

6 million+ Charitable Trust presents

# **Beyond Words**

# Programme

An event for

**Holocaust Memorial Day in Kirklees** 

Thursday 25 January 2018 7.00pm

University of Huddersfield

How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before beginning to improve the world.

**Anne Frank** 







## **Beyond Words**

'There may be times when we are powerless to prevent injustice, but there must never be a time when we fail to protest."

**Elie Wiesel** 

The power of words is the theme for Holocaust Memorial Day 2018 and focuses on the impact that words had during the Holocaust and subsequent genocides, through propaganda used to incite, slogans written in resistance, and memoirs written to record and respond to what was going on.

Nazis deliberately used words and images in newspapers, films and school text books to build and reinforce negative stereotypes of the Jews and other groups to whip up negative feelings and ideologies. In the years building up to the Genocide in Rwanda, propaganda was disseminated via the radio, with broadcasters referring to the Tutsis as 'cockroaches'.

We cannot be complacent today. Social media enable words to travel faster and further than ever before; they can be powerfully used to unite people to achieve positive goals but can also be used to breed prejudice, to intimidate and harass people.

Bombarded with information and relentless social media, we may find ourselves filtering out what we do not want to hear and are in danger of listening only to what we want to hear - words which can reinforce our own prejudices. Are we equipped to recognise and respond adequately to propaganda? Will our words be backed up by action?Our EU partners from Italy, Poland and Serbia, together with local groups and schools have been exploring how we use imagery, music and physical performance to respond to testimonies, shared histories and propaganda.

Sometimes the power of our creative response is beyond words. What we see, experience and imagine empowers us to take action.

### **Evening Programme**

#### 1. The arrival of The Weeping Sisters Procession

#### 2. Song: Unser Shtetl Brent

Sung by Ilona Krawczyk

#### 3. Beyond Words Performance

This is a continuous performance without introduction

- i) The trouble with labels part 1
   Batley Girl's High School with Iby Knill
- ii) We are determined to remain visible Participants in the EU Every Button Counts project from Italy, Serbia, Poland and the UK
- iii) The trouble with labels part 2
  Batley Girl's High school with Iby Knill

#### 4. The lighting of candles of remembrance

Led by the Mayor of Kirklees, Cllr Christine Iredale and Iby Knill

#### 5. El Male Rachamim

Jewish Song of Mourning, sung by Rudi Leavor, followed by a minute of silence

No applause please

#### 6. Closing words

Please light a candle of remembrance if you would like to, and take time to look at the exhibition "A Glimpse" prepared by participants in the EU Remembrance Project.

Refreshments will be available at the end of the event.

### **The Weeping Sisters**

In 2016, professional artists commissioned by 6 million-Charitable Trust and funded by Creative Scene, worked with community groups to create two large scale puppets of Weeping Sisters, representing the common experiences of women in different genocides. Creative Scene's Mothers and Daughters Group in Dewsbury created the figure of a Jewish woman from the Lublin ghetto in Poland. Members of the Hilal Bosnian Cultural Association in Batley made the figure of a Muslim woman from Srebrenica, one of the mothers weeping over the murder of more than 8000 men and boys in 1995.



This year, the figures of a Roma woman from Lublin and a Kurdish woman from Halabja have been created by Roma and Kurdish participants with friends and supporters, remembering the Roma Holocaust and the gas attack in Halabja. Funding from Creative Scene and the West Yorkshire Police Commissioner's Fund has made this possible.

The costumes of the 12 foot figures relate to the textile traditions of each country of origin. Each puppet and each mini performance exists in its own right, and will be available for specific occasions like the commemorations of Srebrenica and Halabja as well as exploring the history of each genocide and its relationship to current issues and situations. The Trust is concerned to relate all experiences to current world events and open up discussions about gender discrimination, racism and hate crime.



### **Jewish Song of Mourning**

Translated from Hebrew



God full of compassion whose presence is over us all, Grant perfect shelter of your presence to the six million souls whom we mourn today, who have gone to their everlasting home from Treblinka, Bergen-Belsen, Dachau and Auschwitz.

Master of mercy, cover them in the shelter of Your wings forever And bind their souls into the gathering of life.

It is the Lord who is their heritage.

May they be at peace in their place of rest. Amen

### **Batley Girls' High School**

The word **OTHER** contains the letters for hero.

We look for the best in others and remember those who hid Jews during WW2.

Hiding neighbours who are called "enemy"

Eternally loyal to friends of a different faith

Resisting prejudice and victimisation

Outstanding courage in the face of death

We remember those who were not rescued

We remember those who were Jewish and not Jewish

We remember those who survived and share their experience to teach people to welcome **others** 

We look for the best in other people









### **Every Button Counts**

EU funded Citizens for Europe Project with participants from Italy, Poland, Serbia and the UK



Artists and volunteers from 6 million+ Charitable Trust visited partners from Lublin in Poland, Reggio Emilia in Italy and Subotica in Serbia earlier this year as part of an EU Citizens for Europe project. A wide range of participants from differing cultural and social backgrounds have been discussing why it is important to remember periods of history such as the Holocaust. Connections with current events worldwide have been made, particularly the refugee crisis. Stories and reflections from all four countries are at the heart of this event.

As the lead partner, 6 million+ involved everyone in a range of creative activities to encourage people to offer an emotional, imaginative and intellectual response to the received material from survivors and refugees in each location.

Each of the partners has spent time working on film, audio, art pieces, music, writing and an installation to share at this evening's event, creating a group response.

The partners will carry on working together to create an online document that challenges people to consider if we are doing enough to prevent genocide, nationally and internationally. It will, of course, be an imaginative, animated resource, packed with imaginative ideas for making the world a better place.



This is my grandfather, also called Miloš. He was a prisoner of war during the Second World War, taken to a Siberian camp by the Russians. Four years later, after the war, he came back home... on foot. He had long hair and a long beard. No one recognised him. They thought he was dead.

Image: Len Grant

### Our partners and the work they do

### **ISTORECO**

Istituto per la storia della Resistenza e della società contemporanea *Reggio Emilia, Italy* 

Chiara, Dzvina, Maurizio and Damiano represent ISTORECO. The Institute is responsible for the protection and promotion of the heritage and archive of the Resistance movement. They promote historical research and educational and outreach activities related to history and contemporary issues in Reggio Emilia. The Institute is particularly committed to acts of remembrance, international exchanges and anti-racist initiatives aimed at young people.



### Stowarzyszenie Studnia Pamiçi

(Well of Memory Association)

Lublin, Poland

Szymon, Kate, Natalia and Patrycja are representing The Well of Memory Association, Lublin. The association organises educational trips to memorial sites in Poland, Germany and Ukraine as well as conferences, seminars, lectures and exhibitions.

In particular, the association delivers educational tours of Lublin, drawing attention to monuments and sites connected with Jewish history and heritage. Anniversaries and events connected with the Holocaust are commemorated.

# LDA Subotica with ECR: Roma Education Centre

Subotica, Serbia

Filip represents The Local Democracy Agency which was established in 1993 to facilitate dialogue in multicultural local communities and promote EU standards of good local governance.

LDA Subotica's main tasks include: development of local democracy and participation, promotion of EU integration at a local level, regional cooperation, respect for human and minority rights and intercultural dialogue and understanding.

Nada and Stefan represent the Roma Education Centre of Subotica. The mission of the centre is to fully integrate Roma people into the city's society. Acting as a mediator between Roma people and the educational system, ECR believes that playing a full part in all areas of governance and community depends on people having access to education. Consequently, all children are encouraged to attend school and the centre has five pedagogical assistants working in school classrooms.

'Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world."

Margaret Mead, cultural anthropologist

### 9pm Concert at St Paul's Hall



### Pavel Haas (1899–1944) String Quartet No. 3, Opus 15 (1938)

- I Allegro moderato.
- Il Lento ma non troppo e pocorubato.
- III Thema con variazioni e fuga. Con moto.

Pavel Haas developed his expressive musical language through studies at Brno with Leoš Janáček (1854–1928), whose influence can be heard through the composer's use of Moravian folk melodies. Under the German occupation of his homeland, Haas struggled to

maintain a career as a musician; neither he nor his wife were allowed to work, and performances of his music were forbidden. Nevertheless, he continued to compose, writing some of his most expressive work in the last years of his life. Haas's music reflects not only his involvement with folk music, but also his Jewish heritage (through the incorporation of melodic material from Jewish chant), and his interest in jazz. Haas was imprisoned at the concentration camp at Terezin from 1941, and was killed at Auschwitz in 1944.

#### **Meiningen Quartet**

David Milsom violin
Bianca Blezard violin
Jeremy Perkins viola
George Kennaway cello

The Meiningen Ensemble explores a range of approaches to performance practice in its exploration of music of the past, to demonstrate the wealth and diversity of the experiences of its players, as well as the fascinating and varied performing practice landscape of the twenty first century.

This performance has been financially supported by the Department of Music and Drama at the University of Huddersfield.

**6 million+ Charitable Trust** would like to thank the following organisations and individuals who have contributed to the programme of events for 2018

#### **EU participants in Every Button Counts:**

Italy: Dzvina Gladun, Maurizio Colamonici, Giulia Bizzarri, Chiara Torcianti, Damiano Cabassi and more participants in Reggio Emilia

**Serbia:** Filip Budanovič, Dušica Vojni Kortmiš, Nada Dimovič, Stevan Nikolic and more participants in Subotica

**Poland:** Szymon Kasprowicz, Natalia Wajda, Assef Salloom, Kate Bednarz, Patrycja Kuzioła and more participants in Lublin

**UK participants in Every Button Counts:**Raf Stainsbury, Joanne Hardcastle,
Madeleine Wright, Mandeep Samra,
Naomi Parker, Parveen Butt

The University of Huddersfield: Drama and Music staff, students, Marketing, Estates, Events Team, Pro Vice Chancellor's Office and the Student Union

**Creative Scene** who supported the **Weeping Sisters** project

Naomi Parker, textile artist and Adam Strickson, mask artist

**Weeping Sisters participants** at workshops in Huddersfield and Dewsbury

Jasmina for hospitality during the workshops

Med One Restaurant New North Road Methodist Church Huddersfield Quakers

Staff and students from:

Batley Girls High School

Old Bank JI & N School, Mirfield

Iby Knill

Slick Stick Sambastic

Ben Spatz, Ilona Krawczyk and Sióbhán Harrison Arian Sadr, tonbak player Edina Jaganjac, accordion player Stevan Nikolic, violin

Rudi Leavor

The Mayor's Office
The Grove Pub, Huddersfield

Holocaust Survivor's Friendship Association Malcolm Johnson, photographer West Yorkshire Police David Andrassy, filming

West Yorkshire Police & Crime Commissioner's Fund who funded the Weeping Sisters project

Satellite Arts





















