TRAVELING EXHIBIT FACT SHEET

EL VIAJE - THE JOURNEY: Latin American Jewish Artists and Poets

Every family has made a journey to come from somewhere else into America. The journey may mean leaving behind family and friends, traditions and a culture, a job and possessions. The journey always creates a loss that is balanced with gaining something new - usually freedom and a better life. The Jewish people have faced many displacements and migrations throughout history. The turning point in this history was the migration from Spain during the Inquisition of 1492 and the arrival in the New World, where the Diaspora culture flourished over the coming centuries.

Perhaps the largest global movement of Jews today is from South America to the United States. This exhibit is very current and topical especially for communities who have large Hispanic populations. It debunks the myth that Latin Jews are Spanish or Sephardic; in fact, most are Ashkenazic.

The exhibit presents 18 Latin American Jewish artists and 15 Latin American Jewish poets who have created an interesting group of art works and poems inspired by the theme, El Viaje - The Journey. Their works are based on their own family’s journey, breaking up an earlier life and initiating new paths.

The images and writings, based on the subject, explore with metaphors and poetics, the transit and displacements of the Jew, evoking exile and desegregation, memory and loss, remembrance and recovery. The visions and voices of the artists and poets are sensitive testimonies of their own backgrounds and experiences that overlap local references of their countries, personal memories, social facts and Jewish symbolism.

Latin American artworks, considered complex and rich in imagery, have contributed to the development of the international art world scene. The participants are internationally respected Latin American Jewish artists and poets, who have earned awards and have exhibited in museums and galleries in their countries and abroad. They allow the narration of the Diaspora to add new stories, new associations and new patterns of perception in a story that is common to all families: The Journey.

Artists

• Lydia Azout
• Samy Benmayor
• Walter Goldfarb
• Jac Leirner
• Carlos Poveda
• Lihie Talmor
• Ricardo Benaim
• Luis Camnitzer
• Gerardo Goldwasser
• Becky Mayer
• Baruj Salinas
• Meyer Vaisman
• Nadia Benatar,
• Felipe Ehrenberg
• Elias Heim
• Liliana Porter
• Daniel Scheimberg
• Moico Yaker
The artists and poets represent 10 Latin countries: Mexico, Cuba, Costa Rica, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela. The source of this exhibit is the Museo Sefardí de Caracas (Sephardic Museum of Caracas), which made a limited edition of 36 prints of art works and poems to recollect the memories of the Latin American Jews. These works were first presented in the Museum of Contemporary Art Sofía Imber in Caracas, Venezuela in 1999.

This exhibit can be expanded or customized to include the stories of Latin Jewish families who have made the journey from Europe to Latin America to North America to your community.

**AVAILABILITY**

Negotiable

**CONTENT**

- 18 framed prints 25 x 19 1/2 inches with captions (5 horizontal and 13 vertical)
- 15 framed poems in English, Spanish and Hebrew with captions (horizontal)
- Ten texts panels that relate the Jewish history of the participating Latin American countries (15 x 10 to 8 1/2 x 14 inches)
- Ten header panels with the names of the countries (6 x 13 1/2 inches)
- One introductory text relating the Sephardic History (60 x 42 inches)
- All captions provided on disk
- Photographs of layout can be provided
- Photographs of art works are available
- An eight paged publication for the public available on disk: “Passport” with information of the Jewish History of the ten countries

**SPACE REQUIREMENTS**

85 linear feet

**FEES**

$4,000 for 3 months plus two-way shipping

**INSURANCE VALUE**

$65,000 evidence of insurance required

**SECURITY**

Medium

**CONTACT**

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