. Her last entry was written on 1st August 1944, three days before her arrest in the "Secret Annex", located at 263 Prinsengracht Street in Amsterdam. Miep Gies and Bep Voskuij, two of Otto Frank's workers, who helped hide them, found Anne Frank's diary after the family had been deported. Miep kept it in the hope that one day she would be able to return it to Anne. After the war, when she discovered that Anne had died in the concentration camp, Miep gave the notebooks to Anne's father, Otto, the only surviving member of the family, who decided to have them published. It was a painful decision to make, determined by the desire to grant his daughter's wish: "I want to go on living even after my death". Otto chose the title Anne herself would have wanted: "Het Achterhuis", 'The House Behind' (the secret, hiding place).

THE HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS

Helga Weiss was born in the same year as Anne Frank. She spent her childhood in Prague until, aged 12, she was deported to the Terezin camp along with her entire family. This was followed by Auschwitz, Freiburg and Matthausen. Since she was a child Helga has kept a diary composed mainly of drawings, an idea suggested to her by her father who

would always urge her to describe what she saw around her. She continued writing and drawing as a prisoner. Helga's diary was saved because she managed to give it to an uncle who hid it in a wall.

Tatiana and Andra Bucci are two sisters from Rijeka, Croatia. When they are arrested, together with their mother and a cousin, they were aged 4 and 6. First taken to Risiera di San Sabba concentration camp in Trieste, they were then deported to Auschwitz-Birkenau. They were mistaken for twins and for this reason they were put in the shack for children destined for Dr. Mengele's experiments. They thought they were saved mainly thanks to the strong bond that united them. On 27th January 1945, when the Soviets arrived in Auschwitz, only 650 children of various nationalities were alive, of whom less than 50 under the age of 10. Among these survivors were Andra and Tatiana.

Arianna Szörenyi also lived in Rijeka. She had a Hungarian father, and a mother from Trieste in the N.E. Italian region of Friuli, where the family later moved to. She was eleven when she was deported and went through four concentration camps, from the Risiera di San Sabba to Bergen Belsen. She survived but lost seven members of her family. "One night I had to go out to the toilet and I met Irma Grese - I turned around and she had a gun pointed straight at me. I managed to make my way back to the Kinderblok, but I was so scared. Since then I've always tried to merge with the crowd, to hide as much as I can and I've succeeded."

Sarah Montard is of Polish origin and lives in Paris. After escaping the Vel d'Hiv roundup she went into hiding with her mother for two years until 1944 when she was reported, arrested and then deported to Auschwitz - Birkenau. "The worst, most terrible thing was the flame from the crematorium: night and day it rose and made a terrible noise, lighting up the sky that was pink with the flames. After what I experienced, I'm not afraid of anything anymore". Sarah was sixteen years old, and like Anne she was also at Bergen-Belsen.

Doris Grozdanovičová, born in the Czech Republic, was deported with her family to the ghetto-concentration camp of Terezin in January 1942. She was separated from her father and brother. Her grandmother died immediately after arrival and her mother also died of illness and from the hardships endured there. His father was deported to Auschwitz and never returned from the camp. Doris survived Terezin, from the ages of 16 and 19, during which she took care of a flock of sheep. Her photo with the flock, taken by a worker in the ghetto, is a rare piece of evidence of life in Terezin that managed to escape the Nazi propaganda machine.

Fanny Hochbaum, born in Paris, was one of thousands of Jewish children who went into hiding during the war. The family sent her away in an attempt to save her from deportation. She says this about herself: "I am a child in hiding, bearing witness to the memory of my grandfather, who died of hunger in the Lodz ghetto; of my father, who was deported on Convoy nr. 4 and returned; of my husband's father, who was savagely murdered and drowned by the 'kapos' at Auschwitz. I tell the story of the Holocaust... I even make children laugh. Madame - they tell me - you tell us about the Holocaust but you don't frighten us. That's not why I tell you about it, I do it so you too can say that it's not a story, it's not a legend, it's the truth". She has since moved to live in Israel.

SABINA FEDELI, director | storyline and screenplay

She has been a TV journalist since 1986. She works as a news correspondent for Mediaset covering national and international events for network news programmes and weekly, in-depth, current affairs programmes: the war in former Yugoslavia, the coup in Moscow, the Algerian crisis in the '90s, the Israeli-Palestinian crises, the revolutions in North Africa. She has also carried out various investigative reports into violence against women and environmental pollution, as well as in-depth investigations on immigration and Islamic fundamentalism. She has collaborated in the TV programmes "Spot" and Enzo Biagi's "Linea Diretta" as well as Indro Montanelli and Paolo Granzotto's weekly in-depth programme "Contro Corrente". She is involved in programs such as "Link Cronache dell'era digitale" and "Mission". She is part of the editorial staff of "Terra!", the weekly in-depth news programme initially on Channel 5, and then on Rete 4.

In 2003 she won the Alpi Award for the special feature "Metti a fuoco e scappa" (Take aim and run).

In 2007 she received the Marco Luchetta Award for Journalism for her coverage of "La casa dell'orrore. Il delitto d'onore in Palestina" (House of horrors - honour killing in Palestine).

In 2011 she was given the Premio Alpi Critics Award for her report on "Le perseguitate" ('Persecuted' on stalking and violence against women).

In her role as a freelance journalist she has also collaborated as a screenwriter and director on several TV documentaries: Io sono Yoav (My name is Yoav), the story of one of the victims of the hostage-taking at the YperCacher in Paris (RAI) 2015 and artist feature programmes for SKY art and RAI history. In 2018 for 3D productions she co-authored the documentary-film "Hitler v. Picasso and others. The Nazi obsession with art" as well as "The Prado Museum. A Collection of Wonders". She has written the novel "Gli occhiali del sentimento, storia di un'ebrea

ferrarese" (Spectacles of Sentiment: the story of a Jewish Girl from Ferrara) published by Giuntina.

ANNA MIGOTTO, director | storyline and screenplay

She has been working as a television journalist since 1987. As Mediaset TV correspondent, she covers national and international news events for network news and weekly current affairs programmes: she has covered the conflicts in Yugoslavia, Rwanda, Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria and the uprisings in North Africa. She has worked for a long time on organized crime and the mafia. She is particularly interested in the phenomenon of migration, modern slavery and radicalisation. She is on the editorial staff of the Channel 5 "Matrix" programme and "Terra!" the current affairs weekly programme for Channel 5 Network news.

She obtained a world exclusive of the lynching of Israeli reservists in a Palestinian police station in Ramallah, on October 12th, 2000.

As a freelance journalist, she has worked as a screenwriter and director on several TV documentaries "L'età più felice" (the Happiest Age) for Mediaset TV on 2014, "Father Lenin e i suoi fratelli" (Father Lenin and his brothers). (RAI) 2019 "Citizen Rosi" (3 D Productions) 2019

She co-authored the book "Non aspettarmi vivo - la banalità dell'orrore nelle voci dei ragazzi jihadisti" (Don't expect me to come back alive - horror becomes commonplace in the voices of Jihadist boys), Einaudi Stile Libero.

She has also received many awards:

Journalism Award "Premiolino-Journalist of the Month" 2001, for the report on the Ramallah lynching

Saint Vincent" Journalism Award, 2001, with a special mention for the Ramallah report

"Ilaria Alpi" Journalism Award, 2001 for the Ramallah Report

Ernest Hemingway" Journalism Award, 2001 for her coverage of the Middle East

"Premio Ischia" 2003 International Journalism Award for her coverage of the war in Iraq

She was awarded 'Knight of the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic' from President Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, 3rd November 2003.

She also received the "Ilaria Alpi" Critics' Award 2011, for the report on "Le perseguitate" ('Persecuted' on stalking and violence against women).

HELEN MIRREN

The Oscar®-winning actress has also won numerous other awards, including Emmy, SAG and Tony Awards, several BAFTA Awards and the Golden Globe, testifying to the international recognition she has received for her performances in theatre, film and television. Her portrayal of Queen Elizabeth II in "The Queen" in 2006 earned her an Academy Award®, a Golden Globe, a Screen Actors Guild (SAG) Award and the BAFTA Award for Best Actress. She was also named Best Actress by virtually every critic's organization, from Los Angeles to London. In 2014 she was honoured with the BAFTA Fellowship for her outstanding film career. In 2018 she received the Chaplin Gala Career Award from The Film Society at the Lincoln Center in New York. Her next television appearance will see her starring in the SKY/HBO series "Catherine the Great" in the lead role. At the cinema, in the coming months we will see her in "Anna" for Lionsgate, "Fast and Furious Presents: Hobbs & Shaw" for Universal Pictures and "The Perfect Deception" for Warner Bros'. Mirren recently appeared in "Berlin, I Love You" for Saban Films, "The Nutcracker and the Four Kingdoms" for Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures, the third season of "Documentary Now!" for IFC, "Ella & John" by Sony Pictures Classics, "The Widow Winchester" for CBS Films, in which she played the role of Sarah Winchester and "Fast & Furious 8" for Universal Pictures. Other recent films include "Collateral Beauty" for Warner Bros. and "Eye in the Sky" and "Trumbo" for Bleeker Street Media. Mirren has recently been the narrator in the documentary "Cries from Syria". She will soon be lending her voice to a character in the animated film "The One and Only Ivan". In addition, her voice has also appeared as the character 'Dean Hardscrabble' in the film "Monster's University" for Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures. Her previous works include "The Hundred-Foot Journey" for Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures, "Hitchcock" for which she received nominations for a Golden Globe and a SAG Award, "RED" and "RED 2" for Fox Searchlight Pictures, the thriller "The Debt", directed by John Madden, in which she plays the role of a Mossad agent, and the film "The Door" by Hungarian director Istvan Szabo.

Mirren made her debut as Cleopatra at the National Youth Theatre. She later joined the Royal Shakespeare Company, where she played leading roles in major productions such as "Troilus and Cressida" and "Macbeth". In 1972 she joined director Peter Brook's famous theatre company, with whom she worked all over the world. She made her cinema debut with the film "Age of Consent" by Michael Powell, but the role that marked a turning point in her career came in 1980, with "The Long Good Friday" by John Mackenzie. The next decade saw her starring in numerous successful films, including John Boorman's "Excalibur", Pat O'Connor's Irish drama/thriller "Cal", which won her Best Actress award at the Cannes Film Festival and an Evening Standard film award; Peter Weir's "Mosquito Coast", Peter Greenaway's "The Cook, the Thief, his Wife and her Lover", and Charles Sturridge's "Where Angels Fear To Tread". Mirren won an Oscar® nomination for her performance as Queen Charlotte in Nicholas Hytner's "The Madness of King George", for which she

received Best Actress award at the 1994 Cannes Film Festival. Her second Oscar® nomination came with Robert Altman's 2001 film "Gosford Park". Her performance as the housekeeper also earned her a Golden Globe and a BAFTA nomination, several critics' awards and two SAG Awards, one for Best Supporting Actress and another with her fellow actors for Best Ensemble Cast. Mirren recently won an Oscar® and Golden Globe nomination for her performance in "The Last Station" as Sofya Tolstoy.

Other films she has worked on include "Some Mother's Son," in which she also served as associate producer, as well as "Calendar Girls", "The Clearing", "Shadowboxer", "State of Play", "The Tempest" and "Brighton Rock". For television, Mirren played the lead role in the award-winning "Prime Suspect" series as Detective Chief Inspector Jane Tennison. The first seasons of the series won her an Emmy Award and three BAFTA Awards, as well as numerous other award nominations. She won another Emmy Award and was nominated for a Golden Globe when, in 2006, she played the role of detective Jane Tennison in "Prime Suspect 7: Final Act," the last season of the PBS series. She recently starred alongside Al Pacino in the HBO biopic "Phil Spector", and her performance earned her a SAG Award and a nomination for an Emmy and a Golden Globe. Her role as Queen Elizabeth I in the HBO mini-series "Elizabeth I" also earned her an Emmy Award, a Golden Globe and a SAG Award®. Her long list of television work also includes "Losing Chase", "The Passion of Ayn Rand", "Door to Door" and "The Roman Spring of Mrs. Stone", earning awards and nominations several times over for Golden Globe, Emmy and SAG Awards®. Having worked extensively for the theatre, Mirren reprised Queen Elizabeth II on Broadway in "The Audience", a play by Peter Morgan, directed by Stephen Daldry, for which she won a Tony Award for Best Actress Performance in 2015. In 2013, she brought her theatrical performance of Elizabeth II in "The Audience" to London's West End and went on to win an Olivier Award and the Evening Standard Award and, in 2014, the WhatsOnStage Award for Best Actress. She also received an Oliver Award nomination for Best Actress for her performance in "Mourning becomes Electra" at London's National Theatre. In 2009, Mirren returned to the National Theatre to star in the title role in "Phèdre," directed by Sir Nicholas Hytner. In 2003 Helen Mirren became a Dame of the British Empire.

MARTINA GATTI, actress

Born in Rome in 1996, she is currently studying Philosophy and Psychology. In her career she has played the role of Emma Covitti in Skam II, a Tim Vision web series produced by Cross, as well as the lead role as Valentina Cordiale in "Mollami" by Matteo Gentiloni and that of @KaterinaKat in this documentary film.

LELE MARCHITELLI, composer

Composer, music producer, writer of film soundtracks, TV dramas, songs, TV theme music, ads and commercials, Marchitelli's experience ranges from auteur cinema to cult comedy programmes such as "Avanzi", "Tunnel", "the Pippo Kennedy Show" and "L'ottavo nano". From 2001 to 2006 he was music director of the Ambra Jovinelli Theatre in Rome. For the cinema he has composed soundtracks for films by Carlo Verdone ("Sono pazzo di Iris Blond", "Ma che colpa abbiamo noi", "Benedetta follia"), Giuseppe Piccioni ("Il grande Blek"), Francesco Bruni ("Noi 4"), Maurizio Sciarra ("Alla rivoluzione sulla due cavalli"), Renato De Maria, Cinzia Th Torrini and Riccardo Milani ("Piano, solo"). During his career he has received 12 nominations (David di Donatello, Nastro d'Argento, Golden Globe) and won 2 awards. He composed the music for Paolo Sorrentino's 2014 Oscar winning best foreign film "La grande bellezza" and for his next film, "Loro". Again for Paolo Sorrentino he also composed the original soundtrack for the television series "The Young Pope" and for its sequel, "The New Pope".

MICHELE MALLY, talent director

He has worked as a film editor in Italy, France, Germany and England for top directors, in both advertising and other fields (such as Ivan Bartosz, Chico Bialas and John Landis). At the age of 24, he was already directing documentaries, music videos and industrial films for numerous production studios and companies (including, for example, Ferrari). For thirty years he has directed various cultural and journalistic television shows, the most famous being "La macchina del tempo", "Sfera", "Target", "Moda", "Angeli", "Appuntamento con la storia" as well as programmes and shows by Sabina Guzzanti, Gianni Riotta and Romano Prodi. For twelve years he was the director of Gad Lerner's "Infedele". He has worked for every Italian tv network, from Rai to Mediaset, from La7 to Sky. He is also a graphic designer, writer and art director. Since 2016 he has an exclusive agreement with 3D Produzioni with whom he has made various documentaries, including "L'inconscio dell'opera" with Massimo Recalcati and "Canto alla durata" with Peter Handke.

ALESSIO VIOLA, director of photography

Born in Milan on 10th May 1964, he graduated in communications technology and, to begin with, became an assistant editor for an advertising and documentary production company and then a television producer at Milano&Grey advertising agency. In 1989 he began his career as a cameraman shooting many films, commercials and documentaries. Since 1998 he has been director of photography, working on advertising spots, feature films and documentaries. His

most recent work includes "Fernanda Pivano, a farewell to beat", "Senza tregua" with Giovanni Pesce, "Maledimiele", "Tra cinque minuti in scena".

VALENTINA ELISA GHILOTTI, film editor

As a video editor and copywriter, she has edited television programs for 3D Produzioni such as "Fattore Umano", "La Strada dei Miracoli", "Verissimo", "Quinta Colonna", "Top Secret", "Matrix", "Storie in divisa". Also for 3D Produzioni, she did the editing for "Van Gogh. Of wheat fields and clouded skies" as well as several documentaries and cultural reports for the Sky Arte channel.

HISTORIANS AND EXPERTS

Marcello Pezzetti

Historian at the Cdec (Center of Contemporary Jewish Documentation), member of the historical commission of the 'Fondation pour la Mémoire de la Shoah' in Paris, on the council of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Museum Centrum Edukacji and Italian delegate on the Task Force for International Cooperation on Holocaust, Remembrance and Research (Ihra).

Michel Berenbaum

Rabbi, historian, and university professor at the American Jewish University of Los Angeles, at Yale University in Florida, at George Washington University in Maryland, an expert in Holocaust studies. He has written numerous books and produced several films and documentaries that have won an Academy Award and an Emmy Award. He has served as deputy director of the President's Commission on the Holocaust (1979-1980), was director of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) project (1988-1993) and director of the Holocaust Research Institute (1993-1997) of the USHMM. From 1997 to 1999, he served as President and CEO of the Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation. He is currently director of the Sigi Ziering Institute.

Francesca Deگو

Internationally renowned violinist, 30-year-old Francesca graduated from the Conservatory of Music in Milan, and has performed in major national and international orchestras. Her family history is marked by the loss of 46 relatives who never returned from Auschwitz. She has collaborated with other violinists to give voice to the violins of the Holocaust.

Nathalie Zajde,

She is a French professor of Clinical Psychology (PhD in 1993), Child Psychopathology and Paediatrics. As a specialist in psychotrauma she created the first discussion groups in France for the survivors and children of the survivors of the Holocaust. She has published four books on the psychology and psychopathology of Holocaust survivors and their descendants, "Enfants de survivants" (1993), and "Guérir de la Shoah" (2005) éditions Odile Jacob Paris, "Les enfants cachés en France." Paris, Odile Jacob.

Simon Daval

Photographer. In a photographic report, he has retraced the journey of the deportation of French Jews, from Drancy to Auschwitz.

Yves Kugelmann

Journalist – and member of the Anne Frank Fonds, Basel.

Alain Granat

Director of Online Magazine JewPop, Paris.

Ronald Leopold

Historian and Director of the Anne Frank Huis, Amsterdam.

PICCOLO TEATRO OF MILAN–THEATRE OF EUROPE

For the filming of this documentary, Anne's secret annex was reconstructed down to the last detail by set designers from the **Piccolo Teatro of Milan-Theatre of Europe** - an amazing, historical reconstruction down to the last detail, that

takes us back to 1942. The room contains her belongings, the objects she lived with, the photographs she covered the walls with, and the notebooks she wrote in.

The building in Via Rovello, the site of what is now the Teatro Paolo Grassi, before it became the former Piccolo Teatro of the City of Milan, was once the Ettore Muti barracks of the Fascist military corps, where dozens of men and women, partisans, opponents of the regime and free thinkers were tortured and murdered during the Second World War and the civil war. The choice made by Grassi and Strehler, with Mayor Antonio Greppi, to turn it into a new theatre, a place of beauty and culture to cultivate the spirit, was therefore the answer to the call to "reclaim" space that had once been a place of horror, and not to forget what had happened there, but to rebuild a new, civilized society, a community to foster the shared values of freedom, democracy and anti-fascism.

Founded in 1947 by Paolo Grassi, Giorgio Strehler and Nina Vinchi, the Piccolo Teatro of Milan is the first Teatro Stabile (resident theatre company for public performances) in Italy and is the most renowned both at home and abroad.

Having staged more than 380 shows, it continues working in three locations: the historic seat in Via Rovello, named after Grassi, which was restored in 2009 bringing back to the city what was the adjacent Renaissance Cloister, dedicated to Nina Vinchi; the Teatro Studio, which from 2013 bears the name of Mariangela Melato and houses the Theatrical School; and the Giorgio Strehler Theatre in Largo Greppi.

Also on the premises there is a Scenic Workshop and Costume Workshop, recognised and valued worldwide for excellence and artistic craftsmanship.

Since 1998 the theatre has been directed by Sergio Escobar, with Luca Ronconi acting as artistic advisor up to 2015, and then with the collaboration of writer and playwright Stefano Massini.

A member of the Union of the Theatres of Europe since 1991, as per article 48-bis of the Ministerial Decree dated 1st July 2014, the Piccolo Theatre has been developing internationally on various different levels: in addition to hosting a "stagione nella stagione" (a season in the season) each year, with the most interesting proposals worldwide, it has established particularly strong synergistic relationships with big names - above all, directors of forthcoming new productions, Robert Wilson, Declan Donnellan and Thomas Ostermeier.

The theatre company has also toured all over the world, from Russia to the United States, China to Japan, Europe to North Africa and New Zealand.

Since 1987 it also has its own Theatrical School - founded by Strehler, named after Ronconi and currently under the direction of Carmelo Rifici - from which, to date, more than 230 actors have graduated.

PLACES FEATURED IN THE FILM

Bergen-Belsen, Germany: the camp where Anne Frank and her sister Margot died within days of one another in February 1945, shortly before liberation by British troops, was a Nazi concentration camp in Lower Saxony. Bergen-Belsen was used until 1943 as a prisoner of war camp, and subsequently also as an internment camp for Jews, common criminals, political prisoners, gypsies, Jehovah's Witnesses and homosexuals. Between 1943 and 1945 it is estimated that about 50,000 people died in the camp, of which more than 35,000 of typhus in the first five months of 1945. A total of more than 70,000 people died in the camp. When the camp was liberated, the facilities had to be burned by British soldiers in order to combat the typhus epidemic and lice infestation. It took weeks to bring the situation under control, weeks during which the deaths of more than 13,000 former prisoners, now too weak to survive, could not be avoided. Although the SS had tried to hide evidence of their inhumane practices by destroying documents and forcing the prisoners to bury or burn the corpses of their comrades to ashes, the grounds of the concentration camp were still littered with thousands of corpses when, on April 15th, 1945, British troops took possession of them. Now Bergen-Belsen is a cemetery scattered with mass graves with gravestones in memory of some of the victims, and among these are those bearing the names of Anne and Margot Frank. Next to the camp, a memorial retraces the history of the camp and of the atrocities committed there.

Westerbork Transit Camp, Holland was an internment and transit camp during World War II. More than 100,000 Dutch Jews and Gypsies were gathered there to be transported to other concentration camps. The Frank family also went to Westerbork before being moved to Auschwitz and then to Bergen-Belsen for Anne and Margot. Westerbork is located near the town of Assen, not far from the German border. From Westerbork internees were mostly transported to the extermination camps of Auschwitz and Sobibor on Polish territory, to the German concentration camp of Bergen-Belsen and to the "model" ghetto of Theresienstadt in what is now the Czech Republic. This "transit" involved about 107,000 individuals and of these, after the end of the war, only 5,200 remained alive, literally "re-emerging" mostly from just the camps of Bergen-Belsen and Theresienstadt. 93 rail convoys were organized for their transport. The largest, most moving monument in the Westerbork camp is the one located on the former parade ground, consisting of an impressive number of 102,000 red bricks, one for each of the victims. Each brick has a symbol at the top that for the Jews is the

star of David, while for the Roma, also expelled from Dutch territory, the symbol is a flame. Etty Hillesum, Edith Stein and Anne Frank were prisoners at Westerbork: none of the three survived the Holocaust.

Holocaust Memorial Centre, Skopje, North Macedonia: the setting for an interview with one of the greatest Holocaust historians, Michael Berenbaum. The American professor set up the new memorial dedicated to the memory of the Macedonian Jews who perished. The Skopje Holocaust Memorial is probably the most important in Eastern Europe. The most striking aspect is how vibrant and active it is, keeping in constant contact with the Yad Vashem Museum and launching very important educational initiatives to make the history of the Macedonian Jewish community known to younger generations in Macedonia. The history of the Macedonian Jews culminated in the tragic fate they succumbed to during the Nazi period under Bulgarian occupation. It was the Bulgarian troops who allowed passage for the Nazis to enter the country, which proved fatal for the Macedonian Jewish community. Of the approximately 8,000 Jews residing there before Nazism, only 350 survived, many of them emigrating to Israel: almost 90% lost their lives during the Holocaust. Many Jews were killed in the Treblinka camp, where they arrived after six days of travel in unspeakable conditions to be immediately exterminated in the gas chambers.

Holocaust Memorial, Milan, Italy: a museum area dedicated to the memory of the Holocaust victims in Italy. It is located under the Central Station, at street level, in front of the former Royal Post Office building, and was conceived with the aim of "creating a place of memory and a place for dialogue and encounter between different religions, ethnic groups and cultures". From the so-called "Platform or Track 21", where previously only postal trains were loaded and unloaded, hundreds of Jews, partisans and political deportees were loaded onto cattle wagons headed for the concentration camps of Auschwitz - Birkenau, Mauthausen, Bergen-Belsen, Ravensbruck, Flossenbug, Fossoli and Bolzano. We know the exact number of RSHA (Reich Main Security office) convoys departing from Track 21: there were 20 (12 Jews only, 5 political and 3 mixed). While only fragments of information remain about the deportees (for example, we know for certain that a convoy left in January 1944 with 605 passengers, and the fate that befell them). Today, the Memorial is a place of memory and meeting for the survivors of the Nazi extermination, as well as a formative place for new generations. Here Andra and Tatiana Bucci, survivors of the camps, were interviewed as well as one of the greatest experts on the Holocaust, Marcello Pezzetti.

Holocaust Museum, Paris, France: a place dedicated to the memory of 76,000 French Jews deported by the Germans to Nazi concentration camps during World War II. It has the first as well as the most important collection of archives on the Holocaust in Europe, with over a million records and books on the subject, accessible to everyone. It is the largest European centre for preservation, research, and spreading awareness of Holocaust Remembrance. We visited it while the intergenerational forum of the children of the Holocaust was taking place – it was an extraordinary moment with survivors, families and new generations meeting to exchange views in one of the most moving, vibrant places in the battle against oblivion, discrimination and racism.

Holocaust Memorial, Drancy, France: is named after the North-Eastern suburb of Paris where the camp was located. The area was chosen in August 1941 by the French collaborationist authorities as an internment camp for foreign Jews in France, under the general control of German Security Police. Later, in June 1942, it became the main transit camp for the deportation of Jews from France. From July 1, 1943, the Germans began running the camp directly until its liberation in August 1944. Almost all of the Jews deported from France passed through the Drancy transit camp. About 70,000 prisoners were held between August 1941 and August 1944. With the exception of a small number (mostly members of the French resistance), the vast majority of prisoners were Jewish. Only a few hundred prisoners were able to obtain release during the first year of the camp's existence. Many died of suffering and hardship or illness. There were 64,759 deportees in 64 transport convoys: about 61,000 to Auschwitz-Birkenau. Added to the survivors from the extermination camps are the 1,500 prisoners present at the camp during liberation. Among the victims there were also about 6,000 children, often the first to be separated from their parents and sent to their deaths.

Theresienstadt Ghetto and Concentration Camp, Czech Republic: was an internment and deportation facility used by German forces during the Second World War between 24th November 1941 and 9th May 1945. Incorporated by the Third Reich in 1938, the city, 60 km from Prague, is known for having gathered in the camp "the greatest artists, the flower of Mittel-European Jewish intellectuals, painters, writers, and musicians" with "a strong presence of children." Presented by Nazi propaganda as an "exemplary Jewish settlement", it was in fact a place to gather and sort prisoners to be sent mainly to the extermination camps of Treblinka and Auschwitz. According to data confirmed by the Yad Vashem Institute, based on a total of "155,000 Jews who passed through Theresienstadt until its liberation, on May 8, 1945, 35,440 perished in the ghetto and 88,000 were deported" to be exterminated. The final count (arrivals and deaths)

also includes the approximately 15,000 Jews who arrived at the camp in the final two to three weeks, transferred from other concentration camps. Doris Grozdanovičová spent her youth in Theresienstadt: today, at over 93 years of age, she is one of the people who can bear testimony to what life was like in the ghetto.

Museum of the Resistance and Deportation, Besançon La Citadelle, France: founded in 1971 by Denise Lorach, a surviving deportee. The Museum houses permanent exhibitions, a large archive of documents and many images including thousands of negatives, microfilms and audio tapes. Here we met Simon Daval who, together with his fellow photographer Francois Lami, retraced the journey of the death of French Jews from Drancy to Auschwitz.

Auschwitz Concentration and Extermination Camp: is, in everyone's imagination, the embodiment of the Holocaust death camp. It was initially built as a concentration and sorting camp for Polish prisoners. A second and a third camp, Birkenau and Monowitz, were built followed by other camps. Counting the sub-camps, Auschwitz in 1945 totalled at least 45 other small concentration camps and then mass extermination facilities to which hundreds of thousands of people were deported. At Auschwitz the first gas chamber and the crematoria have been preserved intact. Other four gas chambers were located in Birkenau. There were also 2 more. One and a half million Jews died there before the camp was liberated by Soviet troops on 27th January 1945. After it was shut down, the Auschwitz concentration camp became a symbolic place, dedicated to the memory of the victims. It has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1979. Anne Frank and her family passed through this camp, but also some of the survivors who are the protagonists of the documentary.

Pinkas Synagogue and Jewish Cemetery in Prague, Czech Republic: Helga Weiss, one of the survivors of the Holocaust taking part in this documentary, is from Prague, the city where the filming of the historic Pinkas synagogue took place, its walls covered with the names of thousands of victims of Nazi extermination and the gravesite of the Jewish cemetery. The Pinkas Synagogue is part of the Jewish Museum in Prague and, since the middle of the last century, has served as a memorial for Holocaust victims in the Czech Republic. The walls inside the synagogue are covered with inscriptions: the names of the approximately 80,000 Czech Jews who did not survive Nazi extermination during the Second World War. The names are arranged in alphabetical order according to the Czech country they came from and, in most cases, are accompanied by two dates: date of birth and the date of last information received. The Pinkas Synagogue, first Renaissance and then Gothic, is located in the Jewish Cemetery district.

Portuguese Synagogue Amsterdam, Holland: built in the centre of Amsterdam in 1675, it was at the time the largest synagogue in the world. For Dutch Jews and exiles, it was a landmark. The building is still used today as a place of worship. Since its consecration in 1675, no electrical or heating system has ever been installed there; the only artificial light comes from the 1,000 candles that adorn the many brass chandeliers. Sand on the wooden floor serves to protect it from dirt. The Portuguese synagogue is an integral part of the Jewish cultural district of Amsterdam.

Anne Frank House Amsterdam, Holland: the house where the Frank family and four other people lived in hiding for more than two years to escape the Nazis, is a place of memory and meeting for millions of young people who not only want to know about the story of little Anne, but about the millions of people who were exterminated simply because they were Jews.

Anne Frank Fonds, Basel, Switzerland: the foundation set up by Otto Frank to commemorate the story of his family and his daughter Anne. Otto Frank, the only one of the eight guests from the secret refuge to survive the concentration camps, later settled in Switzerland where he set up the foundation dedicated to his daughter.

Other filming locations: Amsterdam, Milan, Prague, Paris, Drancy, Skopje, Aulnay sur Mauldre, Bergen.