

Exhibition Concept and Text: **Dr. Bea Lewkowicz**

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Still Portraits of Interviewees: Dr. Bea Lewkowicz

Film Director:

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Dr. Bea Lewkowicz is a social anthropologist and oral historian. She is a member of of the Research Centre for German and Austrian Exile Studies (IGRS, University of London) and Director of Sephardi Voices UK. She studied at the Universities of Cologne and Cambridge and received her PhD from the London School of Economics She cocurated the Continental Britons exhibition at the lewish Museum London, codirected the AJR Refugee Voices Audio-Visual History Archive, and has made numerous documentaries for educational projects and exhibitions.

Twenty of the people whose lives are summarised in this brochure were interviewed for the AJR Refugee Voices project, directed by Dr. Anthony Grenville and Dr. Bea Lewkowicz. If you would like to find out more about Refugee Voices and about access to the interviews, please visit the Refugee Voices website (www.refugeevoices.co.uk) or contact the Association of Jewish Refugees (ajr.org.uk).



Introduction

The exhibition Double Exposure: Jewish Refugees from Austria in Britain focuses on twenty-five men and women who came to Britain as refugees from Austria. It explores their double exposure both to the cultures of Austria and Britain, as well as to the two lenses of a still and video camera, which capture their images as interviewees.

Together with the book Stimmen der Flucht by Dr. Anthony Grenville (Czernin Verlag, Vienna, Fall 2011), Double Exposure: Jewish Refugees from Austria in Britain forms part of a wider project about Austrian-Jewish Refugees in Britain, re-visiting and re-presenting interviews recorded for the Association of Jewish Refugees' Refugee Voices Audio-Visual History Archive (2003–2008) and the Continental Britons exhibition (Jewish Museum London, 2002).

The twenty-five portraits depict each interviewee in a moment of conversation, seen through the viewfinder of the video camera which recorded the original interview. The still shot, taken several years later, frames each portrait within the camera's viewfinder, and thus highlights the process of interpretation when working with video interviews. Just as the interviewees' narratives are potentially shaped by the researcher, film maker or curator, so too, is their image shaped through the use of the video and still camera. Each portrait is accompanied by a short quotation from the interview (with a

German translation) and by old family photographs, filmed at the time of the interview. Whilst the photographs recall the personal histories of the interviewees, and are often a treasured link to a vanished past, the quotes represent messages for the future.

Austria was annexed by Nazi Germany on 12 March 1938 (The Anschluss). At the time of the Anschluss, the lewish population of Austria is estimated to have consisted of 200,000 people, of whom about 180,000 lived in Vienna. After the Anschluss many Jews tried to emigrate and obtain visas to other countries. During the Second World War, it was almost impossible for lews to leave Austria. Between 1938 and 1945, 65,000 Austrian Jews were killed. Of the 130,000 Jews who survived, about 30,000 emigrated to the UK before the outbreak of war and thus constituted a large proportion of the 70.000 refugees who came to the UK from Germanspeaking lands. Some managed to get domestic service visas, some managed to get a place on the Kindertransport (10,000 unaccompanied Jewish minors from Germany and Austria were allowed to come to the UK), and some emigrated with their parents. The exhibition and the film Double Exposure: Jewish Refugees from Austria in Britain portray twenty-five men and women who had to flee Austria as children and young adults and found refuge in Britain.

Dr. Bea Lewkowicz

Fred Barschak

Fred Barschak was born Fritz Barschak in 1931 in Vienna. His father owned a kosher restaurant in Vienna. Restaurant Hotel Barschak, in the 2nd District, where he lived with his parents and brother. He was sent to Britain on the Kindertransport in 1938 and first stayed in the reception camp for refugee children, at Dovercourt. From there he travelled to Hull, where he was taken in by a Jewish family with an eleven year old son. During the war, he was evacuated to Swanland and returned to his foster parents in 1940. After finishing primary school, he gained a scholarship to a public school and later studied at Oxford University. He became an investment and property consultant, married, had two children and settled in London. His parents and younger brother did not survive.





Norbert Brainin

Norbert Brainin was born in 1923 in Vienna. He started playing the violin at the age of seven. He was orphaned at a young age and, together with his sister Renée, was raised by his father's siblings. In 1938 he emigrated to Britain with members of his family and lived in London. studving with the violinist Carl Flesch. In 1940, he was interned as an 'enemy alien' on the Isle of Man. where he encountered his future colleague, Peter Schidlof, Brainin was released after a few months, but Schidlof remained in the camp, where he met another violinist, Siegmund Nissel. Brainin, Schidlof, and Nissel all became pupils of the violinist and pedagogue Max Rostal, who introduced them to cellist Martin Lovett. In 1947 they formed the Brainin Quartet, from 1948 known as the Amadeus Quartet, which became one of the most celebrated and

long-lived quartets in the world. With Norbert Brainin as first violinist, the *Amadeus Quartet* performed, recorded and gave master-classes worldwide for forty years until 1987. Norbert Brainin passed away in London in 2005. He was married and had one daughter.

Freddie Boxer



Freddie Boxer was born Friedrich Boxer in 1920 in Vienna. His parents owned the Kaffeehaus Boxer in the Esterhazygasse in the 6th District. Preparing for emigration, he saved a hundred dollars and bought a ticket to Shanghai, for which no visa was required. He left Vienna on the Trans-Siberian Express in November 1938. He survived the war in Shanghai and was interned by the Japanese after Pearl Harbour. He was repatriated to Vienna in 1947 and came to England in 1948, where his brother

had settled. He first worked for a match factory and then set up his own import/export business with Russia. He was twice married and has four children.

Jacques Broch

lacques Broch was born in 1931 in Vienna. His parents managed to obtain domestic service visas to emigrate to the UK, his mother as a cook and his father as an odd-job man. Their children were not included on the visa However, lacaues Broch accompanied his parents and managed to gain entry to Britain at the end of August 1939. He stayed in a hostel in Leeds where he was the second youngest child. He later lived with his parents in Leeds, eventually becoming a dentist and settling there with his wife and three children. In 1998 Jacques Broch and his wife moved to Israel. His two sisters survived in Vienna





Walter Brunner

Walter Brunner was born in Vienna in 1922 His father was a commercial traveller and his family belonged to the ultra-orthodox lewish community of Vienna. At the age of fourteen, Walter Brunner was sent to the Nitra Yeshiva in Czechoslovakia and studied there for two years. Through the help of Rabbi Dr. Schonfeld, he succeeded in travelling to the UK in 1938 to attend Gateshead Yeshiva, Walter Brunner's father came to the UK in 1939. In 1940. he was interned as an 'enemy alien' in Hutchinson Camp on the Isle of Man, where he stayed for one year. He married in 1942 and settled with his wife in Manchester. Walter Brunner first worked as a cutter and then became a bag manufacturer. He has ten children and has been very involved in orthodox communal life in Manchester



Otto Deutsch

Otto Deutsch was born 1928 in Vienna to working-class parents living in the 10th (Favoriten) District. After his father was arrested for the second time on Kristallnacht, his mother arranged for him to go on a Kindertransport to England in July 1939. His sister could not join him because she was older than sixteen. He was fostered by a devoutly Christian family in Morpeth, Northumberland. In 1944 he moved to London and worked in the printing trade. He eventually settled in Southend and became a tour guide. His parents and sister did not survive.

Elise Duhl



Elise Duhl, née Elise Baroti, was born 1930 in Vienna. Her father owned a shirt manufacturing business in the 1st District, near where they lived. After Kristallnacht, her father was arrested and sent to Dachau. After his release. the family managed to find sponsors in the UK. They left Vienna in March 1939. When her father was interned as an 'enemy alien' in 1940, Elise and her mother joined him and they stayed in a family camp on the Isle of Man, where she attended school. After two years the family came to Manchester where her father started to work in the clothes trade. Elise Duhl trained as a milliner She married in 1953 and had two children

Henry Ebner

Henry Ebner was born
Heinz Ebner in 1937 in
Vienna. His parents were
cinema proprietors, who
owned the Admiral
Lichtspiele and the Johann
Strauss Kino. While his
father was arrested and sent
to Dachau, his mother
managed to arrange
domestic service visas to the
UK. The family came to the
UK in August 1939. Henry
Ebner's father was interned



at Central Promenade Camp on the Isle of Man for two months. From the age of eight to eighteen Henry Ebner was sent to the Stoatley Rough School, a boarding school for refugee children from Nazi Europe, founded by Dr. Hilde Lion with the help of the Quakers. Henry Ebner studied at the London School of Economics and became a solicitor. During his career he was involved in restitution claims with Germany and pension claims with Austria. He is married and has three children

Ruth Edwards

Ruth Edwards, née Ruth Schneier, was born in 1926 in Vienna. She was an only child and lived with her parents in the 20th District. After her father was arrested on Kristallnacht, her parents decided to send her to relatives in Manchester. She arrived in Manchester in 1939 and was evacuated



with her school. She was told to leave school after eighteen months and worked for her relatives in Manchester until 1946, when she moved in with her uncle and aunt in Macclesfield. There, she met a fellow refugee whom she married in 1949. Ruth Edwards and her husband settled in Manchester and started working on the markets, in leather goods. They had three children. Her parents managed to escape to Yugoslavia, but did not survive.

Gertrude Feitl



Gertrude Feitl, *née* Gertude Glattau, was born in Vienna in 1916. She lived with her younger brother and her

parents in the 16th District. Her mother ran a grocery shop in the 20th District and her father worked with cars. After leaving school, Gertrude helped her mother in the shop. After the Anschluss the shop was confiscated, her father left for France and her brother for Holland, Gertrude Glattau managed to get a domestic service visa and emigrated to the UK in 1938. After having been badly treated in a farmer's family, she worked for a Jewish family in Liverpool. Gertrude Feitl secured a visa for her boyfriend from Vienna who joined her in the UK just before the outbreak of war. They got married 1940 in Blackburn, After her husband's internment they settled down in Accrington, where their daughter was born. Gertrude Feitl helped her husband selling handbags on the market. Her mother survived and came to the UK after the war and settled in London.

Ernst Flesch

Ernst Flesch was born in 1928 in Vienna. His father was the secretary of the Humboldtempel and the family lived in the 10th District. On Kristallnacht, his



father was arrested and the synagogue where he worked burnt down. Ernst Flesch was sent on a Kindertransport to the UK in January 1939. He was taken to a lewish orphanage in Glasgow and he stayed in Scotland until 1943. Having left school aged fifteen, he moved in with his aunts in London and started to work in a photography shop in the West End. Ernst Flesch was very involved with Young Austria and joined the Primrose Club after the war. where he met his wife. He married in 1952, and after completing his education, became a teacher in a Further Education college. His mother survived the war and joined him in the UK in 1946

Anton Walter Freud

Anton Walter Freud was born in 1921 in Vienna. He was the first child of Sigmund Freud's eldest son Jean-Martin Freud. In July 1938



he emigrated as part of the family entourage with his grandfather to the UK. While he was a student at Loughborough College in 1940, he was interned as an 'enemy alien' and sent to Australia on the Dunera. After his return in October 1941 he first joined the Royal Pioneer Corps, then the SOE (Special Operations Executive), and he was parachuted into Austria in April 1945. After the war he served as an investigator with the War Crimes Investigation Unit. He married his Danish wife in 1946 and became a Chemical Engineer. They lived in Oxted and had three children, Anton Walter Freud passed away in 2005.

Gina Gerson

Gina Gerson, *née* Regina Bauer, was born 1924 in Vienna. Her father was a businessman who dealt with the wholesale trade of perfumery goods and she enjoyed the comfortable lifestyle of the Viennese middle classes. After the Anschluss, an uncle committed suicide. Gina's sister secured a Domestic Service Visa, emigrated to the UK in the summer of 1938, and organised a 12-month trainee permit for Gina, who travelled by herself from Vienna to London in January 1939. With the help of the Refugee Committee, Gina lived with various families in London and then was sent to a hostel in Southport. She became an apprentice in a hairdressers shop and eventually moved to London, where her sister lived. There, she joined the choir and the theatre group of the Austrian Centre. After the war. Gina went to drama school and became an actress, known as Gina Bower, often playing 'foreign' roles. In 1958 she married a fellow refugee, settled in Birmingham, and had two children. Her parents, who were supposed to arrive in England on 6 September 1939, did not survive.





Gertrude Goldberg

Gertrude Goldberg, née Gertrude Schiffmann, was born in 1930 in Vienna. Her parents ran a delicatessen shop in the 2nd District, and she had three sisters and a brother. After the Anschluss her father's shop was destroyed and her father fled to France. Her mother arranged for Gertrude and her two sisters to go on a Kindertransport, organised by Rabbi Dr. Schonfeld, Gertrude arrived with her sisters at the end of December 1938 in Newcastle One sister went to London, while Gertrude and her other sister were fostered by different families in Sunderland. After completing her schooling, she studied on a commercial training course and worked for her auardian. She aot married in 1956, settled in Leeds and adopted two girls. After the war, Gertrude Goldberg discovered that her parents had been killed in Auschwitz.



Richard Grunberger

Richard Grunberger was born in 1924 in Vienna. His father, a book-keeper, died when he was ten and he lived with his mother on the outskirts of Vienna in a council estate. After Kristallnacht, their flat was ransacked and his mother put his name on a Kindertransport list. He came to the UK in 1938 with the first Kindertransport and was put up in a reception camp for refugee children in Lowestoft and then in Dovercourt. Due to his good command of English, he got a job as a domestic servant, which did not last very long. He subsequently lived with a Jewish family in the East End of London and learnt the trade of tailoring. In 1940 he was one of the youngest internees on the Isle of Man and after his release he worked in a munitions factory. He also became a group leader in the Young Austria movement. After marrying a fellow refugee in

1947, he decided to continue his interrupted education and he became a teacher and writer; among his best known works is A Social History of the Third Reich (1971). In his retirement he became the editor of the monthly Journal of the Association of Jewish Refugees. Richard Grunberger passed away in 2005.

Joseph Horovitz



Joseph Horovitz was born in 1926 in Vienna, His father Bela Horovitz was the founder of the Phaidon Verlag. His father had gone into partnership with an English publisher (Allen and Unwin) which protected the publishing house from Aryanisation. At the time of the Anschluss, Joseph Horovitz's parents were not in Austria and it was arranged that he and his sister Elly would travel first to Italy and then to Belgium, where they were met by their parents. In May 1938

he arrived with his father in London. Soon after, he was sent to the Regent's Park School, a private boarding school for refugee children, run by Dr. Bruno and Alma Schindler. During the war the family moved to Oxford and loseph Horovitz first went to the evacuated UCS school and then to the City of Oxford High School. He studied music and languages at New College, Oxford and at the Roval College of Music. Called up for war work in 1944, he delivered music appreciation lectures to the British Forces. His first post was as Music Director of the Old Vic. in Bristol in 1949. He became a distinguished composer and has received many awards for his works. including ballets, concertos, vocal and dramatic music. film scores and works for brass bands. His most popular works include Captain Noah and his Floating Zoo and music for the TV drama Rumpole of the Bailev. He has been Professor of Composition at the Royal College of Music since 1961. He married in 1956 and has two daughters.



Natalie Huss-Smickler

Natalie Huss-Smickler, née Natalie Huss, was born in 1912 in Vienna. Her father owned a textile shop and she lived with her parents and two brothers in two flats above and adjacent to the shop in the 10th District. Natalie went to the Handelschule (commercial school) and worked as secretary. On the day of the Anschluss, her older brother was on business in the UK and decided not to return to Vienna. He arranged visas for Natalie Huss-Smickler and her other brother. On her train journey to Britain in 1938. Natalie Huss was saved by a group of nuns who instructed her to stay with them. She first had a very difficult job as a domestic help for a doctor's family in Kensington but then managed to find a position as a nanny with a family in Highgate, who helped to bring her parents to the UK. Her father and two brothers

were interned and her brothers were shipped to Australia on the Dunera. Both brothers died on their journey back to the UK, when their ship was torpedoed by the Japanese. After this shock, Natalie could not continue to perform manual labour and she started working as a secretary, first for a private firm and then for the Jewish Agency for Palestine. She married in 1948 and had two sons.

Stella Mann



Stella Mann, née Stella
Tuttmann, was born in 1912
in Vienna. She lived with her
parents and her sister in the
9th District. Her father worked
in the legal department of
the Singer Sewing Machine
Company. Stella Mann was
fascinated by modern dance
as a young girl and was
trained at the Staatsakademie
and at the Gertrud Krauss
School. Aged seventeen, she
started performing and

teaching dance. She opened her own dance studio and was a sought-after teacher. After the Anschluss she had to close down her school and in August 1938 was forced to scrub the pavements. Soon after, she left for Yugoslavia, where she entered a marriage of convenience. With her Yugoslav passport she secured a visa for Belgium, where she was engaged as a dancer. She survived the war in Belgium, working in a Jewish orphanage home and forced into hiding. After the liberation of Brussels, she formed the SDS dance trio with two friends and they performed for two years across Belgium and Germany, often for the Allied Forces. In 1946 she married a British soldier, whom she had met in Brussels and they settled in London, joining her sister and brother in-law. She established the Stella Mann Dance School in Hampstead, pioneering the teaching of modern dance. The school has been very successful and Stella Mann's teaching has influenced many dancers who were former pupils, across the alobe.



Elly Miller

Elly Miller, née Else Horovitz, was born in 1928 in Vienna. From an early age, she took a keen interest in the Phaidon Verlag, the publishing house founded by her father. Bela Horovitz. At the time of the Anschluss, Phaidon was part of the English publishing house Allen and Unwin. Her father thus managed to relocate the entire working press from Vienna to London. A few days after the Anschluss, Elly Miller travelled with her brother loseph and some other family members to Merano and subsequently to Belgium, where she was met by her parents. Through the help of an American uncle, her younger sister, who had stayed behind in Vienna because she did not have a passport, was also brought to Belgium. In June 1938, Elly Miller, her mother and sister joined her father and brother in the UK, where she was first sent to the Regent's Park School, a private school

for refugee children. After finishing her schooling in London, Bath and Oxford, she studied Politics. Philosophy and Economics at Oxford University. She spent six months at Oxford University Press in New York and joined Phaidon Press in 1950, in publicity and sales. She married in 1950, and started editing and designing many of the books on the Phaidon list in 1953. eventually specialising in medieval art. After the sale of Phaidon Press, together with her husband in 1968 she founded the Harvey Miller imprint, with a significant list of publications in the field of Medieval Art, highly esteemed by art historians worldwide. She has three children

Renée Mosbacher



Renée Mosbacher, *née* Renée Brainin, was born in 1929 in Vienna. Her father and his brother had a furrier shop. Renée became an orphan at the age of eight and together with her two brothers was brought up by one of her father's brothers and his wife in the 2nd District. Her uncles had opened a branch of their business in London in 1934 and during the Anschluss they happened to be in London, With their help, in December 1939 Renée Mosbacher left Vienna together with her two gunts. brothers and cousins. She first went to a local school in Paddinaton, then was sent to a boarding school in Westcliffe-on-Sea, and eventually settled with her aunt and uncle in North London. After finishing school, she went to a dress desian school and started work. She married in 1950, settled with her husband in Manchester and had two children. After her husband's death, she re-married and had two more children. She went into catering, opened a kosher deli, and also worked as a cook for a Yeshiva. She later remarried. One of her brothers returned to live in Austria after the war



Gertraud Murray

Gertraud Murray, née Gertraud Fasal, was born 1924 in Vienna, Her father worked as a travelling salesman after losing his job in a bank and her mother worked in the fur trade. They lived in the 8th District, the losefstadt. After the Anschluss the family made desperate efforts to leave Austria. Her brother managed to escape to Switzerland and she was sent on a Kindertransport to Holland in December 1938. where she was looked after by Red Cross nurses. Her mother joined her in Holland in February 1939 and the British Embassy in The Hague allowed Gertraud Murray to enter Britain with her mother, who had a domestic service visa. They had a series of domestic iobs in Bristol and the Gloucester area. In Gloucester she attended the Refugee Club, run by the Quakers From 1945 to

1947, she went to work for the translation department of the American Army in Germany, hoping to find her father and brother. She succeeded in makina contact with her brother (who in 1950 committed suicide in Viennal and found out that her father, who had escaped to France, had been deported to Drancy and killed in Auschwitz. When she came back to the UK she worked for various photography firms in Reading, Cardiff, and Plymouth, eventually being appointed to a senior position with Weight Watchers. In 1956 Gertraud Murray married a widower with one son, and the couple had another son together, moving to Lincoln in retirement.

Lili Pollock



Lili Pollock, *née* Lili Schwarz, was born in 1917 in Vienna. Her mother was a dressmaker and her father a signpost writer and the family lived in the 2nd District. After she finished school she worked in dress design and as a part-time model for a lingerie store. In autumn 1938 Lili Pollock was arrested by the Gestapo and taken to the Gestapo headquarters. She was released after a day. Her parents and her brother left Vienna and on their second attempt managed to get to Belgium. She stayed behind and with the help of non-lewish contacts helped to get people released from concentration camps. After receiving a warning that the Gestapo will arrest her, Lili Pollock crossed the border to Belgium and received a visitor visa for entry to the UK. She arrived in the UK in April 1939 and started working as a domestic help, taking care of two children. Wishing to be together with her sister, after a year they found two positions as domestics in a vicarage in Bedford. Eventually the two sisters worked in a lewish boarding house in Harrogate. After the war, Lili Pollock got married and had one daughter and together with her sister ran their own kosher boarding house in Harrogate. Her parents and brother did not survive.



Peter Pulzer

Peter Pulzer was born in 1929 in Vienna into an assimilated lewish middleclass family. His father was a civil engineer and he lived with his parents and sister in the 20th District. After the Anschluss, his father lost his iob and the family was thrown out of their flat Desperately exploring all possibilities of emigration, the family emigrated to Britain in 1939 with the help of a British clergyman in Hertfordshire. Peter Pulzer attended first a boarding school for refugee children in High Wycombe and then settled with his parents and sister in Kingston upon Thames, where his father got a job with an engineering firm (and was responsible for building the air-raid shelter in Kingston). Peter Pulzer went on to study at the University of London and read history at King's College, Cambridge. From 1957 to 1996 he taught Politics,

International Relations and Modern History at the University of Oxford and in 1984 became the Gladstone Professor of Government and a Fellow of All Souls' College. He has published many acclaimed books on European history and politics, among them The Rise of Political Anti-Semitism in Germany and Austria and German Politics 1945–1995. He married in 1962 and has two children.

John Subak-Sharpe



John Subak-Sharpe was born Herbert Subak in 1924 in Vienna. His father was a civil engineer. He lived with his family, including a younger brother, in the 3rd District. At the time of the Anschluss he was in hospital with appendicitis. When he returned to his school, the Jewish children had been separated from the other children and eventually had to move to another school.

His mother found a Jewish family to act as a augrantor for him and he was sent with his brother on a Kindertransport in January 1939. After a few months, they took him to a farm to serve as a farm pupil. With the help of his uncle's employer, he ran away from the farm and worked under better circumstances as a farmer's assistant for the next four years. In 1944 he joined the Parachute Regiment and was deployed to a POW camp in Egypt, identifying and screening the inmates of the camp. After being discharged in 1947, John Subak-Sharpe continued his interrupted education and studied Genetics at Birmingham University. He subsequently had a very distinguished career as a Professor of Virology at the University of Glasgow and as Honorary Director of the Medical Research Council Virology Unit. In 1991 John Subak-Sharpe was made a CBE. He married in 1953 and has three children. His parents were deported to Riga and did not survive.



Wolf Suschitzky

Wolf Suschitzky was born in 1912 in Vienna. His father co-owned a well-known socialist bookshop (*Brüder Suschitzky*). He was sent to boarding school to receive a communal education and studied photography until the age of twenty-three. He emigrated in 1934 and came to London in 1935 after having spent a year in Holland. He started taking

photographs of different parts of London, such as his well-known photographs of Charing Cross Road, and helped his sister, the photographer Edith Tudor-Hart, with her work. He met his Hungarian wife and they got married in 1938 and had three children. Suschitzky was strongly involved with the pioneering days of documentary filmmaking by working for Paul Rotha and the DATA film cooperative, travelling all over the UK. During his distinguished career as a photographer and cinematographer, he collaborated on more than 200 films, among them the gangster classic Get Carter (1971).

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DEUBLE EXPOSURE:

JEWISH REPUGEES FROM
AUSTRIA IN BRITAIN

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