Holocaust Awareness Museum and Education Center

Preserving History to Learn From the Past

Second Generation: Lauren Gladstone



Lauren Gladstone is a second-generation Holocaust descendant, writer researcher, and speaker whose work explores inherited memory, identity belonging, and the responsibility of carrying family history forward.

For more than 20 years, Lauren has researched the extraordinary story of her mother's family, the Katz family, prominent Dutch Old Masters art dealers whose lives and collection were profoundly altered by the Holocaust. Her mother was seven years old when Nazi Germany invaded the Netherlands and eight when the family fled. Art became intertwined with both their persecution and survival, including a remarkable transaction involving a Rembrandt that helped secure visas for 25 members of the extended family.

Lauren's research has also taken her deep into the complicated world of Nazi-looted art and restitution as her family continues its decades-long effort to recover artworks lost during the war. Her research includes family photographs, censored wartime correspondence, Nazi documents, testimony, archival records, and artifacts her family has preserved.

She is currently writing The House of Tangerines, a book that weaves together her family's Holocaust and restitution history with her own experience growing up in the next generation. Her work raises broader questions about what we inherit from our parents, who decides where we belong, and what happens to Holocaust memory as eyewitnesses are no longer here to tell their own stories.

Lauren writes and speaks about Holocaust memory, second-generation identity, Nazi-looted art and restitution, family history, and the ways personal stories can help new generations understand the consequences of exclusion and the importance of belonging.

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