Art as Testimony: The Life and Work of Esther Lurie

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Holocaust Art

- Art as Testimony
- Art as (Spiritual) Resistance
- Art as a Form of (Forced) Collaboration
- Art as a Part of a Barter System
- Art as Therapy
The Tel Aviv Ad-Lo-Yada, 1935
LIETUVOS DAILININKŲ ŽODYNAS

tomas: 1918–1944
volume: 1918–1944

Jewish Kindergarten, Libau, 1927-1928
The Ezra School, Riga, 1928
“Woman,” Ink on paper, 1938
A Brief History of the Kovna Ghetto
The Kovno Ghetto: Three Periods

- June 22 – late October 1941 – Attack and Mass Terror
- November 1941 – October 1943 – The “Stable” Period
- October 1943 – July 1944 – The Breakup of the Ghetto
Introduction by Dr. Samuel Kassow
The Holocaust by Bullets
The Lietukis Gragae Massacre
June 27, 1941
Jews move from Kovno to the ghetto in Slobodka

(Photo: United States Holocaust Memorial Musuem Archive)
Dr. Elkhanan Elkes, Head of the Kovna Ghetto Jewish Council
The Ninth Fort
The Ninth Fort Monument
“The Stable Period”
November ‘41 – October ‘43
Bearing Witness to Nazi Atrocities
Jacob Lifschitz (1903-1945)
George Kadish (1910-1997)
Ghetto Fighters' House
In Her Own Voice

https://collections.ushmm.org/search/catalog/irn44268
Women in Slavery
Leibitsch, 1944
“Our greatest hardships began when winter came, with totally insufficient clothing, we huddled together at night to keep each other warm. During the day we wrapped every rag we could find around our bodies. Our most precious possession was our blanket. We kept cutting strips off and made them into head, foot, and hand gear. It was hard to decide which part of the body felt the cold most and was in greatest need of some sort of clothing. The majority had turned their blankets into dresses and those who still owned a blanket, or part of a blanket, would call themselves rich indeed. The blankets had to serve as skirt, cape, or shawl.”
Understanding Holocaust Art

THE LIVING WITNESS
ART IN THE CONCENTRATION CAMPS AND GHETTOS

MARY S. COSTANZA
Folk Art, Outsider Art
The Watt Towers by Sabato Rodia
Liberation
Esther Lurie on her way to Palestine
On the Streets of Rome, 1945
(United States Holocaust Memorial Museum)
Jerusalem Before the Six-Day War
Jerusalem after the Six-Day War
The Western Wall Plaza
IDF Soldiers in Unified Jerusalem
Creation and Destruction

- The earth being unformed and void, with darkness over the surface of the deep and a wind from God sweeping over the water.

- In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day. All the fountains of the great deep burst apart, And the floodgates of the sky broke open.
Association of Latvian and Estonian Jews in Israel
In Memoriam
50th Anniversary for the Liberation of the Meidalakh
The Last Meeting...
Further Reading