



And Then They Came for Me & The Promise – 1.00pm Tuesday 24 September 2019

"The stark reality struck me. It was stunning and brought tears to my eyes and those of others around me."

The Jewish Journal

'Even with its harrowing graphic details, however sparingly conveyed with slides and words, James Still's reiterations and periodic summing up, play by the rules of an illustrated study guide for youngsters.'

The New York Times

(Reviews of *And Then They Came for Me*)

Solihull School and The YIVO Institute for Jewish Research UK, are pleased to invite you and a group of your students to a unique occasion. We will host a special three-part event incorporating a performance of *And Then They Came for Me: Remembering The World of Anne Frank*, a Q&A with Eva Schloss (nee Geiringer), step-sister of Anne Frank, and an exhibition named *The Promise*.

And Then They Came for Me is a widely feted multimedia play that combines recorded interviews with Eva Schloss and fellow Holocaust survivor Ed Silverberg. A troupe of professional actors will recreate scenes from their lives as teenagers during WWII. Referenced in the beginning of her world famous diary, Ed was Anne Frank's first boyfriend. Eva and Anne were friends and lived in the same apartment building in Amsterdam. Her family were forced to split up to go into hiding and, like the Frank family, they too were betrayed. On Eva's 15th birthday, she and her family were arrested by the Nazis and later deported to Auschwitz-Birkenau. Eva and her mother survived, and her mother married Otto Frank (Anne's father) post liberation. Part oral history, part dramatic action, part remembrance, the play has been highly acclaimed by audiences and critics in productions world-wide.

The Promise tells the story of Eva's brother Heinz Geiringer, and the artistic talent he cultivated whilst in hiding. Just before he and his father were separated forever from Eva and their mother on arrival at Auschwitz, Heinz told Eva of a cache of his art that he had hidden. Heinz, the Red Cross informed her later, had died of exhaustion after a forced march from Poland to Mauthausen in Austria in April 1945. Her father, Erich, perished just three days before the war ended. Later in 1945, Eva and her mother returned to Amsterdam to retrieve Heinz's paintings, along with some 200 of his poems, which he had stashed beneath the floorboards of the attic where he and their father had been hiding. Her siblings' remarkable story, and his creativity, are the subject of *The Promise* – an exhibition brought to life with reproductions of Heinz's astonishing paintings, salvaged from obscurity by his beloved sister and mother.

The Promise will be available for viewing from 1.00 pm in our George Hill Building and the play will begin at 2.00pm on Tuesday 24 September 2019, followed by the Q&A session. The event will finish by 4.00 pm.

If you would like to reserve tickets for you and your students, please do so via the TryBooking link below:

<https://www.trybooking.co.uk/KLP>

We would very much look forward to welcoming you for the afternoon.

Yours sincerely,

Mr DEJJ Lloyd, Headmaster
Solihull School

Mr Jonathan Brent, Executive Director &
CEO YIVO UK