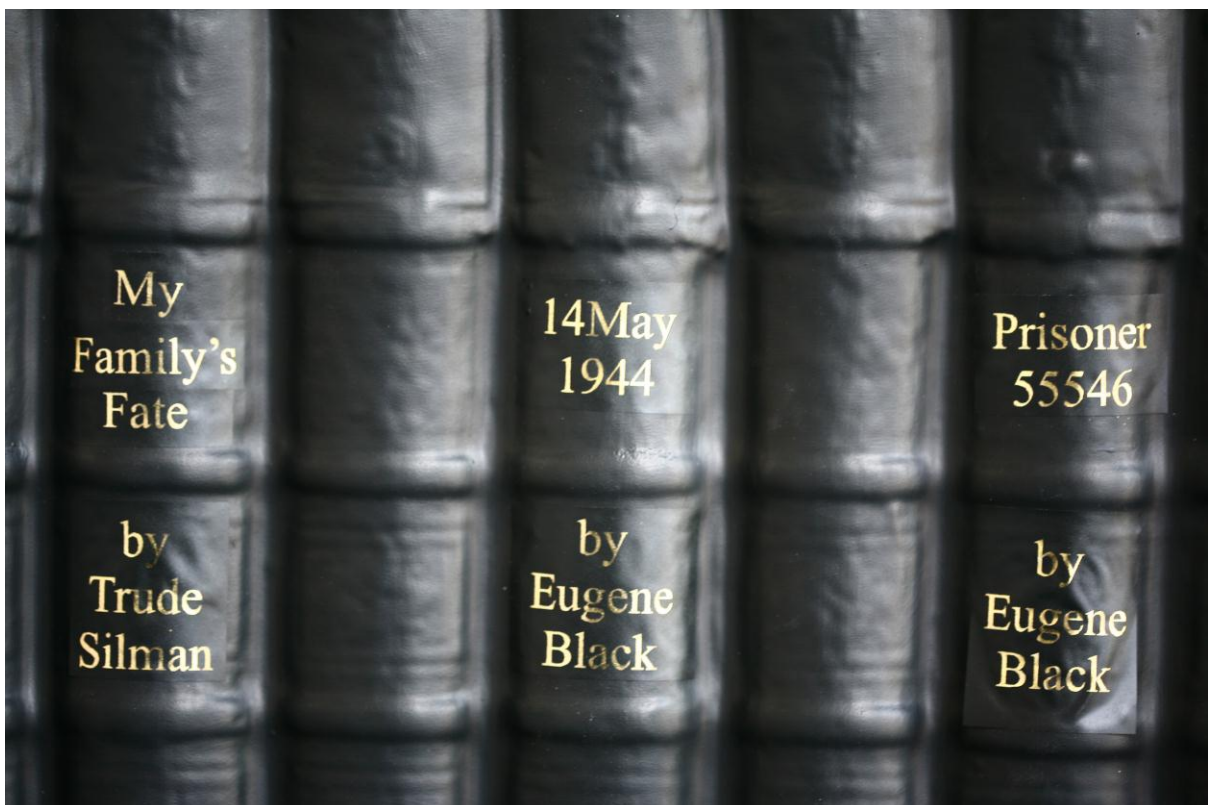




The Holocaust Survivors' Library

An installation by Paula Jackson and Robert Teed

Information leaflet



The Holocaust Survivors' Library is a newly commissioned piece created by sculptor Paula Jackson and photographer Robert Teed with the support of Arts Council England that focuses on the experience of Holocaust survivors. The installation comprises photography, audio and mixed media and measures 480 cm x 280cm.

Working with help of the Holocaust Survivors Friends Association, a Leeds based charity, the artists developed links with three survivors who live in Yorkshire and enthusiastically agreed to take part – Iby Knill, Trude Silman and Eugene Black.

The Holocaust Survivors' Library consists of a library of black and gilded 'books' whose spines reveal real and imaginary titles that suggest the stories of the Holocaust and of the history of the Jewish people

Punctuating the books are three large scale photographic portraits of survivors. Nine books have audio points to enable visitors to listen to the survivors' stories.



Installation detail – portrait of Eugene Black

The Holocaust Survivors' Library works powerfully on a number of levels: it documents three survivors' stories through portraits, audio and text; and it broadens these experiences through the use of books – a symbol both of a civilised society, and of the Jews as 'the People of the Book'. The library's text of evocative and emotive titles has a cumulatively poetic effect on the audience.

The installation provokes powerful responses from visitors.

Visitor comments:

'Very powerful. Literally plugging into the survivors' stories was unforgettable.'

'The Holocaust installation serves as a powerful record and a testimony. The presentation (its symbolism) is perfect... stories... the power of the book and the word. Very moving'

'As a survivor of the Holocaust myself I find the treatment and presentation of the Holocaust material especially impressive'

'Very powerful images and narratives – an excellent collection'

The Holocaust Survivors' Library was first shown in the I Am Human exhibition at The New School House Gallery in January/February 2011. It was part of the City of York's Holocaust Memorial Programme.



TO LOAN:

The Holocaust Survivors' Library is now available for short or long term loan. Please contact the artists via The New School House Gallery for more details.

CONTACT DETAILS:

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