

LOVE HATE

and

HEALING

Email responses from *Dancing Auschwitz*

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Background

In June 2009, I, together with my father, my four children and niece, travelled to Poland, The Czech Republic and Germany to retrace my parents' past.

This trip gave birth to my project, *Dancing Auschwitz*, a multi-part installation, comprising three video clips, a large photographic image, my father, as 'living art' and three trays containing email responses to the video clips, grouped into Love, Hate and Healing.

The three video clips include a contemporary performance dance, old video footage, and a documentary. The contemporary dance and documentary videos were filmed during our recent family trip to Europe, while the old video footage is from a family home-movie from my childhood.

The contemporary dance video, *I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz. Part 1*, portrays my family of three generations, dancing awkwardly to the pop song *I will survive*, at concentration camps and other traumatic sites from my parents' past. The dance expresses a celebration of life, but also evokes absence, loss and mourning. I selected the song *I will Survive*, by Gloria Gaynor, as it references the struggle of minorities - blacks, women, gays or Jews.

The old family movie, *I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz. Part 2*, portrays my parents and their friends, all Holocaust survivors, together with me as a little girl, dancing freely in a forest outside Melbourne. This footage illustrates how both dancing, and my parents' attitude to life, have been interwoven into my own life. Growing up, I was always present while my parents danced. As an adult, it seemed a natural process to merge these two influences that have shaped my life - that of my parents' story and that of dance - hence the project, *Dancing Auschwitz*. The footage is accompanied by Leonard Cohen's song *Dance Me To the End of Love*. It was chosen not only for its poetic and poignant nature, but also because it references the Jewish orchestra at Auschwitz that had to play while new arrivals were marched to the gas chambers.

The documentary video, *I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz. Part 3*, reveals snippets of our visits to several sites where my father re-enacts the past, triggering repressed memories to be brought to the surface. While on a cattle wagon, my father reenacts the memory of his journey to Auschwitz, sixty-five years earlier, and appears to enter a trance-like state. The documentary also touches on my own personal thoughts and struggles on being Jewish.

The photographic image was inspired by the philosopher, Theodor Adorno, who declared that *Art must go on even after Auschwitz*. Its message is a hope

for humanity to continue its struggle with the self - including what Auschwitz symbolises - the continuing dark horrors of our world.

Dancing Auschwitz was driven by my desire to create a fresh response to the Holocaust. I felt that people, especially the young, were becoming desensitised to both its story and its images. I wanted to wake up the world to

the important lessons genocide teaches us and highlight the danger and consequence of collective prejudice and intolerance.

When questioned about the appropriateness of the work, my father replied: *The dancing was very important because today we are alive. We survived. We were dancing to the song of survival. We also prayed for the dead at the camps before we danced.*

My mother's response was: *We came from the ashes, now we dance.*

In January, 2010, I uploaded *I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz. Part 1* to YouTube. In June I removed the quotation marks around the title. A week later the clip went viral, receiving nearly 700,000 hits in ten days. It was then removed from YouTube due to a copyright infringement.

The world's reaction to the video clip has been overwhelming. Initially Neo Nazis and White Supremacist Groups from Hungary, The Netherlands, Russia and the United States responded with a wave of hate-mail. Many also disapproved, and thought it trivialised the victims' suffering at the hands of the Nazis as well as breaking a taboo of dancing at a sacred site. However, many more throughout the world sent messages of love and support.

But most surprising and touching were those who had been carrying the emotional weight of the past. The video clip allowed them to laugh, cry and ultimately experience a deep sense of healing.

The flood of email responses to *Dancing Auschwitz* reveals a diversity of world thought and perception. The following pages are a selection of these emails, arranged into groups of Love, Hate and Healing.



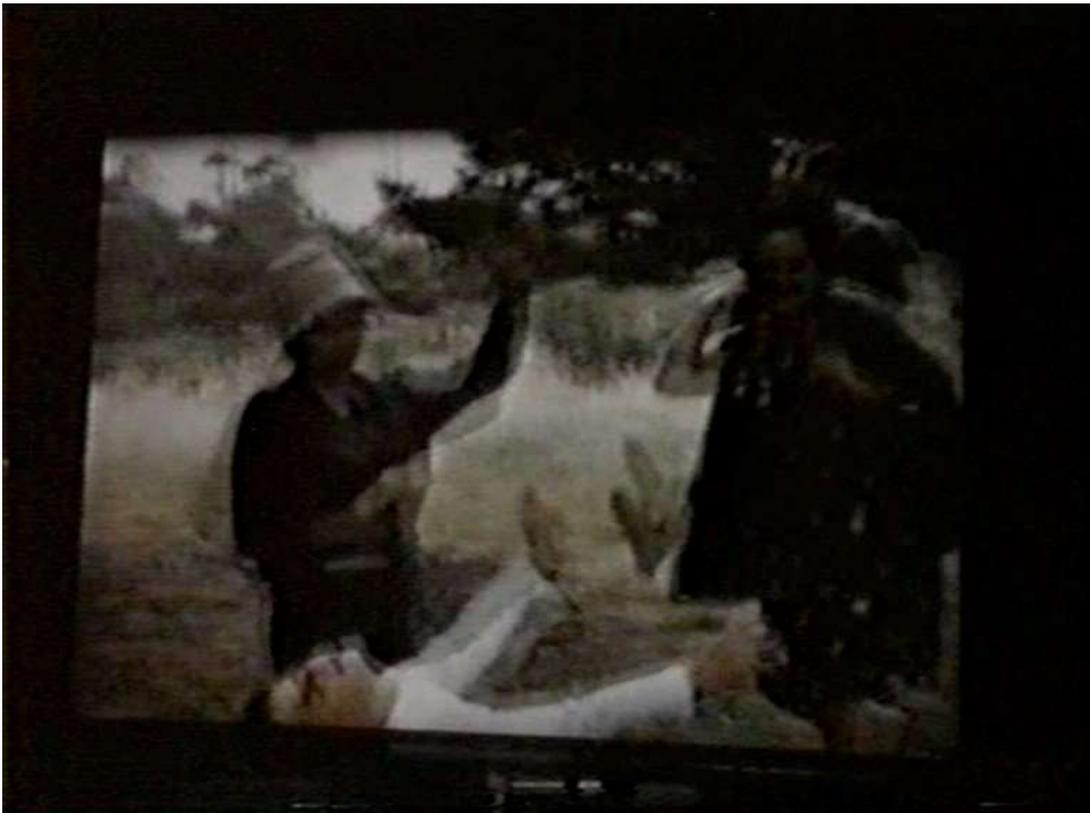
Thoughts behind the making of *Dancing Auschwitz*



...you don't really look Jewish...



Absent family



Stills from the old family footage: Dancing with my parents and their friends - all survivors - in a forest outside Melbourne in the early 1960's.



Reciting Kaddish, (prayer for the dead) at Auschwitz before we danced. Centre: Gil, Adolek, Coby



Gil, Jane, Justine, Adolek, Yasmin, Sunny and Coby at Auschwitz Concentration Camp



Celebrating the power of life at the entrance to Auschwitz



Please ma'am, could you tell us where we're going? Adolek re-enacting the memory of his three-day journey in a similar cattle wagon, heading to Auschwitz, 65 years earlier.



Art Must Go On Even After Auschwitz. A quote by the philosopher, Theodor Adorno
Standing on the railway tracks at Auschwitz. L-R. Justine, Sunny, Coby, Adolek, Yasmin, Gil, Jane

LOVE & SUPPORT mail

*For the first time,
I have viewed Auschwitz with tears of joy, along with the tears of sorrow.
The sorrow will never leave any of us, no doubt... but to see
your father, with the family he was able to create... to bring
them there, to that place,
To dance on the grave of
atrocities, and to be the victor...
well that says it all, doesn't it?*

*Your art piece which included your family dancing both at Auschwitz and in the
forest moved me beyond my imagining. I laughed, I cried
and have spent my entire morning watching those videos over and over again.
I felt mesmerized, cracked open, and what surprised me the very most
- hopeful -
- and not in any Obamakin, Pollyanna sort of way.
I have believed for a very long time that there are two kinds of people - dancers
and others.*

Either you dance with life or you don't.

17.7.10

George Vreeland Hill
Keep dancing.

GeorgeVreelandHill has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part2:
He is loving life.
And he is still doing so.
Those who can't celebrate with him today smile from Heaven. Love
you.

George Vreeland Hill

Maybe he knew my dad in Lodz or Auschwitz. Mine died at 57, may yours live to 120.

17.7.10

jroses445@gmail.com

dear ms korman,
fantastic videos!i applaud all of you,especially your dad,nothing is more upsetting to fascists
& dictators the world over than humor,happiness & joy!i vote we All keep confronting these
people for ever!(especially if we can make light of their oh-so-serious-i'm-so-important-i'm-
agod attitudes!) my quebecois great-grandmother was jewish,one of my italian(hell-
raising)uncles was Partigiano(partisan resistance)when he was just a teen in fascist italy,"they

can take our lives, but they cannot take the Meaning of our lives -
"happiness, freedom, love, friendship, health, & most important of all, the freedom to be
oneself! keep on rockin' !
P.s. you might be very interested in satirical artist
Mordillo, love, support & respect, patty.

18.7.10

Penny Missirlian

It made me happy! I am not Jewish, but love Israel and the Jewish people, for who they are
and how strong they are. Thanks for being so creative!

17.7.10

rmns13@aol.com

Ma'am,

Usually I could not be bothered to write to any artist about anything. Your video of
your family dancing in a death camp is the exception.

I fully support you! I think it is wonderful! I have been to Dachau, not Auschwitz, and
understand the difference, of course. That being said I applaud this video and your
father for participating in it! To be honest I watched it and your family video and am
still fighting back tears. THIS IS THE ABSOLUTE ESSENCE OF LIFE, OF JOY, OF
LOVE!!!!

People were put to death, people died, people were massacred...SURVIVING
SHOULD BE OVERWHELMINGLY JOYOUS!!! Celebrating life and celebrating life
for those who died is beautiful. Life is beautiful. Life is wonderful. I found NOTHING
disrespectful.

I am Catholic from the U.S., not Jewish. If I made this video I would be ashamed and
rightly criticized. However, whatever people say about your motives...who cares!
Your father should be able to do as he wishes...he survived it, most of them
(criticizing today) were not even born.

Music, dance, art....they mean NOTHING if they do not bring joy....and a bit of
reflection. This project does that. THANK YOU!

Good Luck. And, God Bless your father! Make another statement (seriously)you
should video tape him peeing on the graves of Nazi's too. He deserves to thumb his
nose at them.

Joe D.

17.7.10

kgbagent1@web.de

Dear Mrs Korman,

I am aware of the fact that you are getting lots of responses regarding the video you have made with your father and your children in Auschwitz and other concentration camps but I hope you will find some time to answer my e-mail.

I for myself, I understand the intention behind your video, I know that it is a celebration of life and I approve it, in my opinion it was a wonderful idea but I am wondering why you have chosen Auschwitz and other KZs as the background for your clip because there are many Holocaust survivors who have seen so many cruel things there, they have seen their parents dying, their brothers and sisters and their friends so that dancing in such places is unberable for them emotionally. Why haven't you chosen for example the Luitpoldhain in Nuernberg, the intention would have been the same: Where National Socialists used to march up in the 30s and 40s of the past century there are Jews dancing nowadays, celebrating life, showing that the Jewish people exists despite the Shoah and that it will also exist in the future, enjoying life, dancing and laughing.

The feelings of other survivors wouldn't have been hurt and your massege would have been clear nevertheless.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully
Michael N.

18.7.10
SramanaJah

Thanks

I thank you so much - the Video from Auschwitz is the best idea to laugh about the devil !
And Grandpa laughs so beautiful!

(My english is very bad ;) - I hope the words right so)

God bless you & your family!!

18.7.10
jeffface@aol.com
Dear Ms. Korman,

I presume that by now you already know that your Dancing Auschwitz is a headline article on America Online today.

A very dear friend of mine and his brother spent their teenage years in Auschwitz. I first met him when I was about 5 or 6 years old in about 1950. They both had already immigrated to the United States, and were both working as barbers around the corner from my home in Newark, New Jersey. He became my barber just after my bar mitzvah, after I had moved and he opened a barber shop around the corner from my new home. He remained my barber for 23 years, until he retired.

I knew that he and his brother had been in a concentration camp because of the numbers tattooed on their arms, but, although we discussed many other things in those 23 years, we never discussed that. It just wasn't a topic of conversation that

came up in the barbershop. Then I visited him at his retirement home in Florida, and I asked him about his concentration camp experience. He told me he had been in Auschwitz. I said "Auschwitz? But that was a death camp. How did you survive?" He answered "I don't know; I just did." We had a discussion that day about some of his experiences.

Which gets me to the purpose of this email If a holocaust survivor has made it to age 89, I see nothing wrong with him celebrating by dancing at Auschwitz. It sends a message to those who would have wanted his life to end there, as well as to others who would support or commend them today. If his children and grandchildren join him in the celebration, so much the better. That just puts an exclamation point on it. If the survivor's daughter just happens to be an artist who creates a video of the celebration that is seen all over the world, that's just like a shout of hooray that goes around the world.

Good work!

Jeff Golden

18.7.10 www.peggyweis.com

Dear Jane: I am a child of a survivor whose grandparents perished at Auschwitz and also an artist.

Humor and joy were the way many survived. I salute you and celebrate with you and your family. Invite me as a friend on facebook so I can follow your creations....

16.7.10

joannr@ix.netcom.com

Dear Jane,

I just wanted to write and let you know that your art piece which included your family dancing both at Auschwitz and in the forest moved me beyond my imagining.

Trite to say I know, but I laughed, I cried and have spent my entire morning watching those videos over and over again. I felt mesmerized, cracked open, and what surprised me the very most - hopeful - and not in any Obamakin, pollyanna sort of way lol.

I have believed for a very long time that there are two kinds of people - dancers and others.

Either you dance with life or you don't.

I don't always dance and am more grateful than I am able to express for the reminder that came to me from your art and videos today.

Best to you and your family,

Jo Ann Rayfield
3408 NE 92nd Ave.
Portland, OR, US

Facebook

David Gary Wright July 18, 2010

Dear Ms. Korman,

I wanted to convey my support for your "I Will Survive" video, as I think it is a really wonderful tribute! Your video is a beautiful celebration of life and survival!

As a teen, I learned of the Holocaust and I was sickened and disturbed by it, and I still am after 40 years. Your father is lucky to have survived and lucky to have such a great family!

Peace,
David Wright

Facebook
July 18, 2010 at 5:29pm

Just for your information, today the Jerusalem post wrote an article about your controversial video "Dancing Aushwitz". I actually watched the video for the first time and it was interesting.... Your father is a brave man making a journey back to these horrible places... I salute him for that. He was lucky to return together with you and his grandchildren.... I do agree that the survivors have a reason to celebrate life.... my father feels that way every moment of his life.... it is not something that he has ever taken for granted....

Having said that, I can understand the discomfort one feels watching you and your family dancing at these sights.

Dash from Israel,
Jeanette Gory

Facebook
Bill Erickson July 19, 2010

Some many things and thanks to offer to you; accept this hug over facebook as a small token! Luck and fortune, though breed from insight or intelligence, is still a hit or miss- and, thank GOD, you have a hit!!!

Since the glitch with facebook, and Fame copyright ruining the next step in art, would you be so kind as to send me a file, Bill@BillErickson.org, or mail a DVD copy, Bill Erickson, 1730 North Natoma Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60707-3916.

I would love to offer a donation to the proper organization or pay for the post and DVD.

Please stay a 'facebook friend', stay strong and stay in-contact.

If you need a place to stay or a guide while in Chicago on your speaking tour let my wife, Lee@LeeLatham.com or me know... !!!

This video is simultaneously awful and fantastic.

<http://www.youtube.com/user/nweiffen11>

2 days ago

Its so great! I am just_ crying. Thank you very much for the excellent video, the dance and the idea. I was born in Belarus, there are many people who suffered from fascism. WWII was a long time ago, but the memory still lives and thats right.

Thank you and your grandfather!

It's lucky though that the Jewish people never faced their enemies in a dance-battle!

@oiisee

I think that is important not to answer these comments of nazis, it is necessary to ignore_ them. They wait for our reaction, and it is necessary to ignore, not to enter them dialogue. Yes, anti-Semitism_ the world phenomenon.

@oiisee

I absolutly agree with you to respect all the nations as they are,and i know that many russians were killed in the war,and i'm deaply sorry for_ any nation to feal what is war,but unfortunatly i saw only russians were cometing this video with antesimitic replays and it is shame and sad to read it how low they can write and think,i didn"t see any english antisemitic comment on this clip.

I said, that video is the absolute victory The_ Life over death. One Man. 4 young boys & girls. It's amazing.

Why strange people to make account here & and say full shit here? Have they little penises?

That's a really cool video. In fact it's quite_ touching...

(Just for footnote: that thing with the graffiti and Palestine is NOT so simple...)
Anyway I wish long and happy life for you all - especially your grandfather.

the "i will survive" video is awesome its really touch my heart.. your grandfather is a very stong man i hope for you and for_ your famliy all the good things in this world.. thanks you for the video.. peace and love

Thank you! It's great!
I'm crying.

<http://www.youtube.com/user/bobgold1234>
7 hours ago

Am Yisrael Chai! ;o) This video is so amazing: life affirming, inspiring, touching, charming, and just damn brilliant! ;o)_ Thank you to you, a beautiful and strong Jewish family, for making this and sharing it with all of us. kol ha'kavod v'yasher koach! :o)
kokajani

ARZENUZionist 2 hours ago @hevt74

Engem egyáltalán nem zavar a nemzeti zene, engem az ostoba nácizmus zavar. Én magam is néha hallgatok valami magyar zenét...kuruc dalt stb...

És mi zsidók sokkal jobban szeretjük az állatokat mint a magyarok. Izraelben majdnem_ mindenkinnek van macskája. Mi Isten teremtményeinek tartjuk őket, ezért megbecsüljük őket. Fel tudnék hozni 100 esetet amikor magyarok kínoztak állatokat. Ezzel szemben te meg egy emberileg szar alakot hozol fel ellenem?

(*Translation:* It does not bother me at all in the national music and me the stupid Nazi dysfunction. I do sometimes listen to some music ... Kuruc Hungarian songs, etc. ...Jews and we love the animals are much better than the Hungarians. Israel, almost everyone has a cat. What we are God's creatures, so we predict them. It could be 100 cases where the Hungarians were tortured animals. In contrast, a human you're a shit you bring against me?) hevt74 2 hours ago @ARZENUZionist

De ő is bele van örülve ebbe a furcsa magatartásmódba, ami valljuk be azért elég szélsőséges kereteket kezd ölteni._ Én Katolikus keresztényként a megbocsájtás híve vagyok, de már néha én is bedurranok. Amúgy pedig életembe nem bántottam senkit, azért mert zsidó, mégis lenáciznak. Mert már unom, egyszerűen meguntam, másról sincs szó sehol csak erről. Pedig az én életem is teli van, keserűbbnél keserűbb fejezetekkel hidd el, mégse csinállok videóklippet, ebből kifolyólag hevt74 2 hours ago

(*Translation:* materialize. I am a Catholic Christian I believe forgiveness is but sometimes I have bedurranok. Anyway, while I've never hurt anyone, because a Jew, but lenáciznak. Because I'm tired, just tired, just about anywhere else is not. But my life is full of, bitter chapters keserűbbnél believe me, yet I do music videos).

Hawthaa

2 days ago

That's a really cool video. In fact it's quite_ touching...

(Just for footnote: that thing with the graffiti and Palestine is NOT so simple...)

Anyway I wish long and happy life for you all - especially your grandfather.

· Hawthaa

2 days ago

part1

As_ for the graffiti, well, I can't speak for the whole Europe, I know only Hungary. People here are envy of Jews getting compensation for their sufferings, because no one got any compensation for sufferings caused by the communists. And considerably more of the communists were Jew then statistically should have been.

· Hawthaa

2 days ago

part2

What's even more: no communist_ were ever brought to the courtroom because of his sins – not the interrogators, nor the officers of the death camps, nor the judges giving death penalties for innocent people... not any of them... They are living peacefully on their pensions usually much higher than their surviving victim's. Nice, huh? @Hawthaa

Reply from Jane: Thank you for your reply. What you wrote is very interesting. I don't know much about communism or facism. why do you think this video humiliated the facists more then anyone ever did? Are you a Jew?

Best wishes to you too.

· Hawthaa

2 days ago

part3

I think that's the cause of_ the hatred of these comments, or graffities. Hungary has dozens of unsolved issues, and the symptoms can be harsh and ugly.

But all this has nothing to do with you or your grandfather. I still think this is a great video. Somehow I feel you humiliated the fascists more with this video than anyone ever did – and that's great.

Best wishes again!

janeKorman 2

days ago

@Hothead

Reply from Jane:

Thanks alot. it's so nice getting a nice message - not a hate one. I'd also appreciate if you explained your interpretation of the grafitti. (re:'it's not that simple'). wishing you a long life too!

3.7.10

"Af tsu lokhes ale sonim Am Izrail khai!!!"

yonoray 20 hours ago @aranylaszlo

everybody knows where it is. Its in Poland. its all there. Millions of shoes, suitecases, glasses. tons of human hair. Most Jews are liars? Why, did_ you meer most of the 14.000.000 Jews in the world? You are just a stupid arrogant person and it is very clear that you are the type of person who would have been capable to do horrible things if given half the chance. you are a waste of a human being, full of hate, and its a shame humanity needs to breath the same air as you.

gilarulz

so fuck you nazzi's and have fun with your horriable life_ and that makes you hate other people. you truely deserve all the bad things in your life :)

likafrenk has replied to your comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz: @janeKorman

Russian! But so many antisemitic posts in Russian. There are many not-antisemitic, but ... Even it is a shame to me with Russian! But this video remarkable, strong and at the same time

shocking and provocative. A true art! Thanks! This new word in preservation of memory of the Holocaust! Thanks!

tabea0 has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz:

Wir sind mit Euch, Шма Исраэль!.

We are with you, Shma Yisroal

valeryaf has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz:

Thank you! It's great!

I'm crying.

Benjamin Gelber

July 11, 2010 at 3:24am

Hi Jane,

I happened to take a peek at Ha'aretz and caught the story today. Your family video was quite touching, precisely because it was not glitzy but deeply personal, as your father celebrates life with his grandchildren 65+ years after the Holocaust was supposed to mark the end. Music in itself offers a visceral layer to our lives, perhaps why I formed a group to play a dozen traditional melodies recently at an assisted living center in Ohio (a few clips are in YouTube "links").

Best wishes to you and your beautiful family!

Ben Gelber

Reply from Jane:

Hi Ben,

Thanks so much for your comments and wishes! You're right about music offering a 'visceral layer'...I felt a shiver when I listened to your group play Shalom Aleichem - very moving. Originally, I was thinking of using this song for Dancing Auschwitz(part2).

All the best,

Jane Korman

Benjamin Gelber

July 11, 2010 at 8:40am

Re: Hi Jane,

Best to you, Jane, and thanks again! For some reason, "Shalom Aleichem" echoes as an historic continuum, and my goal was to choose and arrange with the right instruments and pacing for that to be felt. Still a work in progress, of course, since that was really our first full performance.

(This music stuff is hard work.)

Take care,
Ben

! n0iseland 1 hour ago

this is awesome to an inexpressible extent. probably one of the most beautiful things i've seen for_ a long time. thank you so much. :)

! S4vesTheDay 5 hours ago @janekorman

this triggers so many different emotions at the same time, on the one hand, poland with all its death camps is the biggest jewish cemetery in the world and to watch people dance in those very places where not too long ago so many people were systematically murdered is somewhat upsetting,

but at the same time, a cry goes out so loud: WE'RE STILL HERE, though many of us died, our spirit lives on_ and am israel chai

! zcat18 6 hours ago

Fanstastic. As a Jew, I can see why this might be misconstrued as disrespectful, but I think that it is a beautiful tribute to survival and the will to carry on. Absolutely amazing. Your grandfather is a treasure of a human being, and you are lucky to have him to carry on the memory of the Holocaust and as a reminder of how lucky we are to have persevered.

! elan8000 8 hours ago 2

I understand why some find this distasteful. But I have to say, as the son of a mother who was the sole survivor from a family that numbered in the hundreds, I know she_ would approve and simling somewhere up there. We need to celebrate the survival of those who did, and the miracle of Israel much more than we do. We take it way too much for granted. I wish I had the opportunity to dance in the camps with the relatives I never got to know, including 7 of my mom's siblings. thank you

! lior369 8 hours ago

In today's twisted world any way is legitimate to spread what happened in the Holocaust. A lot of countries are ignoring it in their education programs.

This is one way to fight it.

The Holocaust REALLY happened and CAN happen again.

We must all be very alert and remember.

It's OUR responsibility to pass it to the next generation.

Lior, Israel.

! MelodyToast 8 hours ago

This is brilliant. Its inspirational to see a positive response to such evil. And its absolutely critical that we can prevent the criminals from destroying the future. In the end good will prevail._

! wrdana 11 hours ago

Wish my grandfather was alive to dance with us too.
Great video!

8 minutes ago if you think this video is okay, you are a bad person. it goes without saying that the dancers are anti-semites and bad people.

@tvsexdeath61

I made this video and I'm a Jew who is working hard to understand and deal with anti semitism and unjustified hatred. we are definitely not bad people. You must look carefully at the video. My dad survived Auschwitz and dances for his freedom and life!

! HarleyQuinnHarlequin 3
hours ago

I wish_ I had a Jewish grandpop! Mine were all Nazis....

Sorry, man.

! juliebork 5 hours ago @janekorman

What courage! What beauty! What brilliance! Your entire family is a perfect example of the human spirit. I wish we could defeat the evil that continues to push for the destruction of the Jews, effective TODAY!

Know this in your heart.

Despite what you hear in the news or from the evil ones posting here. The majority of Americans are supportive of_ Israel & its conservative leaders. We are you & you are us. We shall overcome the evil that destroys. Peace to you and to your family.

! alanadamson 9 hours ago @janekorman

Thanks that was lovely. Though_ I must say a large part fo teh commet stream is pretty depressing. Seems anit-Semites are a bit like cockraoches, really hard to eliminate.

dwakroki

Oh, Poland (a little bit off-topic)

Hello Jane!

I would like to point something out (hopefully, you have also come across this thought): when it comes to "the Jewish issue," Poles are extremely divided. Nothing else derives as many emotions as Jews and their actions do.

Look how many different comments from Poland your video got! Tons of haters, tons of supporters, tons of moralizers (I'm among the last ones)... Absolutely everyone has something to say.

Why? I have no single idea, but if I was to make a thesis statement here I would say "its because of our common, complicated history." Past is the key to the present. Me, for example. I'm 21 and in the span of 21 years I personally met one (yes, one!) Polish Jew. One of my great-grandparents was a Wehrmacht soldier (so, to simplify, he was "anti-Jewish"). On the other hand, one of my great-grandmothers was a Polish resistance fighter and she daily provided bread and milk to the Auschwitz prisoners (so, to simplify, she was "pro-Jewish"). Thus, as you can see, there are no simple answers since there is no personal experience, but lots and lots of historical stuff going on.

We feel like we should have something to say, however we truly have no idea on what to actually say.

Take care,

Lukas

Dear Lukasz,

Thank you for your letter - you write very beautifully and honestly. it is a pleasure to receive this letter from you. Yes, I am still fascinated with this 'Jewish issue' and how much response it creates. When I was in Poland last year, we were told: The Poles hated the Jews, they still hate the Jews today, and they will always hate the Jews.(Even though there are now almost no Jews in Poland today). so, like you say - there is a lot of historical baggage.

From a different angle - my parents also differ in their attitude to Poles - my dad was open and friendly and happy to chat with anyone in Poland, whereas my mother decided not to come with us because she still carries the pain of her neighbours' betrayal of her and her family who perished, (especially her mother whom she loved dearly).

Let's hope that there are more people like you who are aware of the difficulty of making sense of the past - and are aware of their own confused emotions. With this awareness, and without carrying judgement, hate or blame, we can make tiny steps forward.

Warm regards,

Jane

Every civilization has had its tragedies. Chinese, Aboriginals, native Americans, Aztecs, Africans, Indians, Jews, Americans, Arabs. All have suffered to similar degrees. But most

have moved on keeping memories of their past persecution yet forgiving and striving to prevent recurrence. It is extremely commendable of Korman to break free from the tradition of perpetually harbouring grievance about the holocaust. For too long a section of the world community has disproportionately influenced the narration of history, extracting extravagant (as compared to other sufferers) sympathy and browbeaten any voice urging them to forgive and move on, unlike the rest of those similarly persecuted. Hope Korman becomes the beacon that inspires more of her people to do what other cultures have done..

elicottero has posted a comment on your profile:

Dear Jane, your video is so moving, as you see it has caught in the net so many people all around the world, here we are, here we are, memory will never end

thdju has posted a comment on your profile:

Thank you for your phenomenal videos.

@TripleZ89 Your generalization is offensive. Who are you? Did you lose family in the Holocaust? I did. And I wish I could have danced with him. I am so happy he survived. I wish my family could have to but I honor and enjoy their memory not by spewing hatred at the ones who were lucky to survive, but rather by celebrating any triumph over the murders.

A bunch of armchair moralists. Easy to do from your cushy home. Some may not agree with his choice to go there and dance in celebration of survival but we have to respect it... because he is the one who survived the torture, not us.

Jenny Thomas

July 16, 2010 at 4:52am

Subject: Good for you...

If you are the same Jane Korman whose father danced at the camp then good for you. I think it was a wonderful way to pay tribute to those whose lives were lost and to show thanks for all God has blessed him with and personally it's a good way to say stick it Nazi's

ROCK ON KORMAN FAMILY!!!!

backgroundN015e has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part3:

BRAVO! This triptych is beautiful. Thank you for sharing this with us. He who laughs last... is the winner :)

tanklvhi has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part2:

I just saw the all three parts to this series. They brought me to tears, and I'm not Jewish. I started to read the comments, but I had to stop after all those hateful, ignorant "people" wrote

such horrible things. They're inhuman pigs - all of them. Scum. Just like the typical teabaggers and repukes when you call them out on their racism and hatred and they complain about the calling out of their vile hatred and not what they ARE saying NOW - I fear for my country.

clintonearlwalker has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part3:

Nice upload, thanx!! Dance away at Auschwitz!! Everyone seems to talk about and worry about dead Jews, if it were me I'd be dancing on the graves of dead Nazi's, they are the ones the lost.

furiouskitten44 has posted a comment on your profile:

I think the man is cute, he deserves to dance as well as his family. My ancestors came over long before Hitler was in existence, or I may have and many of us (if we shake our family tree hard enough) would had never came to be. So dance Adolek Kohn, dance!! Because you can!

Yuki Cather to me

2:15 AM (3 hours ago)

Dear Jane,

I just saw your video, and it made me cry..... Mazel Tov to your art work!

Yuki lightningtodd has posted a comment on your profile:

@TripleZ89

So everyone who gets the video is an ignorant kid and everyone who doesn't is some virtuous Nobel laureate? The logic you apply is completely skewed. Anyone with half a brain can see that the intent's not to 'dance on graves' or whatever tired cliché you wish to use.

What more can be said about those who perished in the Holocaust? Not much. This video is not about the dead, it's about those who survived both directly and as a result of Jewish culture persevering and flourishing since WWII. With all the pious reflection on the Holocaust, what have we learned? Nothing. That's why genocide still occurs, whether it be Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia or Sudan. Celebrating and affirming life in the face of tragedy is something that needs to occur and I salute this video's attempt to bring that about by offering a new approach to an old theme.

And of course - the fact we are talking means this video has served a function.

Laura Moore to me

8:59 AM (1 hour ago)

Dear Jane,

I wanted to tell you how touched I was by the video you made of your family dancing at the various concentration camps in Europe. I had just returned from Krakow, Poland, where I was

able to visit Auschwitz-Birkenau. It is so depressing and overwhelming, and haunts you for days. Then I happened to come across your video, and I thought, wow, good for them that they can face the horror of the Nazis and dance in celebration of life! Your father is adorable in the video! All I can say is, don't pay attention to people who condemn you. Your father and family have every right to celebrate the freedom and joy of being ALIVE. I commend you in your courage to post the video, and hope you will continue to do such brave and innovative art.

Sincerely,

Laura Moore

glawb23 has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part3:

I really enjoyed your other video - the one that caused all of the controversy. It's too bad it got removed. I found it very encouraging for all who have been suppressed or have been brought to near extinction to show how strong the human spirit can really be. I pray that it will be restored to YouTube!

mmblock87 has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz:

Wow, how insensitive people can be towards the true horrors that are of WWII and the Holocaust. It wasn't just Jews that were killed. nearly 3million Russians died to, most likely related to some of you dip shits! How about you guys try pulling your heads out of your asses and realize that hatred like the kind you are joking about almost led to the extinction of Jews, Gypsies, and other people.

Its not funny, and it is especially not funny to joke about!

Mary Hall Davis

July 16, 2010 at 5:49pm

Subject: Your video made my day!!! Great job!

Are you the same Jane Korman who made the video of your family at Auschwitz? I support you 100%. Like you said in your interview - "we came from the ashes - now we dance". Don't listen to all the haters who condemn what you did. Your grandfather was given a gift, and for him to return to Auschwitz with his family years later to give thanks for his gift is awesome. I think many of the 6,000,000 who lost their lives would have done the same if they had the chance. I'll bet God smiled when he saw your grandfather dancing - he sure made my day!

Dear Jane,

My mother is a survivor, too. She lost her entire family. Her brother died of dysentary just a few weeks before liberation. How I wish she could dance to celebrate her survival. I have never talked to her about her experiences. I was told by my father and my grandparents (her

foster parents, who took her in when she came to the U.S.) not to ask her about it. Instead, I read every book, watched every movie. Went to the first survivors' gathering in the early 1980s. It was three solid days of anguish. All day long, people standing at the open mike, asking, "Did you see my brother? Did you know my mother? He was in Belgen-Bersen, Majdanek, Birkenau, Sobibor, Treblinka..." People still wanting to believe that someone survived who had not yet been found.

For many years, I would have nightmares about numbers on my arm. I think so many people survived but were never able to fully embrace life again.

I hope your grandfather was not one of those. I hope that he was able to dance because he was able to break free of the hold of the Shoah.

I cried all the way through your video. I wish I could have been there to dance with you. I only wish you'd danced the hora and sung Am Yisroel Chai.

People always say that the Australians have a quirky way of looking at life. Yes, you certainly do, and thank you for that.

Ellen Paul
Bethesda Maryland USA

Anita Hasson
July 16, 2010 at 11:55pm
Subject: from Anita Hasson (Mantel)

hi jane
Just saw your u tube. it moved me to tears- your
Grandfather is very inspiring
Kol hakavod

love
Anita Hasson (Mantel)

Blanche Foreman Edelman
July 17, 2010 at 2:06am
Subject: Your video of the death camps and your father

I work as a volunteer at the Museum of Jewish Heritage, where every week I listen to holocaust survivors' testimonies. My reaction to your video: Joy!! Those who criticize you, just have no comprehension of what it means to survive what these people lived through.

Anaïs Regeon
July 17, 2010 at 7:26am
Subject: Dear Jane

My name is Anais. And I want to thank you. I heard about your video, and thought your father had a good sense of humour. Then I watched it, and I cried (I'm still crying now). Your children are beautiful, care free and the ultimate proof of your father's extraordinary will to survive, thrive and overcome the most adverse circumstances. This dance screams of hope, love and the power of healing. It is beautiful. Thank you.

rebeccasorani@gmail.com

Dear Ms. Korman,

A friend just sent me your Dancing at Auschwitz video. I understand that there has been some controversy surrounding your video, so I felt compelled to write and say GO YOU!!! We loved your video and think you are just brilliant. I hope you are able to shut out all of the background noise and feel proud of the incredible honor you have given to your father. God should bless you, your beautiful children and your rock-and-roll father (he should live to 120 and have so much nachas) with health and happiness and all good things.

I hope you are very well.

Shalom and Shavua tov,
Rebecca Sorani
Ramat Gan, Israel

elteescat has posted a comment on your profile:

Other people keep reposting copies of the dance back up! So I just saw it and it's the most beautiful celebration of life the world has ever seen! To think a survivor can take his descendants who almost never existed back to that horrible place and dance with joy! It's beautiful and I hope that Hitler and all his little Natzi friends are turning over in their graves!

Sherri.Anywhere@earthlink.net

Ms. Kohn,

Never have I felt so compelled to comment on a video than I do on your most beautiful video, "I will survive...Dancing Auschwitz".

I saw this for the first time a few days ago, and can't stop thinking about it. I had mixed emotions when I clicked the "view" button....I didn't know what to expect... I thought I might possibly find it offensive, or disrespectful...and I was wrong....so very very wrong.

Having lost family members to this atrocity myself, and always seeing Auschwitz in my mind and in my heart as a painful, deeply dark and depressing place that I would never want to physically go to, I thank-you for another vision.

Of course the pain is still there, and of course it is still dark and depressing, as it always will be, but your film makes room for a different perspective....it gives way to the ultimate

revenge, the ultimate celebration of endurance....and the ultimate celebration of of LIFE and living.

For the first time, I have viewed Auschwitz with tears of joy, along with the tears of sorrow. The sorrow will never leave any of us, no doubt....but to see your father, with the family he was able to create...to bring them there, to that place, to dance on the grave of atrocity, and to be the victor.....well that says it all doesn't it?

God Bless you Jane....your father, and the rest of your beautiful family.... who all stand as the testament to life.

Shalom
Sherri Cohen U.S.A.

"The Egyptian, the Babylonian, and the Persian rose, filled the planet with sound and splendor, then faded to dream-stuff and passed away; the Greek and the Roman followed; and made a vast noise, and they are gone; other people have sprung up and held their torch high for a time, but it burned out, and they sit in twilight now, or have vanished. The Jew saw them all, beat them all, and is now what he always was, exhibiting no decadence, no infirmities of age, no weakening of his parts, no slowing of his energies, no dulling of his alert and aggressive mind. All things are mortal but the Jew; all other forces pass, but he remains. What is the secret of his immortality?"

Mark Twain

Sherri.Anywhere@earthlink.net

Jane,

What a pleasant surprise to get a reply from you.

A word on the Twain quote:

Mark Twain was a notorious closet Anti-Semite, who apparently wrote that as "satire". I included it, because, like your video, which ultimately gets "the last laugh".....so do I (and "we") by my use of Twain's quote.

In this particular situation it "fits".....for in spite of Twain's Anti-Semitism, "all truth comes out in jest" so they say.....and boy oh boy, are his words truth....in spite of his not really meaning it that way.

We have all survived in one way or another....in lesser or greater ways....but we have all survived...

we have all lived to tell a tale....and our continued mere existence and thriving is proof of that.

(BTW, just as a side note, Twain's daughter Clara, ended up marrying a Jew... Otto Gabrilowitsch, a piano player. Twain's publishers were "given speedy instructions to delete "concerning the Jews" from his collected works.)

Thanks again for the response....I wish you and your family the best, and look forward to future work by you.

Shalom,
Sherri

Pablo Nepomnaschy 10:43 PM (0 minutes ago)

Jane,

Thank you for Dancing Auschwitz I cried...I laugh...I was inspired. Thank you, Pablo

http://web.me.com/janekorman/JaneKormanArt/12.Dancing_Auschwitz/12.Dancing_Auschwitz.html

Pablo A. Nepomnaschy, Ph.D
Assistant Professor
Faculty of Health Sciences
Simon Fraser University
Blusson Hall 9417
8888 University Drive,
Burnaby, B.C. V5A 1S6
mailto:pablo_nepomnaschy@sfu.ca

TheGreatBunghole16 has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part2:

Why is everyone sooooo pissed off STILL?! I mean, its not like YOU dies there. Thats a fuckedu p thing to say & I know MANY MANY people died by the hand of an evil man, but why is the jewish community pissed over dancing at Auschwitz? Seems like a win for the jewish people to me!

Lorelei posted something on your Wall and wrote:

"Jane The world fell asleep and you woke us up!! Thanks Neshikot!!!"

fuhqtoo has posted a comment on your profile:

I think the video of your father, yourself and his three grandchildren dancing is beautiful. No one should be able to tell him, or his descendants how to celebrate. He's not mourning his life, or making light of those who died there, he's celebrating that he not only survived, but he *LIVED*. The fact that he had children and grandchildren, and was able to return to these places to dance is evidence that he has lived a good and productive life. It's a show of joyful defiance, they weren't able to kill his body or his soul and I think it's wonderful.

historia

Dzień dobry Masz ładne i prawdziwe filmiki,jak byliście w Krakowie(widziłem że na rynku tak)to pewnie odwiedziliście Kazimierz-żydowskie miasto z synagogami i cmentarzami? Piękna stara dzielnica...pozdrowienia od Krakowianina mieszkającego obecnie we Francji history

You have a good day and a real nice videos as you were in Krakow (widziłem that the market anyway) you probably visited Kazimierz-Jewish city of synagogues and cemeteries? Beautiful old quarter ... greetings from Krakow currently residing in France

These are the most uplifting and encouraging videos I have seen in years. Mr. Kohn can dance any where he dang well pleases!!!! By the way I have shared the link to these videos with friends all over the net. ;-)

derekpeavey has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part3:
You can kill a man, but you can't kill what he stands for unless you first break his spirit. I salute you all, especially your father.

As I watched the videos, I imagined Lynyrd Skynyrd's "Still Unbroken" playing, imagining similar feelings were on your father's mind as he left Auschwitz all those years ago. "I've lost everything I had, but I'm not dead. At least, not yet. I'm still alone, I'm still alive, I'm still unbroken." G-d bless.

ThruOtherEyes has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part2:

I read about this on an Israeli newspaper website and saw the Dancing Auschwitz video also. I know there is some controversy but a) Thank God they survived and as someone else said b) living well is the best revenge so Well Done.

cbwong99 has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part3:

Thank you Jane for sharing with such a remarkable video. There is a saying, "The race who forgets the history and past have no future" We remember the history not because we want to extend the hatred, but we want to make sure history will not repeat itself. My father is a Chinese living under the Japanese atrocities during WWII. Mr. Kohn and other survivors of WWII are currently in their 90's. Very soon, that generation passes and we can only learn the history through history books. So, Thanks!!

Dear and respected Jane Korman

Before I saw the video I was prepared to condemn it - especially after I heard an Interview this morning with german historian and survivor Arno Lustier who strongly disregarded it.

What I automatically expected it would be (well, I had a humanistic education and am strongly affectioned to culture) was some kind of Merce Cunningham-like moderne style dance performance - very grave and of deep seriousness.

NO!

It was just joy of young people expressed in the form of american popular culture.

That rocked me.

And I understood that this was a real celebration of survival. Joy of a people that really had reached a point where the danger of being completely extinct from the earth was definitively over.

Just like people dancing in the streets of London, Paris, Moscow or New York after victory has been declared.

And it IS american popular culture that is a part of the forces that defeated Hitler. Especially in Germany (or old Europe) "culture" is sometimes only seen as Beethoven, Shakespeare, Montaigne

and Tolstoj. But "High" culture was unable to prevent or defeat Hitler.

But popular culture is an equivalent part of it. It expresses emotion in the same way as an italian opera or a russian novel.

One can see this in the growing new popular cultures like indian Bollywood. And I remember the many contributions american popular culture creators (like for example Charles Chaplin) made to the fight against the Nazis.

Yes, we are 65 years later. But I think this would have been possible even days after the defeat of the Nazis. You did it right!!!

And Your little video will open up a way into the hearts of many young people that cannot be reached by traditional style holocaust education.

Congratulations!

Maximilian Eberl

Who I am:

I am a 51-year old german, programmer and TV-screen writer, who came in contact with the question at the age of 13 when neo-nazis delivered leaflets at my school's entrance, that the whole holocaust was a lie. 'Oh, that is fine', I thought, 'so all these people have survived!' But afterwards I found out that they didn't survive. This led me to deeper digging into that matter, I studied Jewish Studies (aside with my history and politology studies) at the Heidelberg Jewish Institute and learned a lot about the 20th century history of Russia and Belarus.

Jane,

I feel compelled to email you to tell you that I think the video is wonderful, having read the many opinions saying otherwise.

One can see and feel the love and respect your children have for your father. What a grand man to have joined in the way he did, he was a delight to see.

His life is cause for celebration.

I watched with a smile and with tears, a most emotional experience for me. Thank you.

From Natalie (Ra-anana Israel)

Dear Jane,

Thank you for this video of your father dancing in Auschwitz with his grandchildren.

This is life, this is hope, this is forgiveness, this is joy, this is future of humankind ...

Jos

ThePaducahMoon has posted a comment on your profile:

Nothing shows how the human spirit can carry on better than this video. We are linking this video for all of our friends to see. Creative and inspiring.

3salamanders has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz:

That is soooo cool. Tears of joy here. What triumph!

Good on you!

Hank

Henry Greenspan

University of Michigan,

Ann Arbor

Dear Ms. Korman,

I presume that by now you already know that your Dancing Auschwitz is a headline article on America Online today.

A very dear friend of mine and his brother spent their teenage years in Auschwitz. I first met him when I was about 5 or 6 years old in about 1950. They both had already immigrated to the United States, and were both working as barbers around the corner

from my home in Newark, New Jersey. He became my barber just after my bar mitzvah, after I had moved and he opened a barber shop around the corner from my new home. He remained my barber for 23 years, until he retired.

I knew that he and his brother had been in a concentration camp because of the numbers tattooed on their arms, but, although we discussed many other things in those 23 years, we never discussed that. It just wasn't a topic of conversation that came up in the barbershop. Then I visited him at his retirement home in Florida, and I asked him about his concentration camp experience. He told me he had been in Auschwitz. I said "Auschwitz? But that was a death camp. How did you survive?" He answered "I don't know; I just did." We had a discussion that day about some of his experiences.

Which gets me to the purpose of this email If a holocaust survivor has made it to age 89, I see nothing wrong with him celebrating by dancing at Auschwitz. It sends a message to those who would have wanted his life to end there, as well as to others who would support or commend them today. If his children and grandchildren join him in the celebration, so much the better. That just puts an exclamation point on it. If the survivor's daughter just happens to be an artist who creates a video of the celebration that is seen all over the world, that's just like a shout of hooray that goes around the world.

Good work!

Jeff Golden

dormouse72 has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part2:

This is the best thing to teach to children instead of hate and stuffing black stones in their heart. Please do not stop dancing.

christian.schoepfer@sunrise.ch

Je vous écris ces quelques mots pour vous dire combien j' ai trouvé votre vidéo (I Will Survive) émouvante et justifiée. Elle est pour moi un témoignage de l' espoir qui prime par dessus tout.

Affectueuses salutations à vous ainsi qu' a votre famille.

Christian 

Leonorpel has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part3:
sumamente emocioante, como nos podemos reir bailar sobre el terror

strauss.m@wanadoo.fr

I am French psychoanalyst and first have to apologise to write in my bad english but I really want to express my gratulations for your video in Auschwitz.

One of the most genius piece of art I ever saw. Extreme joy, by the most stirring music, a song about overpassing one's private despair, switched together with the most universal image of deepest despair in civilisation, Auschwitz, making an impossible mixing that completely divides you, in a way impossible to repair. So, with very few, you crash down all Hollywood and give the most radical answer to the question of representation !

I don't know if you know the writer Imre Kertesz, and his book of conferences about Holocaust as a culture, but you really invented a form of art he calls for. And the other pieces I saw on you site prove it is not by chance. Once more, thanks to you.

Best regards,
Dr. Marc Strauss
9, rue de Villersexel, 75007 Paris
strauss.m@wanadoo.fr

Reply from Jane:
Dear Marc,

What an honour and a pleasure to receive your letter.
I certainly do know of Imre Kertesz. When I was researching the ideas and concerns behind my project I discovered his work (superficially) and saved this speech (attached), underlining the powerful parts that spoke to me. Glancing at it quickly now, I can see that it had a great influence on me and Dancing Auschwitz. And I need to read it again and more of his writing.

I am also proud that you have bothered to check out my other work. You mentioned Tadeusz Borowski's book 'This way for the gas ladies and gentleman'- I read this and did work on it. (see under 'Projects' - JEW)

With very warm regards (from Israel)
Sincerely
Jane Korman

On Sun, Jul 18, 2010 at 11:58 PM, Marc Strauss <strauss.m@wanadoo.fr> wrote:
Dear Jane,

I have to thank you once more for your quick and friendly answer. Be sure I'll follow you work with a great interest and of course, if once you pass by Paris and if you have a few minutes, I'll be happy to meet you.

On my part, I know a bit Australia because I was twice in Melbourne for conferences, in a group named Forum, with Leonardo Rodriguez, Ester Faye, Megan Williams and others, maybe you know them. I was supposed to return next year. If it occurs, no doubt, I'll tell you.

I suppose I can wish for you good holidays in Israël, with my respectful salutations to you fantastic father and to you, and warm regards,
Marc

<http://www.youtube.com/user/mlf50>

8 Auschwitz Videos mlf508

Dear Jane,

I want to thank you for what you have done to every single person that has watched any one, or all of your videos.

For anyone to say any negative comments regarding your videos, is a man who lacks heart. These videos are inspiring. If I could have gone back to Auschwitz with all or ANY one of my family members who survived the Holocaust, and could have thought of this, I would have done it in a heart beat.

Forgive the ignorant people of today's society, as they simply do not understand how incredible of a person Adolek Kohn is.

If every single Jew living today had the heart and determination as your father Adolek shows through these videos, maybe the Jewish population of today would stop acting as victims, and start acting as survivors. This video has reached every side of the planet, including my relatives in Argentina.

Your father is a true survivor, one that I, a 23 year old girl living in Canada, would be delighted to shake hands with.

Please, tell him that we all stand behind him.

To Adolek Kohn: Stay young.

To Jane Korman: Keep making these videos, don't listen to any negativity that comes your way. Let the strength of your father pour through you.

Much love from a fellow Jew, and her family.

If you have any more videos, or stories from your father that you wouldn't mind sharing please email me at: laliflamengo@gmail.com. Again, thank you.

Lali Flamengo, Canada.

Having lost family members to this atrocity myself, Auschwitz is always in my mind and in my heart as a painful, deeply dark and depressing place that I would never want to physically go to, I thank-you for another vision. Of course the pain is still there, and of course it is still dark and depressing, as it always will be, but your film makes room for a different perspective....it gives way to the ultimate revenge, the ultimate celebration of endurance....and the ultimate celebration of of LIFE and living.

For the first time, I have viewed Auschwitz with tears of joy, along with the tears of sorrow. The sorrow will never leave any of us, no doubt....but to see your father, with the family he was able to create...to bring them there, to that place, to dance on the grave of atrocity, and to be the victor.....well that says it all doesn't it?

SistahEve

Hello, your dancing video(s) touch me deeply. Despite my concern about offending people, I forwarded the link to many with these words: "Whether you find this uplifting or offensive, there is no denying its power. I can't stop crying and I can't stop watching. My apologies if my sending you this video offends you; I felt I had to share what affected me so intensely."

But the video has been yanked from every site, including yours. Is there another place we can see this essential lesson so beautifully illustrated?

thank you, Eve Diana monkeetime has made a comment on I Will Survive:

Dancing Auschwitz.Part2:

I read in a paper today that people in Germany are pissed about his video... Holy shit... I guess we shouldnt make fun of their awesome camp... Goddamnit people, nobody learned anything in the past 65 years. No more camps please, Germany and Poland. Camps are bad. Videos are fun.

dglicks1@earthlink.net

You're probably overwhelmed with emails and likely won't get to read this, but if you do, I just saw your grandfather's video---and it was so moving and wonderful I cried.

Mockery is the best revenge.

My family emigrated to the Boston, Massachusetts area to escape the pogroms in the early 20th century, and although I'm not of the Holocaust generation, the fact that your video has inspired so many young people is great. When your family danced, my family was there dancing with you.

You've done a mitzvah, and don't pay the critics any mind.

Don Glickstein

Seattle, Wash. USA

Denise Shucker

July 19, 2010 at 9:11pm

Subject: Sunday Newspaper The Mail

Hey Jane randomly got the Sunday Newspaper the Sunday mail and there was an article about you! Did you know about this? I could scan and email it to you, it was so cool seeing and shouting out I know HER!! woo hoo your a celebrity. Love it Hope your well xx

abelvv has posted a comment on your profile:

CONGRATULATIONS!

We celebrate your "stay alive" day...!!!

We cried about our history, but we need smile when we are "stay alive"

Cynthia Thiessen <thiessencyn@yahoo.com>Jane:

Just another human thanking you for your incredible installation on Dancing Auschwitz. I've watched Part 2 (in context) obsessively for the last few weeks: it is spirit-restoring. Here's from a blog on Leonard Cohen's song:

"I've always interpreted this as a paean to the indomitable human spirit -- capable of arcing upward towards beauty, even in the presence of unspeakable evil and horror.

Remember, also, that Leonard has often envisioned the act of love as a heroic act of resistance against oppression, and love itself as a riposte against despair -- in this context, then, to bravely and fully submit oneself to this sacramental act in a fallen world of dissolution and darkness might be analogous to playing music in a string quartet in a seemingly god-forsaken landscape peopled by monstrous oppressors -- the soul continues to proclaim "I Am!" even against all evidence, even against all hope."

The "string quartet" you have reinterpreted is authentic and powerful.

Your friend,

Cynthia

Dear Cynthia,

It is a pleasure to read your letter. I'm happy that you have paid attention to, and appreciate Part 2, which many people miss. I believe Part 2 gives the project its power and poetry. I only discovered after I had finished the project that Leonard Cohen wrote this song in memory of the orchestra at Auschwitz - and even without knowing it had that poignancy that perfectly suited the work (as does the comment from the blog.)

I have a question - I could not obtain copyright for 'Dance me to the end of love' - I tried to request a licence to use the song, (which SONY/ATV MUSIC PUBLISHING owns), but was unsuccessful. Do you know of any way I could possibly contact Leonard Cohen - maybe he might possibly allow me to use it in Dancing Auschwitz!!! (otherwise I'm sure youtube will remove it as they removed 'I will survive: Dancing Auschwitz, Part 1').

Anyway, this is just a thought.

With warm regards, and thank you again,

Jane Korman

NStein2342@aol.com

Hi, my name is Neville Stein. I live in Savannah Ga USA, although originally born in Zimbabwe. Both parents Lithuanian Jews - their parents emigrated to South Africa.

Just a solitary voice of praise. I saw your video (I do have the right Jane?) and Bravo Bravo Bravo!

It did my 50 something yr old heart good to see it - what a triumph!

Unlike you, I was relatively unscathed by the holocaust, but it has haunted me for my adult life - and your video has done something positive in my angst department!

Thank you for sharing that - You have beautiful children (one of them speaks Hebrew?)

Neville

lovesickbilly has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part2:

it's about time someone brought some joy back to this place.

BuStFaCe has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part3:

You are so lucky that he survived that horrible place and all that had happened to him and also to your grandmother. I would love to meet him! I hope you are able to cherish them both for a long time! Thank you for posting his videos!

suzie brown to me 4:37

AM (18 hours ago)

Hi Jane,

I just wanted to pass on my best wishes and support ... you must be overwhelmed with the response to your wonderful video! I've been watching it again and showing it to friends, and we all love it of course... as do most people who see it. How could anyone feel otherwise? I hope all is going well for you over there ... and a little bird told me you may be a grandma soon! Perhaps another generation for your next work.

Take care and looking forward to catching up when you get home.

Love

Suzanne xx

Hello Jane

I live in Queensland and heard on the radio today about your video that you and your family made in Poland and Germany.

I just finished watching it and I'm crying buckets!! There are no words to express about this time of Jewish history or what your father went through...

Thank you for posting this on youtube for all the world to see!

Beautiful website too Jane.

Good job and keep up the good work!

Yahweh bless you and your family!

Shalom

Bonnie Horvath

Phone: 0413 664 671

Email: patch69@inet.net.au

alexander@krumpholz.com

Tue, Jul 20, 2010 at 1:47 AM, Alexander Krumpholz <alexander@krumpholz.com> wrote:

Very moving. Hard to find words to this topic.
But I'm very glad your dad survived and enjoys
life with his beautiful family.
Thank you for making and sharing that movie

Alex

Bertrand Holman 20 juillet 2010, à 10:15
Subject: hello.

that a great honor for me to be accept like friend. plenty holman and korman are died in poland. i think that a great idea so positiv. your father is .un grand monsieur. you are a fantastic lady. thanks to you...

<anick.roschi@aliceadsl.fr>

Boucles , Curls , Rizos , Ricci

Boucles
Les boucles du jour
Tombées à vos pieds
Caressent les nuits
De nos mémoires brûlées.

Auschwitz, 3 septembre 1941, Pologne.

(Extrait du " Voyage des Ombres" Editon. Du Cygne 2007)

Curls

The day's curls
Fallen at your feet Caress
the nights
Of our burnt memories.

Auschwitz, September 3rd, 1941, Poland.

Best regards,

Anick Rosette
gypsybrat33 has posted a comment to your profile

May your message get out there for the Gen-Y's to click and learn some history ... Thanks Danny Katz for the write up - may not have seen it otherwise!

My mother and i after reading the age this morning went straight to the computer with my 4 year old son ...who is watching it for the second time ... We sat here with tears in our eyes - and my mother esp who had visited Auschwitz about 20 years ago - laughed and cried her way through the peice. The last words ... of the grandfather - What you talking about? sums it up for me!

Thank you. Baruch Haba and Blessed Be from the Hills tribe of Yidden...

service@youtube.com Lizzie Cohen

Beautiful people and bodies moving beautifully. Deserving of their joy and embracing it, celebrating life. Exquisite. Stunning. I, too, am happy that you are alive. Thank you for sharing this empowering reclaiming of your rightful destiny.

Love,

Elizabeth

Laurent Padjasek

ePAX

3 rue d'Alger

78100 Saint Germain en Laye

Mobile: 06 86 14 81 77

Laurent.padjasek@epax-online.com www.epax-online.com

Bravo jane, ta vidéo d'auschwitz, c'est ce qu'il fallait faire, tu as tourné une page.

SithAngel77 has posted a comment to your profile

I'm so sorry the 1st Dancing in Auschwitz video got taken down. I had told my whole family about it; it really meant a lot to me because when I had been to Terezin you could still feel all the pain from the people who had been there and it felt like a balm to my soul to see someone go there and deal with it that way. In my own hometown now unless you are the right religion, right race or the right political party they are picking on people, trying to scare them out of town, and it worries me to think that this same thing can happen again, but there are a few of us who are trying to make sure that such a thing will not happen, not ever again. Too bad it ever happened in the first place...

hgreensp@umich.edu

Hi Jane,

Sorry to clog your email with another response, but I just now learned of the video with your Dad. I think it's terrific.

I'm a psychologist and playwright who has been interviewing survivors since the 1970s (before it was "cool"), writing about them, teaching what I've tried to learn. Having to deal with others' demands about who and what survivors are "supposed" to be has been yet another of their challenges since liberation--whether heroes, witnesses, ghosts, celebrants, lunatics, etc. etc.

What I love about the video is that it simply ignores all that. A little goofiness is what we need; it helps clear the air and genuinely listen, rather than pretending do.

If you don't know this line from Ruth Kluger, you'll appreciate it. Talking about her listeners, Ruth wrote:

"If they did listen, it was in a certain pose, an attitude assumed for this special occasion; it was not as partners in a conversation." (Still Alive)

mjay22

Actually, they're more like dancing over the graves of the Nazis than their own.

Debby Meisel

tomere@ozemail.com.au

I forgot to tell you I sent Avivah Z your piece. She wrote back "dancing is a mystical gesture in conditions of tragedy and trauma". Nice, huh?

bree007

i cannot believe your video was taken down. If A man and his family wants to celebrate life by dancing, then so be it!

bridgersadie

We could learn a lot about forgiveness - sure it is difficult - everyone killed finished but joy is such a big part of our precious human life.

Holocaust Love Sauce

Each race of people has its cool people and its douche-bags. These are cool Jews. And for those who think it trivialises the suffering, I would like for you to say that to Adolk Korman's face. He survived and dealt with it, and if they can't, then they need to fuck off.

pmk1956

Almost all religions preach peace and harmony - why don't our practices show this?

shutko@bio.ku.dk

Dear Jane

Have just watched your video in front of Auschwitz with your father and his Survivor T-shirt. I wish the world could understand how strong it is that your family can dance in front of these awful monuments. It is emotionally very strong and I think it's fantastic. You show the world that you have moved on and that you dare to dance this place, put you and your family in the league with people like Gandhi, King and Mandela!

It is very often melancholy that sets the agenda for the sole pupose to preserve segregation, but the sword that you are swinging is forward-looking!

Wish you and your family all the best.

With deep respect

Morten Petersen

Denmark

Dear Morten,

Thank you so much for your kind words and praise - that's a big compliment to say that my family are in the league with Gandi etc!! But thank you anyway.

A question - why do you call it a 'sword' that we are swinging? I am guessing you mean the way we fight/approach the past is with positive steps??

Sincerely,

Jane Korman

ji1999@aol.com

Dear Ones,

Yes-it is fantastic! Actually, I think the fact that it has created such controversy is phenomenal! People tend to forget or ignore tragedies and travesties that occurred 10 years ago, let alone 60 years ago..

This whirlwind has caused much discussion...And any discussion, pro or con, leads to change! You have reached hundreds (if not thousands) of people globally, through this film and media that would have otherwise remained untouched!

I have received a beautiful letter from somebody I met in Dachau Concentration Camp, my wife was crying reading it, and then he said I am going to send photos which I have made of you and your Family. When he send the photos I lost the whole "inbox" together with his and your email address. I lost all the letters I received by email. Including my address book.

This man probably thinks very bad of me that I don't reply to his beautiful letter. I don't even know his name. Most important, that I found your card today. Must be "Hashem".

I remember so well when you said Kaddish, you came to me, to the bench I was sitting to continue the Kaddish.

You probably know what is going on with "Dancing Auschwitz" which was created by my daughter Jane Korman who is now in Israel, to be together with her daughter who lives in Israel and is going to have a baby.

Jane's email address is: <janekohn9@gmail.com>. Today she is in Berlin, invited to a short film festival and selecting the best short film.

We have received hundreds of beautiful and emotional letters from all over the world, but only one very bad letter from somebody in Melbourne.

I would like you to send me an email and confirm that we didn't only dance in Auschwitz for " CELEBRATION OF LIFE" with my five Grandchildren and my daughter after 65 years, but that you also said Kaddish for the six million Jews murdered together with my family who perished in Auschwitz.

Two Rabbis in Melbourne said that we can dance to "CELEBRATE LIFE" everywhere - even in Auschwitz.

You can not imagine how happy I am that I can write to you again.

Shalom and with deep respect,

Adolek Kohn

egiovanna.vallejo@gmail.com

Wed, Aug 4, 2010

Hello from Colombia

Hi dear Jane, my name is Eryca Giovanna Vallejo.

I saw your pictures, your art, the children and I think You are amazing.

I knew about You by a video article You did to "Real Time" (tiempo real, in spanish), was great to see Your work.

Ok, I just want to say You hi and congratulations, art is freedom, freedom is a treasure, then your art is a treasure.

Bye,

Mone

P/s: My children loved your art when they saw it

editor@westmanparent.com

Hello Jane

Kudos to you!

I live in Western Canada and heard your interview on CBC awhile back. I kept meaning to look up Dancing Auschwitz and only got around to it today and now I am writing to say how much I appreciate that you have chosen to share the love and the strength of this video. What a wonderful way to celebrate who your father is today. I laughed and cried throughout the video, captivated by the spirits of your beautiful father and children!

Thank you.

Warmest,

Jamie Stouffer

Editor, Westman Parent

Phone 204.717.0639

www.westmanparent.com

Stefanie Schadt

Hi there! Are you the Jane Korman who I read in the news about because of the youtube clip? If yes: Thank you so much! You really made me cry of joy so much did i love to look at it!!!!

Shalom from Germany!!!!

Regensburg

P.S.: Is it possible to download the video from your website? (Youtube permanently deletes it from its site)

walschus@web.de Tue, Aug 10, 2010 at 5:02 PM

Subject: Thank you for your "Dancing Auschwitz" project mailed byweb.de

Dear Ms. Korman,

I've watched the "I will survive" video from your "Dancing Auschwitz" project several times and I can't say how much I'm moved by this.

Through all the controversy that your video has sparked, I think that one aspect of its message is largely overlooked. The debate should not be about whether your father was right to do this

with his family - of course he had every right to do what he did. There is another more important point that was never ever, elsewhere, anyhow illustrated better than by your video.

The point, which hits viewers full force in the last seconds of the video through the words of your father, is the fact that the atrocity of the Holocaust extends to much much more than six million lost lives. Looking at your father dancing with his daughter and his grandchildren makes one realize that countless more lives that were never born perished in Auschwitz. The elegance and joy, the shyness paired with courage of your children illustrates how much beauty, intelligence, creativity, knowledge and love never happened and are missing from this world because of those children which were never born due to the Holocaust. This is powerfully illustrated by this moment in the video when your father and his grandchildren look out from the window of the railway car. It's like saying that not only the occupants which were forced into these cars rolled to their death into the camps but also all their unborn children and grandchildren.

The fact that generations of bright and creative minds - would-be scientists, physicians, artists, engineers, athletes, musicians, teachers - were never born due to the Holocaust, the question how much is lost until today and into the future due to this, has never ever been addressed more forceful and more sensitive than by your video.

For that, thank you so much. To your father, to you and to your children.

All the best,

Uwe Walschus, Germany

Mon, Nov 8, 2010 at 1:50 AM, Uwe Walschus <walschus@web.de> wrote:

Dear Jane,

I just saw that you won the Audience Favourite's Award at the dokumentART festival in Neubrandenburg for "Dancing Auschwitz". I think that's a richly deserved recognition and great news for you and all the other people who were involved in the project, foremost your father of course. I'm really happy for you! I hope you had some interesting days at the festival.

Also, it was wonderful for me to meet you and talk with you in Neubrandenburg. I found it very interesting to exchange some thoughts on your film project and to get some more insight into your motivation behind doing it. Hopefully, my English was not too difficult for you to understand :). Also, talking with your daughter was a charming experience. She represents everything I mentioned in my first mail to you - beauty, intelligence, creativity, knowledge - which is missing from this world because of the Holocaust. Luckily for all who know her, your father survived.

Please let me know about any news regarding your project!

All the best,

Uwe

PS: I've attached a word file of the translation of the newspaper article which I gave you in Neubrandenburg. You can do whatever you like with the text.

Helge Schreiber 11. August 2010 um 02:16

(no subject)

Just saw your video on you tube...awesome! I'm really excited watching your dad dancing to "I will survive" as it's a clear statement that the Nazis didn't win over your family. As a german I'm very happy that so many allied soldiers fought the germans, so that we here in Europe were able to grow up in a normal life, without fascism and without murdering people just because of their race and religion.

Thanks a lot

Helge Schreiber

agnes.sonntag@hamburg.de

Please, complain, that's ok.

Shame on Universal for being so mean/petty. It wouldn't cost them anything let you do this. Don't they have any ethic or moral company policy that you could refer to? Can't you tell them to be proud it's been used? (Well, naive, I guess....)

Actually I had some hazzle to watch it, couldn't see part 2. I also tried it via the swedish site of youtube. Didn't work either.

Hope this won't get you into any financial trouble?

Take care and come by if you ever get to Hamburg!

Agnes

paulgaul68 has sent you a message: dancing videos (your father)

Dear Ms. Korman:

I read about your project today on Spiegel Online, the most popular German news site on the internet, and watched the video that was linked there.

God bless you, your father and all of your family.

Thank you for that celebration of life in the face of crimes that must never be forgotten.

Sincerely,

Claus Gaul,39, Berlin

hiesi has sent you a message:

Thank you!!!

Dear Jane,

I just saw the video with your father and I am deeply touched. I had the strange feeling of crying and laughing at the same time. I want to thank you for this video, I am glad to find it and to watch it. I'm a German teacher and I will show it to colleges and pupils. Please excuse, my English surely has a lot of mistakes, but I hope, you understood, what I wanted to tell you.

Greetings, Michael
Hiesberger

hummingbird2267 has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part3:

Dear Jane, thank you so much for having done this! It is such a beautiful act of changing/replacing drama and fear into joy of life! It was time for this change, You have given Germany a new perspective and shown a way to let go the old and to celebrate the joy of life instead. Life is so precious, we should laugh, dance and celebrate much much more, just to enjoy Life. Thank you for bringing more joy into this world.

On Tue, Aug 10, 2010 at 10:10 PM, Uwe Walschus <walschus@web.de> wrote:

Well, even the idea of such a lawsuit is beyond stupid in my eyes. Universal Music would surely shoot themselves into the foot if they go ahead with this. There is also something profoundly wrong with copyright law if it can be used to stop an art project for which no financial gain is intended. Copyright law should protect rightful owners from financial loss due to others using their work. I don't see how anybody could seriously claim that such a lawsuit would be a rightful application of copyright law. It's the intention of a law that matters, not the mere letters in which it was written down. And the song itself, while still being popular these days, is 30+ years old.

Crazy. I can surely understand your anger. Also, I'm not sure whether Universal Music really has a case. Maybe the policy of fair use respectively fair dealing or something similar is applicable?

Apart from that, removing all traces of the video will be impossible for them. It has already been re-uploaded to Youtube by several users and will be re-uploaded time and again so it's too late to stop it. It's also safely stored on my computer.

By the way, I've watched the video a couple of more times and the more I watch it, the more I'm impressed. The fact that your dad was able to do this is incredible, and so is his performance in the video. What's also interesting is how the dancing style of one of your daughters (the one with the bright hair who is in the foreground in the last scene) changes through the video from rather uneasy and shy in the beginning to more and more confident and courageous until the end. There is even a scene starting around 1:25 where it seems that she let her reluctance go. I wonder whether this impression corresponds to her feelings during the filming? By the way, did you get any reactions from bystanders who watched you dancing?

Also, compliments on very good camera work and film editing!

All the best,

Uwe

MuttisTochta has posted a comment on your profile:

Hello!

I heard about your video just a few minutes ago on German television.

They discussed it and some people said to dance in Auschwitz would be favorless, but I think who has the right to judge something they did not experience!? Your father survived what happened so many years ago, so he can handle his past however he wants to!

All those detractors should only listen to the lyrics of the song 'I will survive' , there are many phrases which fit so well to this subject.

Well done, good video! All the best to you and your family!

Heike0815 has posted a comment on your profile:

Schade, dass Sony Music Entertainment dein Video in Deutschland gesperrt hat. So muss man es von anderen Leuten anschauen, die es eingestellt haben. Also wundere dich nicht über die wenigen Klicks...

Ich finde das Video super gelungen und hoffe, dass dein Vater noch lange Zeit so glücklich und fröhlich sein kann. Alles Gute!

Too bad that Sony Music Entertainment has locked your video in Germany. So one must look at it from other people who have set. So do not be surprised about the few clicks ...

I find the video managed super and I hope that your father for a long time can be as happy and cheerful. All the best!

Ben Ralston <premjogacenter@gmail.com>

dateThu, Aug 12, 2010 at 11:23 PM

Reply from Jane:

Dear Ben,

I loved your article! You summed up exactly what I also feel. I truly believe that sadly alot of our society is head-based and not heart-based. I could write more and more in response to your article, but I'm a bit pressured for time cos we have a big family reunion now in Israel. I'm currently performing as 'Miss World Peace' in many parts of Jerusalem, including East Jerusalem . This project resonates with your words: ' I believe that it's our purpose here, as human beings, to *create* peace. With our capacity for compassion, understanding, and intelligence we certainly have the *potential* to be the guardians of this beautiful Garden, our Mother, the Earth.'

Amen Amen.

Thank you so much for believing in and supporting this project and idea.

Jane

(P.S. Unfortunately Universal Music Studios (the owners of the song) want to sue me, and want me to remove all traces of the video everywhere around the world, and don't allow me to show it even in an exhibition context. (I was invited to show it at the

dokumentART festival in October in Berlin, but don't think I can do this now). Legal issues make my skin crawl. I also thought I was doing the right thing when I used the option of 'audio swap' on youtube - where I swapped the song (without copyright) for a similar version that youtube has in its bank of songs that has copyright.)

Steaphany Waelder August 12, 2010 at 7:28pm
Subject: Hoping I found the right Jane Korman

I just read the article regarding 'Dancing Auschwitz' on Der Spiegel:

<http://www.facebook.com/l/c1b396iQPOo5ZiimUWNLh-lIKcg;www.spiegel.de/international/world/0,1518,711247,00.html>

I did a youtube search, found, and watched it. You did a beautiful job celebrating life and survival and brought tears to my eyes.

schade, man hört keine Musik? Ich würde Sony Music Entertainment verklagen, dass die dieses Video mit "I will survive" in Deutschland wegen irgendwelcher Musikrechte sperren!!!!

pity you can hear any music? I would sue Sony Music Entertainment that this video with "I will survive" in Germany because of some lock's rights!!

Thu, Aug 12, 2010 at 5:51 AM
sam@samlaserco.com

Jane, out of all the clips you made of the "Dancing at Auschwitz" series, this one moved me to tears.

If my parents would have lived, they surely would have been in this group.
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I_Np3aZh6sU

Barbara.Wrede@gmx.de Fri, Aug 13, 2010 at 1:05 PM

Dear Jane Korman,
i am deeply moved by your video dancin auschwitz-i will survive, an I take a very, very big bow in front of you and your familly.

best wishes from Berlin, Gemany
Barbara Wrede

! icast4majors 18 hours ago

Dear Jane,
This is truly one of the most prolific videos ever uploaded on YouTube ever! Your father is living proof that the_ Nazi's may have caused him horrific trauma, but they didn't break his spirit! I work at Paramount studios Hollywood/New York and have worked for Universal Studios in the past! While copyright infringement is a crime, the studios rarely follow through

with the lawsuits, unless you were charging Pay per view, so don't sweat it! God bless you & your beautiful family, Rock on!

AEGedeon@gmx.de

Sun, Aug 15, 2010 at 2:04 PM

Jane,

Your video clip "I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz" is obviously a matter of controversial discussions all over the world.

For me the clip is one of the best anti-holocaust performances I've ever seen. The triumph of LIFE over one of the biggest atrocities committed in history of mankind. The clip is deeply moving: it makes one feel angry, it makes one feel happy, it makes one thinking ...once again. I respectfully disagree with those who believe otherwise. Well done!
Best regards to you and all members of your family.

Emanuel Gedeon
(Mainz, Germany)

Anna Oppermann <anna.oppermann@gmx.net

Mon, Aug 16, 2010 at 12:45 AM

Dear Jane Korman,

when I saw your video of you and your family dancing at Auschwitz and the other places of terror and death, I started to cry and couldn't stop for a while.

I want to let you know that I am deeply touched.

When I realized that many people's feelings were hurt, I thought, it might be a good idea to encourage you and tell you, that I appreciate your work very much. I trust in the ongoing process of healing and life.

Sincerely yours,
Anna Oppermann,
Darmstadt, Germany

Sibadd has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part3:

Sat, Aug 14, 2010 at 5:43 PM

The way we've addressed the horror is with humour - usually by proxy in the work of professionals. This sweet thing is the work of amateurs, using playfulness. It's a new invention. Hannah Arendt talked of the banality of evil. This and its accompanying clips, which regardless of silliness about copyright, can be seen in many places on the internet, shows the triumphant banality of good. Well done Jane and family and thanks for so unique an antidotes to the poison of Shoah.

lenamarie10

dateFri, Aug 13, 2010 at 5:14 PMsubjectComment posted on "I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part3"

I had to cry when I saw this video. Partly of joy and partly of the things that happened in Auschwitz and that never can be atoned. I'm from Germany and I'm so ashamed about happened in my country long before I was born. I think this video was a good idea and it doesn't disrespect the victims. It is his right to feel joy about his survival and I'm glad that he can feel joy and isn't traumatized.

jvbellabarba@t-online.de

Mon, Aug 16, 2010 at 12:21 PM

Dear Ms Korman

just a short note to tell you how impressed I was with your video: I think it is clever, funny and serious.

My very best wishes to you all and a great compliment to your father who is a fantastic dancer!!! Mazel tov.

Greetings from Berlin.

Dipl. Psych. Julia Bellabarba
Tempelhofer Damm
138 D 12099 Berlin
mobil 0151 58571080
fon 030 72 00 6780 fax
030 757 07 641

Wed, Aug 18, 2010 at 5:52 AM dotzin has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part3:

Jane, I am moved by your videos. Good to show that survivors are joyful and complete human beings, not damaged caricatures, and that your dear father endorses joy in the face of horror as the ultimate expression of "The Triumph of the Spirit" (pun intended, pace Leni Riefenstahl) .

<http://www.youtube.com/user/icast4majors>

5 days ago

Dear Jane, This is truly one of the most prolific videos ever uploaded on YouTube ever! Your father is living proof that the Nazi's may have caused him horrific trauma, but they didn't break his spirit! I work at Paramount studios Hollywood/New York and have worked for Universal Studios in the past! While copyright infringement is a crime, the studios rarely follow through with the lawsuits,_ unless you were charging Pay per view, so don't sweat it! God bless you & your beautiful family, Rock on!

@icast4majors

Your words are very humbling!!!

It is so interesting that you have worked/are working in Universal/Paramount studios - and understand somewhat about copyright laws. I find it really scary. It's the last thing I would

like to get tangled up in! I still haven't signed a contract yet, but I've removed the video from my website. Also, I haven't received one cent from it. So I'll try take your advice - and No Sweating! Thank you very much, and I'll pass your message onto my dad.

! Sibadd

3 days ago

@janekorman

Thank you Jane and family. Winston Churchill said the difference between the sublime and the ridiculous is miniscule. I believe (with many philosophers) that good and evil are proximate rather than opposites._ This may be why some react so negatively to Dancing Auschwitz, not seeing the tiny but vital difference between something wonderful and something crass. Ask me what that is? I don't know. Even you may not. It was something you lot did that day.

@Sibadd

Again I agree with you. There's a fine line between_ monster and saint - but I wish i understood the 'human condition' more. You mention the ' vital difference.' - and that we might not even know what that is. I still shake my head in wonder.I'm also guessing that seeing a family of different generations dancing and working together has an impact -moreso at these sites. There's some instinctive feeling or 'vibe' that the viewer might be picking up, that touches him/her somewhere.

Szócs Petra2010. augusztus 17., 14:57

Subject: dancing a.

Dear Jane,

I've seen the video Dancing Auschwitz, and I must say, it was very moving and beautiful! It was great to see you dancing joyfully in the former nazi-camp. Life winning over death. God bless your father and your family!

Greetings from Hungary,

Petra

Fri, Aug 13, 2010 at 9:57 PM

tretikas has sent you a message:

Dancing Auschwitz

Hello!

Your video has been all over the news at Portugal. You may see the article (in Portuguese) in the fallowing page: http://www.publico.pt/Mundo/sobrevivente-do-holocausto-danca-i-willsurvive-em-auschwitz_1451278 . I just wanted to tell you how much I enjoyed watching the video. When I visited Auschwitz in Oswiecim i felt such pain in there so it is really a pleasure knowing that there are still survivors enjoying themselves and happy! There are awful this being said all over the place - Just ignore them!! ENJOY and Have a good happy long life!

Kisses,
Sofia

Mon, Aug 23, 2010 at 8:26 AM

fariethesun has made a comment on I Will Survive?? Dancing Auschwitz. Silenced version: This is one of the best video I've seen on YT...Dancing in Auschwitz with the grandchildren...Wonderful! Is there something better to celebrate life? " My respect for all the dead at Auschwitz. I would also dance against Nazism and Nazis...no matter where! Sony makes a fool of himself here. Large music companies ... only profit is important... too bad! Thank you from Germany for this excellent video... Shalom, Heidi

Fri, Aug 27, 2010 at 2:34 PM maulwuerfchen has posted a comment on your profile:

Dear Jane, thank you so much for this project. First of all it brings the darkest times of humanity to mind again. We must never, never forget! But even more important: it ads a new and positive perspective to all who have survived. Do not let yourself and your family be judged by people who have no idea of what it was like to be in the camps. If your Dad decided to celebrate his survival with a dance in Auschwitz-Birkenau - so be it. He survived and he deserves to enjoy every minute of his life.

All the best to you and your family.

Greetings from Germany.

Fri, Aug 27, 2010 at 10:55 PM

Zentralgewalt has made a comment on I Will Survive?? Dancing Auschwitz. Silenced version:

I was very touched by the video. The survivor and his descendants has every right to dance at these places. Great idea. Thank you and I wish you and your family all the best. Ignore the media and pressure groups.

Fri, Aug 27, 2010 at 1:04 AM bilderbesoffen has posted a comment on your profile: this is exceptional art. thank you for sharing this online. lots of love from Germany

<http://www.ebaumsworld.com/user/profiles/thessencynthessencyn>

Jul 25, 2010 1:25pm

Along with hundreds of thousands of other viewers, I recognize this tender and poignant paeon to the power of love and the human spirit.

Bart Gault Jul 18

Dear Ms.Korman,Thank you and your family for the video, it brought tears of joy to my eyes. As a Jew, as a human being and as the son and nephew of three WWII veterans, I am so appreciative of your father. He is joy, and a true treasure to your family and all of mankind. Thank you, Bart Gault

mjintexas <fourdogsmj@valornet.com>tojanekohn9@gmail.com

Hello,

I just watched your video and I love it.

I love my father, he fought in the war against that regime.

I love your father and felt joy watching him dance with you, his daughter, and all his grandchildren.

My grandparents made it out of eastern Europe but many aunts and uncles did not.

Thank you.

Mary

Mon, Aug 30, 2010 at 1:34 PM

BCNperson has sent you a message:

moving and very special

Dear Jane, saw the video, heard your father's words, I cried. Of joy and pain. My father (83) is a survivor of several camps in the Netherlands, Auschwitz and Buchenwald. He, my sister, my brother in law and their two kids and me, we'll all visit Auschwitz this October. So many did not survive, let the very few who managed to survive dance and laugh and cry wherever they want. Especially in Auschwitz, as it is their territory, it belongs to them only. With warm regards, Bert

Fri, Sep 3, 2010 at 1:01 AM luckyluke01 has

posted a comment on your profile:

Hello Jane, first I want to tell you that I'm incredible impressed about how you all handle the past.

I'm a 18 year old german pupil and heard about your art project in school (religious education).

I can honestly say, that I feel somehow guilty about what happened, because my generation will have to take the responsibility on these awful happenings. Not today, but soon. And this is why I want to thank you very much for making this video. This Video gives me hope for our future by showing that today's generations need to know about this time, but without feeling guilty.

Sorry for my bad english. :P

Thank you very much.

Love and Peace to you all!

Dear Jane,

Well, I've sent you two messages today through You Tube, the first one doesn't seem to have reached you. In it I explained briefly about my father's story. These you tube messages, I don't trust them.

I have now taken the liberty to mail you directly. I hope you don't mind.

In the first message of this morning I sent you my email, which I'll repeat here:

beverduin@hotmail.com

If you google my dad's name Ernst Verduin you'll find a lot of info + fotos. Maybe you know someone who can help you with the Dutch.

You're right, he was a teenager. He's from June 1927, born in Amsterdam. He, his sister and their parents were taken from their home in Amsterdam in January 1943 and taken to concentration camp Vught in the Netherlands. Later he and his sister were transported to Auschwitz. My dad stayed most of the time in Auschwitz-Monowitz, worked at IGFarbeindustrie, also called Buna-Monowitz.

Then came the infamous march to the west, before the arrival of the Red Army. He was liberated in Buchenwald in April 1945.

His mother, my grandmother, survived several camps, was part of a prisoner exchange of the Red Cross and was transported to Sweden, to freedom, in April 1945. She died in 1996 at the age of 95.

His father and sister did not survive. His father died somewhere in Poland, probably after March 1944, and his sister in February 1944.

In November 1992 my family (my mom and dad, my sister and me) visited Warsaw and Auschwitz. We participated in the yearly tour organised by the Netherlands Auschwitz Committee. My wonderful mother died in August 2001.

Now we'll visit Auschwitz again, this time with the third generation present. We'll go in October, my dad, my sister and her husband and their two kids (a boy of almost 16 and a girl of 11), and me.

I read in an email of a friend of mine to my dad some remark about dancing in Auschwitz. I had no clue what he meant and did not ask him. A few weeks ago I bought by accident Der Spiegel and only a few days ago I read the article on your father.

I found and find the video moving. It is fragile, and strong. Tragic and happy, sad and full of hope. All at the same time. I cried. And laughed, especially at your dad! He is a great disco dancer!!!! Mazal tov!!!!

He has ALL THE RIGHT OF THE WHOLE WORLD to be dancing on the very spot where criminals (human beings) tried during several years to kill him. Where they killed his family and friends. Only he and the other survivors like my dad have this unique right. This place is theirs, it is their blood and sweat and tears. But the place does not own THEM anymore. THEY are now the masters. THEY, the survivors, are the masters of this place of death and torture. They may cry, laugh, dance, what else they want on this place. Auschwitz owes that to them. And the family and friends who had not the luck to survive would perfectly understand.

I think that is the first and basic emotion and thoughts I felt when I saw the video, and again and again.

Some of what your father says is similar to what my father often says, like for example about the sheer luck to have survived; and when he says that 63 years ago he could never have imagined being back there with his children and grandchildren; and that being there gives him an enormous sense of strength and joy, as well as sadness of course.

Who is this owner of the 'I will survive' song? Why the hell did he/she order you to take the song of the video? Because of copy rights?

Great thing that the original version WITH the song is still on You Tube!!

And then, me being gay, the 'I will survive' song recalls many good memories. I am sure you know it is one of the gay communities 'national' hymns, like the song YMCA by the Village People. The expression 'I will survive' means a lot to us gays. In the western world things have really improved for us during the last decades, but we'll always have to be on our alert for discrimination or ridiculization. I can only vaguely imagine the constant fright in which homosexuals have to survive in the non-western world.

Well, Jane, this has become a long letter. I hope you like it or find it interesting.

Le Chaim!

Warm regards,
Bert

beverduin@hotmail.com
Tue, Aug 31, 2010 at 3:19 PM

Dear Jane,

Well, I've sent you two messages today through You Tube, the first one doesn't seem to have reached you. In it I explained briefly about my father's story. These you tube messages, I don't trust them.

I have now taken the liberty to mail you directly. I hope you don't mind.

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Auschwitz. My dad stayed most of the time in Auschwitz-Monowitz, worked at IG Farbenindustrie, also called Buna-Monowitz.

Then came the infamous march to the west, before the arrival of the Red Army. He was liberated in Buchenwald in April 1945.

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Now we'll visit Auschwitz again, this time with the third generation present. We'll go in October, my dad, my sister and her husband and their two kids (a boy of almost 16 and a girl of 11), and me.

I read in an email of a friend of mine to my dad some remark about dancing in Auschwitz. I had no clue what he meant and did not ask him. A few weeks ago I bought by accident *Der Spiegel* and only a few days ago I read the article on your father.

I found and find the video moving. It is fragile, and strong. Tragic and happy, sad and full of hope. All at the same time. I cried. And laughed, especially at your dad! He is a great disco dancer!!!! Mazal tov!!!!

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Well, Jane, this has become a long letter. I hope you like it or find it interesting.

Le Chaim!

Warm regards,
Bert

Jane

I just heard the full story on Radio Netherlands - I have heard of this story once before.

Go girl!!!
Well Done!

I am not Jewish, I am Roman Catholic and after watching the videos and listening to you and your dad's interview I thought brilliant.
I am very surprised about the anti-Semitic people, that is indeed scary.
And good on you for waiting until no one was around in the event some people might have found it offensive. Anthony

Sun, Sep 5, 2010 at 12:44 AM

ImagesOfCities has replied to your comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part3:
@janekorman

Ms. Korman, I so agree with you. Every word I would say the same way. I was born German when it was all over. Now also old, just a bit younger than your father. I am touched by your video that you made of the grandchildren dancing with the grandpa. It is not desecration. Although I can understand some who might feel like that. To bring the beautiful children there and dance on the earth there is very uplifting in my view. They are a 'survivor's' grandchildren! Be hugged!

MermaidBlueFins has replied to your comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part3:
@janekorman Yeah the murdered most likely didn't have many or if at all any descendants to celebrate their life through dance. I would love to use your original clip as my own project to pay tribute to the tortured and murdered.

Sun, Sep 5, 2010 at 3:10 PM

gckoller@shaw.ca

Dear Ms. Kohn,

Thanks so much for sharing your Dancing in Auschwitz video. I managed to hear your father's and family's story on Radio Netherland tonight, and I was so glad that they are still showing the video with that great song! It's too bad that the owners of the song do not realize how keeping the video from being seen on your website and YouTube actually contradicts the spirit of the music! Have you tried to approach Gloria Gaynor?

Does she have any say about this?

Many blessings on your and your family.

Thanks again,

George Csaba Koller

<http://www.youtube.com/user/WetlandsRemediation#p/a/f/2/w2jZOTLgprY>

Keep up the Good Work.

Silence is criminal.

MermaidBlueFins has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part3: I'm confused when you asked "Do I look like a Jew?" It wouldn't have mattered if you looked like a Jew or an Aryan, if you had an ancestor of Jewish heritage you would have been put in the ghetto or on a cattle train.

Sun, Sep 5, 2010 at 9:00 PM

Robin Glausser

Very inspiring. Hope you know that you're sending ripples of hope all over the world. Thanks.

Robin Glausser

WetlandsRemediation

12 hours ago

All property is theft.

Next no doubt, they'll attempt to copyright the very death camp footage.

Cold comfort,

but the fact_ that you were suppressed

is their tacit admission that the work

stinks of Truth and Power.

WetlandsRemediation

Reply from Jane:

Cold comfort is better than no comfort! (maybe).

Yes, I wish Universal worked in different ways - but, looking on the bright side, their banning of it gives the work its own power.

Thanks so much,

Jane

Sun, Sep 5, 2010 at 10:38 PM

WetlandsRemediation has sent you a message:

To Write Poetry After Auschwitz is Barbaric

That is why we gas those called Poet.

organictim 19 hours ago @organictim

What about_ Gloria Gaynor? Have you thought of approaching her directly? Or does she not have any control over the song?

Thanks for making this incredibly beautiful statement about human resilience and triumph over evil!

Reply from Jane:

Yes, I've tried, my family tried..They told us they have nothing to do with the ownership of the song, and to approach Universal Music... Not much help, unfortunately.

Mon, Sep 6, 2010 at 12:09 PM

Rsbk has replied to your comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part3:

@janekorman

Well let's start a petition, shame on Universal for stopping a survivor of the most horrendous crime in history from celebrating his triumph over evil. Let's start a boycott of all things Universal!!!!

Rsbk 10 hours ago

Your video is amazingly powerful, the triumph of the human spirit. That your father could_ go back with his grandchildren and say I SURVIVED!!!! Good for him!! I heard you are being sued by the record company, if that is true I will never again buy any of their music. Your video brought our family to tears, it is a celebration of life, we celebrate with you. And I don't see the disrespect for the dead just for the executioner. Good luck to your family and the old man speaks nice fluent Polish.

wordreet has posted a comment on your profile:

The first Dancing Auschwitz video has been removed. I wish I could see it.

Being alive is the best way to be, we should all be able to celebrate such a victory, and others should join in that happiness.

And it's good that such a celebration has renewed the world's conscience once again.

Thu, Aug 12, 2010 at 9:41 PM wordreet has made a comment on

Dancing Auschwitz FFmute desktop: The most meaningful video

currently available to the world. :->) wordreet 1 hour ago. Tue, Sep 7,

2010 at 9:44 PM

I watch it anyway! Sony can't remove that! :->) Jane, I just read a comment on your channel and found your response to it. Yes, I didn't see it at first, but you're right to _encourage today's youth to know about that terrible time, and to see it with other eyes than those of stifling guilt. Another song says, Teach your children well, give them a code that they can live by. This video is part of that teaching.

Reply from Jane:

True! There's some saying that goes - they can try to destroy our bodies but they can't destroy our spirit!?? Something like that. (ie. By removing the music, the physical substance, but the spirit of the song still remains. By the way - I love that song 'Teach your children well...' So true - thanks for your wisdom.

XXX

wordreet

My mistake for not spotting it. Sorry to be messaging you again.

Your video is the only one uploaded on that channel, and the channel/user has only existed since the 24th of June this year.

Oooh! :-[I very nearly started posting on there and giving them some stick, but your video was made in gentleness, and so it should remain.

Peter.

senglhart@yahoo.de

Mon, Sep 13, 2010 at 12:57 PM

dear jane,

I cried and laughed (was a bit difficult while crying)
that's "real" art

all the best,
stephan englhart

ps: if u need any assistance regarding e.g. german philosophy, translating to german, you are welcome.

Mon, Sep 13, 2010 at 7:35 PM, stephan englhart <senglhart@yahoo.de> wrote:

dear jane, oops (not expected anybody to read my lines, never ever an answer) pragmatically: post me links you wanna have translated, I post u summaries add-on german debate:

Thilo sarrazin (chairman of german bank, yet no more): talked about the "jewish gene", therefore has no chair no more

Erika Steinbach "bund der vertriebenen" said: 6 month before the german invasion in poland, they gathered troops and provoked the nazi attack (obv not true)

- next was your video (as u see a different input into the debate"

Short "story":

(I worked as a DJ being at university) Beijng DJ means at first getting the girls to start dancing. there r 2 songs that always work: weather girls - it s raining men and the one u have chosen. I have seen MANY people dancing to this song) - mostly girls.

If I now take the impression of all this night-clubbing dancers and compare it with your dad I see some differences:

- he seems to have feeling for rythm
- he is happy while dancing
- he s not taking himself too serious
- and therefore he really is alive

All the best, Stephan

Reply from Jane:

Hi Stephan, - thanks again for your letter.

I have a question - I am not allowed to show my video with the song 'I Will Survive' because I will get sued. I was wondering, seeing that you worked as a DJ., if you can think of another song (or music) that I could use to replace 'I Will Survive' that is powerful and would not have copyright problems.

I also love your comparison between the usual disco dancers and my dad's dancing!

All the best,

Jane

Lynyrd Skynyrd's "Still Unbroken derekpeavey has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part3:

You can kill a man, but you can't kill what he stands for unless you first break his spirit. I salute you all, especially your father.

fuhqtoo has posted a comment on your profile:

I think the video of your father, yourself and his three grandchildren dancing is beautiful. No one should be able to tell him, or his descendants how to celebrate. He's not mourning his life, or making light of those who died there, he's celebrating that he not only survived, but he *LIVED*. The fact that he had children and grandchildren, and was able to return to these places to dance is evidence that he has lived a good and productive life. It's a show of joyful defiance, they weren't able to kill his body or his soul and I think it's wonderful.

Wish my grandfather was_ alive to dance with us too.
Great video!

Facebook Beate Ruchatz 15. September 2010 um 16:23
Subject: Praise for the You tube video from Germany

Dear Jane,

I just wanted to thank you for the idea for the video and your father especially, but also all the other members of your family for making this beautiful and moving video.

I am German and I - of course- am occupied always in some kind with the history of the holocaust. i read a lot of biographies of survivors and because of that I was very touched by the video which is in my opinion a different kind of approach of dealing with history- a very direct way to the heart!!! I cried alot the first time I was watching it.

Give my best wishes to your family and all of your family, too.

Beate

Mon, Sep 13, 2010 at 8:07 PM
U.Witassek@gmx.net

Dear Jane Kohn, dear Adolek Kohn,

I am a German woman ,53, and I read the newspaper today with a portrait of your history, then I watched your video in youtube. I feel deeply moved and overwhelmed by your video. For me it is a masterpiece of art,and I want to thank you for it. The expression of survivors triumph did not happen before. I did not think that it could be possible in this generation. For me it is an expression of a part of mourning which was not possible before.It is a real inner development. And it is the opposite of destruction, for me it is incredible what you did. It is an act of humanity , and a sign that life is stronger than death. My father was a member of the SS, and he could not live with it, how could he. Meanwhile at least I can, and I feel pity for him. But what you did is great, and I bow myself with deep respect to your father . Thank you, thank you

Ute Witassek

19.9.10

Dear Ute,

Thank you very much for writing to me. I can feel that you are really writing from your heart. Yes, I can understand how surreal the feeling must be to know that your father was a member of the SS. It sounds like your own positive, open, loving attitude to life also helps you deal with this past.

I only wish that Universal Music Studios were more lenient and allowed me to show the video on my YouTube site and in other art ventures - because it is a shame that the clip, which contains aspects of healing can not continue to spread goodness throughout the world.

With very warm regards and peace from Israel (where I am at the moment).

Jane

Tue, Sep 14, 2010 at 11:23 AM

hesse.helmut@web.de

Guten Tag, Frau Korman, ich muss Ihnen auf Deutsch schreiben, da mein Englisch nicht gut genug ist.

Ich habe in einer Kultursendung eines deutschen Senders erstmals von Ihrem Video erfahren und gerade habe ich es mir in voller Länge im Internet angesehen.

Es hat mich tief bewegt und das nachhaltig. Ja, bevor ich in längere rationale Worte zu fassen vermag, was die Faszination Ihres Videos ausmacht, habe ich gespürt, dass es etwas tief in meiner Seele erreicht hat. Ja, es sagt auch mehr als es tausend Worte zu vermitteln vermögen und darin liegt der Reiz und die Bedeutung des Videos. Wäre ich Lehrer, würde ich es meinen Klassen vorführen. man muss dem Bösen in der Welt, allen Diktatoren und politisch repressiven Regimes zeigen, dass man sich von ihnen nicht bewzingen, dass man über sie triumphiert und den eigenen Selbstbehauptungswillen nicht von ihnen stehlen lassen will.

Ich wünsche Ihnen, Ihrer Familie und vor allem Adolek Kohn alles Gute und grüße Sie aus dem fernen Deutschland ganz herzlich!

Roland-Rauch@gmx.de

Good day, Ms. Korman,

I must write to you in German because my English is not good enough.

I have experienced in a culture of a German mission station for the first time from your video and I just looked at it in full length on the Internet.

It has moved me deeply and nachhaltig. Ja before I am able to express in words longer rational, what is the fascination of your videos, have I felt that it has reached something deep in my soul. Yes, it also says more than able to convey a thousand words, and therein lies the attraction and the importance of the video. If I were a teacher, I would show my classes. man must show the evil in derf world dictators and repressive political regime that is not bewzingen of them, that they triumphed over them and their own self-will will not be stolen from them.

I wish you, your family and especially Adolek Kohn and greet you all the best from the Far Germany very much!

Mon, Sep 13, 2010 at 5:44 PM

Dear Mrs Korman,

thank you very much for the dance video.

In times when this world seems more and more crazy to me every day your father's dance gives some confidence back to me.

What my country did 70 years ago is beyond understanding. We work hard every day to keep history in mind and to prevent such cruelties.

Seeing that it is possible for your father to live his life shows me that we have to keep working and that it makes sense to welcome life. And the reactions to your video show that we must not forget this part of history. Thank you very much for the courage, strength and vitality that your project sends out.

Best wishes for you and your family,

Roland, 33, teacher in Germany

Reply from Jane:

19.9.10

Dear Roland,

Thank you very much for your very supportive and beautifully expressed letter. I've been in Germany twice in the past year, (and i will be in Berlin in 3 weeks time for the DokumetART film festival) so I can really feel how you 'work hard every day to keep history in mind and to prevent such cruelties.' To me (as a Jew), it feels very safe and comforting spending time in your country - which is so surreal - as life often is.

Germany is very fortunate and blessed to have a teacher like you.

With warm regards from Israel (where I am staying at the moment),

Jane

2010/9/9 M. Witkowska <m.witkowska@dziennik.lodz.pl>

Dear Mrs. Korman

I am a polish journalist from Lodz, and I would like to write an article about your father and your latest project 'I will survive' in Auschwitz.

I know there is a lot of articles written about the issue, so I don't want to bother you to tell your story once again.

But as we are a local newspaper and the aspect of our city is most important for us, I would be grateful if you could answer us a few more questions.

Could you tell us, when did you were in Lodz?

How did you feel here?

Would you come back?

Is it still possible to recognise the Jewish past of the city?

What does your father tell about his life here?

Do you remember the name of the street in Lodz Ghetto where you are dancing? I mean the scene on the pavement with the ads „Bridgestone" and „Dębica"?

Is it possible to contact your father and listen to his story?

I think your project is amazing and thought-provoking.

Kind regards,

Matylda Witkowska

dziennikarka Działu Miejskiego

Polski Dziennik Łódzkiego

T: 042 665 91 25

M: 0600 502 295

E: m.witkowska@dziennik.lodz.pl

Grupa Wydawnicza Polskapresse

Oddział Prasa Łódzka

Reply from Jane:

Hi Matylda,

Thanks so much for your letter. I think my father would be pleased to talk to you. His number is 61 3 98268172 (61=Australia, 3= Melbourne).

To answer your questions:

Could you tell us, when were you in Lodz?

We were in Lodz in June last year (2009).

How did you feel here?

It was a strange feeling there because, on one hand, we had a nice time and people were friendly. But, when talking to a few different people (eg. the non Jewish caretaker at the Synagogue). We would hear comments like : 'In Poland, the people hated the Jews, they still hate the Jews, and they will always hate the Jews. And most of these people have never even met a Jew.'

I found this comment interesting, and wondered if it was true or not. And if it was true, I tried to make sense of this ongoing hatred - where it comes from, why is it so

prevalent and fierce, and if anything can be done to shift people's negative opinions about 'The Jews.'

·Yes, I would definitely come back – especially if the trip was associated with reconciliation between the Jews and the Poles. Even though my mother was born in Poland, she didn't want to return with us. She still feels a deep hurt and sense of betrayal from her friends and neighbours, who offered no support or help (while the Jews were being persecuted in Poland and throughout Europe), and who eventually betrayed her and her family to the SS.

Is it still possible to recognise the Jewish past of the city?

·Yes, it is still possible to recognize the Jewish parts of the city. The large Jewish cemetery is still there, even though most of the tombstones are desecrated and the cemetery is very neglected. My father showed us Poznanski's mausoleum and told us about him. He said that Poznanski was a prominent Jew who established a thriving textile industry in Lodz.

There are hardly any signs of Jewish life in the area where my dad used to live and where he spent four years in the Lodz ghetto, (10 Wroclawska Street), before he and his family were all deported to Auschwitz.

Strangers are now living in the home he grew up in (Originally called 'Srodmiejska' Street, 47, now called 'Wieckowskiego Street'). When we visited there, my father was very nervous and anxious and didn't want to get too close to the building. I think this is because his fears from the past were once again brought to the surface.

We went with my father to Kopernika School where he tried to enrol. (However he wasn't allowed to study here because only a small percent of Jewish students were permitted entrance to the school).

My father was very proud to take us to the main promenade: 'Piotrkowska St.' where he and his friends used to walk up and down before the War. However, at the beginning of the war, when all Jews had to wear the yellow Star of David, he said he sometimes dared not to wear it, but was recognized by some of his earlier school colleagues, and subsequently brutally bashed up.

On this trip, I wanted to take a photo of him wearing the Star of David once again. He agreed for only a few seconds, but, after a few seconds, wearing it brought back too many traumatic memories.

We noticed many swastikas graffitied on walls -we were confused whether they were anti Semitic or just part of a soccer team. We also visited the site where the Synagogue stood where my father had his Bar Mitzvah. Now the site is a car park, and there is a large poster of the synagogue on one of the bordering walls.

We also visited the Radagost train station, where one can see a cattle train that transported the Jews from Lodz to Auschwitz Death Camp.

Do you remember the name of the street in Lodz Ghetto where you are dancing? I mean the scene on the pavement with the ads „Bridgestone" and „Dębica"?

·I don't know what is the name of the street in the Lodz ghetto where we are dancing, but I know the Ghetto was known by the name 'Litzmaunstadt Ghetto.'

What does your father tell about his life here?

·My father has many stories about his life here, but it is best to talk to him about this. I will attach an interview I had with him last year.

I hope these answers are helpful!

Warm Regards,

Jane

(P.S. I sent some separate photos to you of our time in Lodz)

Reply from Matylda:

Fri, Sep 17, 2010 at 1:21 AM

Hi Jane,

The article is ready and I'll send you a copy as soon as I have a digital version. It might also be tomorrow in the Internet, but I'm not sure.

Your dad was very helpful and I think he was really happy to get the phone call from Lodz. He asked me to send him a copy of the newspaper, but I don't know if I put the address down properly. I noted:

Adam Kohn

498 A Toorek Road

Toorek Vic. 3142

Australia

I asked here in Lodz about the Kopernika School, and a historian who worked there and wrote a history of the school, said it is not true that they had limits for Jews, as the school was established by Poles, Jews and Germans together and had students and teachers from different backgrounds. But it was extremely difficult to get there and a lot of students made the exams for three or more times to succeed. So I don't know who is right. Maybe you should ask your father once more.

The sentence "Poles hate Jews and always will" that you send me, made me think and as I think it's not true, I'll try to answer it.

I think young Poles just don't care whether you're Jewish or anything else. We had to be all the same during the communist era and now it is a bit trendy to have a Jewish background, and there is a lot of people who learn Jewish dances or music. There is a Jewish amateur choir in Lodz, where a lot of Poles sing. They made a new album with the songs from Litzmanstadt Ghetto. It is here: (www.clil.org).

The David's stars you saw on the walls are made by football hooligans and you shouldn't take it seriously; the hooligans do a lot of other bad things and this is a big problem in our city. But the polish attitude toward Jews is also complicated. When I was small my grandma told me that she was afraid to enter a Jewish square in her town, because she heard the Jews used to catch the Christian children and put them in the barrel with nails and took their blood for the matzah (maca in Polish). As kids we used to buy maca in a grocery and I was wondering why it is white and not pink if you have to put some blood into it. I know how it sounds, but my grandma really told me that!

But on the other hand my granddad was always very fond of the Jews. I think they are the part of his nice memories of the early years when his father made businesses with them. He remembers my granddad shaking his Jewish partner's hand at the beginning of the war and hoping to meet again soon when the times are better. That was their last handshake, because they both soon got killed.

I also heard polish kids telling jokes about the Holocaust (you wouldn't like to hear them) and I remember that my mum got really angry when I brought these jokes home from the playground. She said nobody would tell such jokes in her home about the nation, who suffered so much. And we had a very serious "educational" talk afterward. :)

It's really not so easy and if you asked Poles what they think about Jews (and if they answer honestly), you would probably get 38 million different answers. Some enthusiastic, some indifferent, some full of prejudices.

I cannot explain it easier.

Thank you once more for your help.

Best regards,

Matylda

chris1211990 has posted a comment on your profile:

this is a very very cool video to see this man go back and stand up to his fears.. its people like him to change the world

L0leka

Sat, Sep 18, 2010 at 3:59 PM

I read an article in "Die Zeit" about that clip. i already cried reading the article, now i'm deeply touched once again. thank you for showing the world you survived. thank you for celebrating. thank you for uploading that clip. it makes people think. in the article they said sth about problems concerning the "i will survive" -rights, but reading tht in the context of an holocaust-article seemed absolutely ridiculous to me. but i'm sure you're gonna get over THAT problem as well! =] good luck!

http://www.youtube.com/comment_servlet?all_comments=1&v=DpfID7pLe7M

! lenamarie10 1 month ago

I had to cry when I saw this video, partly of joy and partly because_ of the things that happened there and that never can be atoned. I'm from Germany and I'm so ashamed of what happened in my country long before I was born. It was a great thing to make and publish this video, it doesn't disrespect the victims. It's his right to feel joy about his survival and I'm glad that he can feel joy and isn't traumatized.

! cattom2006 1 month ago 4

Dear Jane, compliments to your video, and all best wishes to your lovely parents. Your dad reminds me of the great Victor Klemperer, who also survived the nazi time and his diary is an important source about what was going on inside the society during the war. I was watching your video with a smile and tears in my eyes, and your dad can be proud of having children and grandchildren like you. God bless_ you all!

! hummingbird2267 1 month ago

Dear Jane, thank you so much for having done this! It is such a beautiful act of changing/ replacing drama and fear into joy of life! It was time for this change, You have given Germany a new perspective and shown a way to let go the old and to celebrate the joy of life_ instead. Life is so precious, we should laugh, dance and celebrate much much more, just to enjoy Life. Thank you for bringing more joy into this world.

! monkeetime 2 months ago

Oh fuck this is awesome. People are pissed off that the old man is celebrating his life, FUCK THEM. Incidentally, the scribbling on the wall P...I..Z...D...A... is Polish for "cunt". If there is anything to be pissed off about_ here it is that antisemitism is still well and alive in Poland and Germany and it is the local youth that are disrespectful to Jews and humanity as a whole. Good video. If Germans are pissed about him making fun of the camp, maybe in the future no more camps? Thx

dgb200812 2 months ago 6

Jane, the greatest joy in winning comes from not forgetting where you have arrived from. This celebration is significant not only to the Jewish people but to all who have suffered. Do not live the trials of yesteryears today, remember them, and celebrate the victories you have today.

The world should see the video! I am not Jewish but my people were slaves for_ many years. Tortured, raped, killed for sport, etc... I celebrate everyday for where many of our people stand today. A Black President

<http://www.youtube.com/inbox>
21 Sept 2010

HI Jane,

My name is Ben McGill (Gefilta). Responding to your message left on my YouTube page. I saw photos of Miss World Peace on Face Book. Vanessa Steinberg who is a friend of mine (interviewed you on Lion FM Melbourne) commented on some photos of MWP being abused by Students For Palestine. I was concerned that whenever I told anyone about this story that no one believed me. I was aware that with your photos and only the written testimony of what was said I wanted to videotape such events with quality audio. This was advertised as an 'end the blockade' protest in Melbourne. But the actual slogans chanted were DEATH DEATH ZIONIST SCUM and FROM THE RIVER TO THE SEA. No talk of Peace no mention of two states. It was my intention to remain an objective viewer but Vanessa got slightly (!) upset at some of the things said and pulled out a small Israeli Flag. A man hit her hands and tore up the flag. Much other viscious bile was poured forth which I filmed. A policeman asked me if I had film of the incident of Vanessa being hit. I said I would give him a copy. I then filmed the man who hit her. A man in the crowd took exception to me, telling me I looked scared and that I should be scared because everyone there wanted to murder me. He proceeded to swear and issue threats. I went over to talk to him after without filming him but he started swearing and threatening so I turned the camera on again as my only defence. He then hit me across the head knocking my hat off (in the usual anti-semtic gesture) with a

whack to the side of my head. I kept filming as he told my sister who was doing nothing but talk to people that he hoped we die of cancer.

Anyway sorry for long ugly story.

Dancing at Auschwitz made me cry. Very proud of you.

Love, Ben

s.kayser@ggaweb.ch

Sun, Sep 12, 2010 at 8:52 PM

I'm very glad to read your answer.

Life in Switzerland, it isn't a country with much emotions about the Holocaust. But I was a German wife and I cry each time if I see your video. To see the joy about the survive, so moving.

I'm a grandchild of a German Wehrmacht soldier. He wrote about a command to shut a lot of persons in Serbia. He knew that. And he did suicide after the war.

In my family, this story was never conversation. I felt, that the story about his suicide wasn't the truth. And I researched about the story.

However, your video is with so much happiness and openness.

I work in a school and I teach to draw. The first 5 minutes at the paint lesson I show a artwork and we speak about them.

My students are 14 years old, and in the school, the Holocaust was no comment to this time. They learn about the 2 world war in 1 year. (If it is time)

My question was about the ethics. To dance at a place where so many people were killed. I ask them if they will do it on a Cemetery. It's the same? The opinions were clearly. Your father and children (grandchildren) are 3 generations. Without the survive, you and your sibling and your children and nephew and ?not at? wasn't alive. They discussed also, that's a different to dance on a cemetery (the date is "normal") and a place where so many people were killed. It is like a victory about this system and this violence. I hope you and your family get a lot of positive opinions about this video, I preserve it in my heart.

I hope, you can read this, I know, my English isn't the best, I have to learn it so much better. With best wishes Sibylle

Sibylle Kayser

Vermittlerin von Kunst und Design

Bachelor of Art

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www.kulturkunstvermittlung.ch

Mon, Oct 4, 2010 at 5:40 PM

johannastrack@yahoo.de

Hallo Frau Korman, mein Englisch ist nicht so gut, darum schreibe ich auf deutsch.

Ich bin tief berührt von der Geschichte Ihres Vaters, dem Projekt mit den Enkelkindern zu tanzen. Ich habe den Artikel Anfang September in der Zeitung gelesen und heute das Video angeschaut.

Ich beschäftige mich selbst immer wieder mit der jüdischen Geschichte. Meine Eltern sind Heimatvertriebene, hatten auch ein schlimmes Schicksal und so bin ich immer mit dem "Leben" und "Überleben" beschäftigt.

Vielen, vielen Dank- ich finde, dass es ein sehr guter Weg ist mit der schweren Geschichte umzugehen und bin dankbar, dass ich Sie auf diese Weise kennenlernen durfte.

Herzliche Grüße aus Kehl am Rhein, das ist in Süddeutschland und Grüße an Ihre ganze Familie,

Johanna Strack-Zeiser

(Hello Ms. Korman, my English is not so good, so I write in German.

I am deeply touched by the story of your father, the project with the grandchildren to dance. I have read the article in early September in the newspaper today and watched the video. I am working for myself on the Jewish history. My parents are home to displaced people, also had a bad fate, so I'm always busy with "life" and "survival."

Thank you so much, I think that it's a very good way to deal with the serious story and am grateful that I could meet you in this way.

Greetings from Kehl am Rhein, which is in southern Germany and greetings to your family,

Joan Strack-Zeiser).

Reply from Jane:

Hi Johanna,

Thank you so much for your supportive letter. I put your letter into 'google translate' so I could understand it.

I am pleased to hear that you were moved by the video, and how it touches on life and survival, and that it had a personal meaning for you.

With warm wishes,

Jane

10redworm

Thu, Oct 28, 2010 at 5:58 PM

Thank you for reminding me that what happened all those years ago was truly a crime against humanity. Not only because it ended lives of people at the time, but because it eliminated all the families that could have been dancing in a different environment all these years later. This

memorial certainly should not replace traditional ones, but it definitely enhances them. Thank you.

veronikasabisch@yahoo.de

On Tue, Nov 9, 2010 at 4:18 AM,
Veronika Sabisch

dear jane, yes! i got it. it would be nice to try the large filed size a well...to see the differenz in the quality. but iam already very happy, that i recieved yours family dance in freedom.

this year in spring (i do a training in family constellation and rosenmethod-bodywork) my teaching was about acceptance.

my teacher told us, really to accept in its depth means to accept the holocaust.

to accept, that it was how it was. there followed a big silence.

i do not know, if you can imagine what this means for a german. this thing with the acceptance and the holocaust was an absolut tabu! its so easy to say, i accept...but this showed us the true deep meaning of acceptance.

and than i understood while i experienced it. there was an incredible freedom and peace behind this. and i knew, that this is the way, how healing starts. there is nothing to excuse for us,

(to excuse means for me to try to take away the respnsibility) it was horrible, what happened but there is acception. i can not hide it, i can not get rid of my past but i can accept it. for me this was a moment full of joy.

in those day i found your videos and they are so full of wisdom without making anything little. for me it is a love story with life.

so thank you,
thank your wonderfull father

with love
veronika

YouTube Service
40bcoots

Sun, Nov 21, 2010 at 9:52 AM

Jane ... the soundtrack version can be found on People Dancing at Aushwitz ..(heard about this on ABC Sunday Arts today) ... good on yers gal ... an inspirational series to all, to show

that the human spirit for life will always be the first priority. Dancing on graves, maybe.. but dancing for what cannot be suppressed ..Lest we forget. Keep on dancing. Thank you very much, for the vids & your reply comments.

Tue, Dec 14, 2010 at 12:32 AM annemiecucu has made a comment on I Will

Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part2:

So beautiful...you are a true example of humanity, thank you....as Hannah Arendt said:

Forgiveness is the key to action and freedom.

Beyond evil, life and liberty triumphs and will keep on doing so as a never ending dancing_ song. =)

Dec1st 2010-12-19

HalalKafir has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part3:

Big ups and much respect to the Jews who didn't let the Holocaust experience crush their spirits forever.

Your survival is a big, giant middle finger to every Nazi, Muslim troglodyte or any other type of anti-Semite on this planet.

The sweetest revenge is to live well!

Shalom!

Reply from Jane:

Hi Halal, It's Jane from 'Dancing Auschwitz.' I just wanted to say thank you for your great reply you sent - good on you, and wishing you alot of good health and happiness amongst the madness. Jane x

robert.f.dorr@cox.net

Wed, Jan 5, 2011 at 1:08 AM

Jane,

I'm an author and newspaper columnist and one of many who were deeply touched by your "Dance Auschwitz" video.

But I'm less impressed by the absence of any discussion on your web site (where your surname is spelled two ways) of the controversy that this video has inspired. You say you removed the music because of copyright infringement. How about alleged copyright infringement?

You owe your fans an explanation. Exactly what happened? Did the owner of the song contact you and, if so, when and how? Did you try to explain to the owner of the song that you've given it more publicity than it enjoyed in its lifetime? Are you going to take this sitting down?

What?

I can find no discussion of these matters on your site.

Best,
Robert F. Dorr

3411 Valewood Drive
Oakton VA 22124
robert.f.dorr@cox.net
(703) 264-8950

Letter from Robert Dorr to the lawyer working for Universal Music Studios:

Dear Mr. Foulkes,

I'm one of many people around the world who were deeply touched by the video "Dancing Auschwitz," which shows a Holocaust survivor and young adults in his family dancing at the sites of Nazi death camps. I have no ties to anyone involved in the making or showing of the video. I'm just a fan. I'm also an author of books, magazine articles and newspaper columns on military subjects.

The message from the video is heart-rending: You will not destroy us. Joy will prevail over death. It is a universal story.

The maker wanted as background music the song "I Will Survive" to which your company apparently owns the rights.

Like many people, I was only vaguely aware of the song before the video was made. If your company would allow the video to be shown as planned, it would be the best publicity you could possibly get for this piece of music. Instead of getting that excellent -- and free -- publicity, you are besmirching your name and offending people all over the world by attempting to force your powerhouse copyright legalisms on an amateur art student.

You need to tell your bosses at Universal Music that they are on the wrong path. You could do a lot of good for your company and for the song by embracing the "Dancing Auschwitz" video.

Best wishes,

Bob Dorr

Robert F. Dorr
3411 Valewood Drive
Oakton VA 22124
robert.f.dorr@cox.net
(703) 264-8950

corcoran56@gmail.com

Wed, Jul 14, 2010 at 10:43 AM

Dear Jane, sorry for bothering you, but I have to write this mail. I've just watched all three parts of the "Dancing Auschwitz".

This is something extraordinary. Marvellous. One of the best history lessons someone can have - just in a few minutes.

In a few weeks here in Poland we're starting our biannual Leonard Cohen Event - the gathering of Leonard Cohen fans from all over the world.

You may go to <http://leonardcohenevent.info/> and <http://www.leonardcohenfiles.com/> (Krakow 2010 link) if you like to learn more about our meeting.

As the Event takes place in Krakow - just near Auschwitz, I was looking for some video material to present to our guests. And this was pure luck - to find your video clip. I just want to thank you for your work. Including Cohen's "Dance me..." was also something very moving - you of course know the history of this song.

Once again - thank you, Jane. Please also say a big THANK YOU to your Dad and the rest of your family that took part in this moving project.

Regards

Mirek Dworniczak - The Leonard Cohen Event Spokesman

Facebook Elka Leibovitch
10.1.11

hi Jane,

thank you for writing. the song is not mine, but i thought it was very appropriate in response to your Dancing in Auschwitz and the controversy it sparked up. i think what you put together is amazing in many more ways than just an art piece. you showed the world true meaning of survival - that it's not just continual mourning, carrying the burden of the painful past, but it's joy in the moment that you have, excited by love of the family you have... even in the place where it was decided that you were not meant to be! Joy breaks all boundaries and you shared the message with the world in the most beautiful way... please keep it coming! for anyone who is not aware, the Lubavitcher Rebbe King Moshiach explained that in dance feet elevate the body and the body elevates the head... dance rises us up above everything in a complete body/soul experience... we need to continue to lift our heads/minds and take ourselves outside "the box"... so i hope you dance... you, your dad, your children, grandchildren, together with the rest of us. once again, thank you!!! peace and blessings.

11.1.11
soundings

will you and your family please feel free to dance and fiddle on my grave! (although I think it will have to wait for a bit, the invitation will stand...)

Anyone making it through hell on earth gets to celebrate however they like, as far as I am concerned. You, your kids, and your dad are awesome.

25.2.11

Adnilson Vaz wants to be friends on Facebook.

Adnilson says, "Hello! I watched the video "Dancing Auschwitz" and followed the whole story, I confess that I was very touched by everything. It would be an honor for me to be in contact with you, even if only via internet. shalom, shalom!"

mair5@iinet.net.au

19.1.11

Dear JANE,

EXTEND G-d's BLESSING and beautiful SHALOM. YOU ARE A VERY SPECIAL LADY & FAMILY in G-d's EYES.

THANK YOU kindly for responding. When I read you had 200,000 hits thought what chance have I. G-d has been very GRACIOUS to us both.

May I press your generosity & request a copy for my dear JEWISH SISTER. She is 84yrs, a very dear FRIEND. Know she will enjoy. Like you we think also very similar. Dancing on those particular sites PERSONALLY BELIEVE you are RECLAIMING the lost ground with a declaration in the natural BUT more significantly in the SPIRITUAL REALM. My FRIEND was in England as a young girl evacuated with her older sister to YORKSHIRE till after the war. EVEN today after all these years she gets distressed with images of war & particularly German / HITLER. SOME trivial information. Hitler B/day 20th April. Queen England, my FRIEND AND my ex-wife ALL on the 21st APRIL. One monster & three Queens.

REALLY APPRECIATE YOUR OFFER. I'M NOT THAT COMPETENT ON THE COMPUTER - VERY BASIC SO VERY SATISFIED WHAT COMES. THANK YOU SO MUCH.

ADDRESS:-

*Alan MAIR
UNIT 23/
25-27 Parkhill Way,
WILSON WA 6107.*

*G-d BLESS YOU & FAMILY
NUMBERS 6v 24-26.
SHALEM, SHALOM*

Dear Jane,

Firstly I'm from West Australia-Perth. Was last year saw an article on National Television ' I WILL SURVIVE ' & your FAMILY DANCING. Decided to wait for things to settle down. Very HOT TOPIC if I recall. Leading up to XMAS trying to decide a gift for my 19yr old son ANTHONY. Your dvd clip came to mind. OFTEN in time past he would sing this very song. XMAS has obviously past & so has his birthday 6th January. Bought him a dvd The FRISCO KID. We are in a separated situation, however he responded just last night THANKING me for the card & gift. I've had enormous difficulty getting onto you. This mail address was from Monash University. To the POINT I'd like a copy of the video clip. APPARENTLY you DANCED at other locations. ARE THESE AVAILABLE ALSO ? APPRECIATE a copy of dvd. Personally think you were very courageous.

BUT

WHAT A WONDERFUL ACT, PROPHETIC WORDS & ACTIONS, AND A BRAVE DECLARATION of THOUGHTS & DEEDS. COMMEND YOU AND YOUR FAMILY.

Dear Jane,

SHALOM [PEACE].

This morning I've spent time examining your creative work AND visited your web site, YES quite an achievement. You are certainly very gifted & talented lady who does not lack boldness or creativity. PEACE is obviously something your pursue vigiously. HAVE YOU FOUND PEACE? My journey in life though not as colourful as your own has indeed found a measure of PEACE. ONLY in my later years with a relationship with the LIVING G-d has this PEACE & CONTENTMENT been more real.

In 2002 Oct/Nov travelled on a personal pilgrimage to Jordan & ISRAEL. Although only a brief period the Promised Land had a lasting impact.

One of my goals was ' BEARING GIFTS ' from the Mayor of Albany, WA to the Mayor of Beer Sheba, Jerusalem & now PM Bibi NETANYAHU.

SECOND goal was to follow in the FOOTSTEPS of the ANZAC's through Israel/ Jordan. Having a grandfather & an uncle in two war campaigns.

THIRDLY was my spiritual awakening. Kissing the WAILING WALL on Friday / Shabbat bought a deep well of unawared emotions to surface.

FOLLOW by several wonderful experiences through the land G-d proved more tangible. Highlighted on the Sea of Galilee or Lake Kinneret.

Recall the morning vividly. Mist hung on the surrounding hillsides. The motor on the ' Jesus Boat ' was silent. Now we were stationary in the stillness of the Lake without even a ripple. Almost an errie silence crept over us all. Some 20 minutes everyone sat motionless in a PEACE.

Then someone broke this beautiful quietness with a request. Has anyone received? I immediately reponded with a song Be STILL and Know.

ALL 18 broke into singing in one harmony, one accord & absolute unity concluding with last lines/ words Be STILL and Know that I AM G-d.

AGAIN everyone fell into a long period of silence G-d's PEACE. This golden moment of time was then broken by the starting/return to shore.

G-d BLESSED me with many wonderful, treasured and memorable moments in His LAND. ONE day G-d willing & in G-d's timing shall return.

AS you may appreciate from above & correspondence G-d / Bible / Israel are the central points of my life. My prayer for you is G-d's PEACE

would surround you tangibly as I experienced in Galilee ' Peace Be Still '. Today would mark a significant shift in your pursuit for ' PEACE '.

May the G-d of all PEACE saturate your entire creative being from this day forward & your outward expression be a continual river of PEACE.

My prayer is the creator who wonderfully gifted you with all talents be persued & those gifts be returned to glorify G-d the giver of all PEACE.

NOW HERE IS A CREATIVE CHALLENGE. HAVE YOU EVER CREATED ART/ DANCE/SONG DEPICTING G-d's DIVINE INSPIRATIONAL WORD? THIS IS THE ' HIGHEST CALLING ' BECAUSE YOU ARE REQUIRED TO SURRENDER ALL YOUR GIFTS / TALENTS BACK TO THE CREATOR .

MANY ASPIRE TO BLESS OTHERS WITH THIER GIFTS BUT TO GLORIFY G-d IS THE GREATEST GIFT OF ALL AND TO G-d BE THE GLORY.

SHALOM & SHALOM.

27.2.11

http://www.youtube.com/user/cutamisraeli?email=profile_comment_received Dear Jane, I just made a comment to your silent version but I didn't see it appear after I refreshed the screen. I suppose you approve the comments first. I hope it was not some malfunction on the part of YouTube. What I said came from the heart. Shalom from Tel Aviv, Mark

11yossi11 (15 hours ago) the "i will survive" video is awesome its really touch my heart.. your grandfather is a very stong man i hope for you and for_ your famliy all the good things in this world.. thanks you for the video.. peace and love, yossi..

28.2.11

ruth.hills@yorks.ac.uk

Hello Jane

I am a student at York St John University in England and i am currently in my second year of studying Theatre. We have recently been shown your Dancing at Auschwitz video and we are currently researching into your work. i was wondering if you would be able to assist me in the background of the process you went through to develop this piece and why you wanted to do it? and also about the family members in the video. i wondered what their thoughts were when you told them what you were wanting to create.

I also thought it would be a nice for you to hear about how far your work has travelled and say that i really liked the videos which you created and it has an uplifting message.

Anything you would be able to tell me about the process would be much appreciated

Many Thanks

Ruth Hills

2011vostok

Kids in a Victorian Secondary school, in Year 9 have just started a reading unit which we've called 'Surviving the Horror'. YOUR dad made the difference to their first gut understanding of what happened. They said..he's laughing! They're amazed at his dancing. They are so used to putting their finger up at people they see as cruel...they GET your dad doing the same. THANK YOU for such an amazing, strong way in for our kids.

<http://www.youtube.com/user/janeandycollette>

28.4.11

Dancing Movie. To: janekorman

Ms. Korman,

My name is Jane Butler and I am a teacher at a middle school in Tucson. My students are currently reading Night by Elie Wiesel and we've been discussing the Holocaust and events surrounding WWII.

This week I showed the students a copy of the video you produced at Auschwitz and we've had some incredible discussion about the reasons behind the video and how the students feel.

The students wanted to write letters expressing their opinions and I took the opportunity to help them practice their writing skills.

Many students would like to send the letters, but I want to be respectful of your family and time. Please let me know if and where I can send the letters, and perhaps you or your father can write one letter in response to my students. I know they would be thrilled to learn more about this issue.

Thank you for your time. I look forward to your response.

You can email me at jbutler@cfs.

Mar 25, 2011

Dear Jane Korman,

I would like to congratulate you on your work, especially Dancing Auschwitz. I am Polish art historian engaged in contemporary political art at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poland. I have shown it to a few group of students, even placed on my facebook profile (I hope you do not mind that - I used the youtube link). The impact of this work is tremendous. I have been lectureing on art and the Holocaust relation and find it among very best on the subject ever, apt and moving.

Kindest regards,

Magdalena Radomska

Tue, Mar 29, 2011
radomska@amu.edu.pl

Dear Jane,

I am so happy to hear from you! I can answer your question in a really long letter and I do hope you will not get bored soon. This is the very question I have been asking myself and students of mine since I saw this work for the first time.

Basically it is very moving- I have watched it about 20 times and was crying every time, so did others.

My students stress that this work is deprived of the heaviness of the Holocaust narration and I do think they perceive it mainly on the level of what I would call 'a hope for survival'.

It was the main factor I started analysing the work during lectures as I found this interpretation just partially perceptive towards the factors of impact I thought they had not realised.

I have not written the analysis though, so I can only draw a sketch of it. My art historical research is focused on political art, especially communism and postcommunism. I had other major, though - philosophy and my tools are post Marxism and psychoanalysis.

Before you created *Dancing Auschwitz* I had one main work to present to students how trauma can be cured by repetition and it was Polish artist Artur Zmijewski work 80064 - he talked Auschwitz prisoner to renew the tattoo with the number on his arm. It was highly criticized (that he used the man instrumentally and the man became the victim of this art work). I do think his body served as the conductor of the collective trauma, so partially he was privileged as well that on his very body the trauma was cured. But in this work there is nothing more, I think, that this psychoanalytical operation.

In your work the repetition seemingly applies to the very act of visiting the camp after years but the camp is already overtaken by ideology, Polish national narration mainly, mythology, the demand for punch line and educational value. So it seems impossible to come back. To me the dance you performed was the act of making your bodies conductors of the structure of power inscribed in the space. It was a rebellion but with all consequences. In order to reveal the annexation of the space by many different discourses you performed movements which were not predicted by the space. So I would not see the dance as triumphant in the basic sense. Rather - you went as far as you could in compassion -

used your bodies to reveal the structure of the space. Lightness of this dance is seemingly the opposition of the heavy weight of ideology but its defenselessness embraces the ideology in that it cannot embrace it. The gesture unlike the violence cannot be returned and only on this way is a gesture of victory, but not a triumphant one.

The lyrics which are referring to the contrary process - someone coming back to our life as we never deprived him of the key from your father's point of view - the one who is coming back but also the one to whom something is coming back, as the significant part of his identity was still left there - I would analyse from a Lacanian point of view the extended, dissipated identity. He never deprived Auschwitz of the key, as Auschwitz to some extent equals him. But it requires a Lacanian apparatus to explain.

On the next level I would analyse the subject of this work which to me is not your father, but you. The lyrics of the song sung by a woman referring to a man to me are very personal parts of this work. I think the Lacanian 'Nom du Pere', name of father equals language (that is your father who is speaking at the end of the work) and the law - would be appropriate here. Somehow the Nom du Pere in this case is incomplete as the identity of the father is dissipated. It is, though particularly striking in Jewish culture by the special status of the father figure which is in itself the reflection of the Lacanian notion. So to me these lyrics are - oversimplifying - the parole towards your father who in a sense in a traumatic way is coming back after years in a psychoanalytical sense - he is meeting his dissipated parts of identity.

The set of dancers is significant as well - your father functions here as the father to your children - it means in the structure of identity his dissipation caused a tremendous chain-effect and their identity somehow has been burdened with it as well.

T-shirts are also significant - it raises the question of the survivor. How can one live through - if only that one who lived? How can someone who did not live something can live through? Very interesting narration appears when the lyrics and pictures are juxtaposed in analysis - for instance you show an immobilized wagon and the song goes "I could never live without you by my side" which shows a striking resemblance to "I could never leave without you by my side" - in order of Lacanian 'chain of signifiers'. There are much

more – the chimneys, gates all relevant from psychoanalytical point of view (and the key in lyrics) and the fact that narration has love/erotic connotations sang by woman , repeated by woman – you – is precious.

There is so much more but the core is that narration so individual and fragile and feminine is not winning here but performs a gesture irreversible – thus establishing a checkmate for the discourses in power. In my research I stress the trauma which was the fall of the communism. I do find something similar in here – not trauma of holocaust, but the one of healing. I read many prisoners died just after they were freed because they were hungry and they wanted to eat normally but the organism’ s norm was already disturbed. I mean the disturbed notional structure to be a base of the disturbed identity is the case after the Holocaust. To me your work does not deal exclusively with the Holocaust trauma, but the secondary one, the healing trauma (I use trauma in Freudian sense –something unexpected which forces us to redefine our categories of perception and defining ourselves).

To be honest I would not know what to do with Leonard Cohen as I love him so much I can not keep any distance. I do think though the important part of the song which one can relate your work to would be ‘raise a tent of shelter now, though every thread is torn’.

I am sorry for the long answer but I was not able to answer shortly. I do think is especially important to show it in Poland which has been so damaged by the right-winged politics, nationalistic, anti-Semitic, etc. – that your great achievement is the work which discuss that as well.

Very best and thank you,
Magdalena Radomska

Mon, Apr 11, 2011
kallenbachalex@gmx.de
Hallo Jane,

thanks a lot! It worked wonderfully! The exam lesson will occur May the 20th. Of course I will inform you afterwards how the class went.

I've chosen your video among other things because at first sight it has a certain shock-value. I hope that this provocation encourages the students to express their opinion about the video and to ask questions for further research in the lesson about how we could bear in remembrance our history.

At the end of the lesson we should come back to your video and the students should discuss again if, in their opinion, the video could be an adequate contribution to the remembrance of our history.

At this I hope that the students analyze the video more than at first sight and work out the message: the victory of life and love about death and hate. This matches very well with the appeal of Sally Perel, a survivor of the Shoah, who visited our school and prompted our students to fight against intolerance, exclusion and racism and to fight for peace, tolerance and democracy.

Thanks a lot again!

Yours sincerely,

Alexander

1.3.11 mrwn1979 has made a
comment on

I Will Survive?? Dancing Auschwitz. Silenced version:

i fell this like a celebration act of life, at first. its not amoral or perverse think. on the ways of death and torture, the survival dancing with his grandchildren. greeting from Czech republic.

HATE & ANGER mail

*Filthy Jews
How did these ones manage to survive?
Hitler fucked up*

*In the name of the Kedoshim, my saintly grandfather and grandmother who
were murdered at Auschwitz,
This video is a desecration of their lives
and their final resting place.
You are literally dancing on the ashes of the Kedoshim
For what - your ego?
SHAME ON YOU.*

The world NEEDS a new Hitler, ASAP !!

17.7.10

From: ottowaldmann@hotmail.com

Simply because "immature " and "inconsiderate" are both found in the Dictionary.

Obviously you are unable to make the distinction between offending others and expressing yourself.

While I would be elated that your Grandfather has escaped the horrors of the camps, over one hundred of my own family did not.

Providential touches that allowed too few to survive should carry the humble respect for those who did not.

One does not celebrate that one has managed to make it while knowing that millions more ended up in the gas chambers. It is selfish, inconsiderate. One keeps the gratitude to himself while honouring those left behind.

I hate the nazis, but I have ways to get back at them WITHOUT compromising the unaltered deference for those who never had a chance to see their grandchildren.

Otto Waldmann

Sydney

Several neo-Nazi websites in which they wrote: (Translation) *Look, the Jews are still dancing in every corner. We aren't through with them; we will finish them in the next Holocaust.*

<http://www.stormfront.org/forum/t395023-161/#post8128007>.

<http://www.stormfront.org/forum/t223923/>

<http://apnews.myway.com//article/200...D8BT4GMG0.html>

<http://www.stormfront.org/forum/t724658/>

<http://kuruc.info/r/22/61638/>

<http://egymagyar.blogspot.com/2010/06/vilagszam.html>

<http://hotterthanapileofcurry.wordpress.com/2010/07/05/the-things-holocaustsurvivors-can-get-away-with-singing-dancing-at-auschwitz/>

<http://thewestislamandsharia.blogspot.com/2010/07/i-will-survive-dancingauschwitz.html>

As_ for the graffiti, well, I can't speak for the whole Europe, I know only Hungary. People here are envy of Jews getting compensation for their sufferings, because no one got any compensation for sufferings caused by the communists. And considerably more of the communists were Jew then statistically should have been.

yence of Hungary (Zala)

Yes, I am Hungarian.

But I am looking for the contacts with friends from who they tremble with fear on the internet the conceited and insolent Zionist, who want to dominate all of the world. It is necessary to break the Zionist world hegemony!

My Sweet Homeland Hungary suffers the prevailing pressure of these soulless global worms.

The stupid Zionist it scribble for me, that I would be an anti-Semite? Hahaha! Almost 500 of my Arab acquaintances, my friend are already. And they Semitic:semitic folk! So then! And I am a Semitic:semitic friend. I am antizionist merely, and it not all the same. Little stupid datahunting!

The Hungarian "partizaninfo.blogspot.com" a dirty Zionist and communist spy blog! It the Hungarian Zionist strengths finance our country is tormented by who and it is ruined!

My Arab friends! I am not fascist! I may not stand these conceited, insolent, evil and hypocritical Zionist only!

We dampen their superiority grin from their cheek!

Russian! But so many antisemitic posts in Russian. There are many not-antisemitic, but ...

Even it is a shame to me with Russian! But this video remarkable, strong and at the same time shocking and provocative. A true art! Thanks! This new word in preservation of memory of the Holocaust! Thanks!

What makes you think that you_ can mentor me?

What makes you think that I haven't been studying all those books or even more?

You see here comes your basic mentality that you think you are all above the non jewish! If you were that intelligent nation as you try to show then there would be no problem all around the jews.

@holocostmaker

There is not and was under the sun more bloodthirsty and revengeful people than train-ing. They stifle and destroy the rest of the population and on this basis consider themselves God's chosen people.

Reply from Jane:

hey sir - it's a bit hard for me to understand you.

But what I'm guessing is that you really hate Israel/Jews. Well, that can't be helped. it is normal to hate Jews. There is a virus called the 'Jew hating' virus which lies dormant then raises its ugly head every number of years. There is always some justification which blames the Jews for the woes of the world.

84aussiechick has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz:

Whats next- running a victory lap around the twin towers because you got out unscathed??

I read all ur responses to my work. I hate the peaceful Jews and I love the murderous Arabs

kocsitomi

5 hours ago kurva_
anyátok!!!! nincs jobb
dolgotok bazdmeg?
inkább a ti általatok kirobbantott válságot kellene helyrehozni, nem?!?

(Translation: fuck your mother !!!!! There is no better fucking
errand? rather you need to fix the crisis unleashed általatok, is
not it? "?)

casanova111145 5 hours ago

a south parkba tényleg_ igazat mondtak :D:D a zsidóknak nincs ritmusérzékük
:D:D:D

(Translation: South Park said it's true: D: D for the Jews there is no sense of rhythm:
D: D: D).

agfafia 36 minutes ago

Nagy az_ Isten állatkertje

(Translation: Great is God's zoo)

kadam15 2 hours ago

Milyen érdekes. Ha az öreg főszernek ott annyira rossz volt, akkor miért is megy
vissza "mulatozni"?? Szerintem elgondolkodtató
Meg lassan lejárhata ez a "holoüzet" Kíváncsi vagyok, 10-50-100 év múlva is
menni fog_ ez az iparág??

(Translation: How interesting. If the old guy he was so bad, why do you go back to

"mulatozni"?? I think it makes you wonder. It is a slow lejáratna "holoüzlet" I wonder 10-50-100 years from now, this industry will go??)

KohnKolompar 2 hours ago 2

A nagypapi, a néhány havi ingyen üdülésért, 60 éven át tisztességes summát legombolt a német államról. Gondolom jutott_ belőle az unokáknak is, tehát minden okuk megvan az örömködéésre.

(*Translation:* The grandfather, the number of monthly free üdülésért, 60 years fair legombolt summon the German state. I think it was also the grandchildren, so there is every reason örömködéésre.)

kerekperec 2 hours ago

A két fiatal kiscsajt_ sunáznám!

(*Translation:* The two young chick sunáznám!)

antisocrat 3 hours ago

Táncoljatok a piszkos kurva anyátokat! A legenda hamarosan valósággá válik.....
Akkor viszont én fogok_ táncolni napokig. :)

(*Translation:*Táncoljatok the dirty son of a bitch! The legend will soon become a reality

Then, I will dance for days. :))

Hunfootball 3 hours ago na ezért

utáljuk ezeket a_ férgeket

(*Translation:* na hate it, these worms)

netudki1 3 hours ago

1 érték kyncza -val. menjenek táncolni Gázába, vagy az tiltott terület?_ ezek tényleg idióták....

(*Translation:* Achieved with a kyncza. Gaza go dancing, or a restricted area? they really are idiots)

jufgalw 4 hours ago

A Dunában sem tench oltak.Miért?

(*Translation*: The Dunában without táncoltak.Miért?)

NSBM74 4 hours ago 3

Holo LÜGER!!!! WIXEN_ JUDEN!!!!!!!!!!

(*Translation*: Holo LIE !!!! Wixen JEWS !!!!!!!!!!!)

yence1 5 hours ago 24

Scheißkerl Jude Bastard Jews monkey dance? :)))))) HAHHAHAHAHA! [Http://www.festivalfocus.org/n/Affe-tanzen? :\)\)\)\)\)\)](http://www.festivalfocus.org/n/Affe-tanzen? :))))))) HAHHAHAHAHA!_

nuawplnh (10 hours ago)

Polish jews it's not over ,i promise!You are not welcome in europe,stay in_ shitrael!

XD szánalom a köbön, legalább aláznák meg magukat szinkronban, de még arra sem képesek... Adjon Az Isten Szebb Jövőt! (nekik ne:D)

(*Translation*: XD compassion for the Spartans, at least humble themselves out of sync, but it can not even ... Give God has a better future! (They do not: D))

_____még most nézem, ez a köcsög leszedte a hozzászólásom, mert azt mertem, mondani, hogy nem szeretem a zsidókat, és hogy legtöbbjük hazudik, meg hogy azt sem tudják hol van auschwitz, jah, meg azt hogy az én országom, hazám, életem nem eladó :) HAJRÁ MAGYAROK SZEBB JÖVŐT!!!!

(*Translation*: Even now I look at this bitch removed the comments, because I dared to say that I do not like the Jews, and that most of them are lying, that you do not even know where is Auschwitz, Yeah, that it is my country, of my country, my life is not for sale:) Go HUNGARIANS brighter future! ")

Hawthaa 2 days ago @janekorman

First of all, I really sorry you're getting all this stupid hate-posts. A link to_ this video appeared on a Hungarian extremist blog, so that's why you're getting them. I wrote you an answer about the graffiti, but it's too long to be posted - I'll try to post it in parts; I hope it's gonna work.

yence1 (1 week ago)

Hi "soapdonor"!_ ;-)

Blackwood285

Go and dance in Gaza.. jews..

Reply from Jane: Hi,

It felt really nice to get your message (you wrote 'sorry' for what you had written previously).

Thanks again. I had received so many 'hate Jews' messages.

Warm Regards,

Jane

Elizestr 1 hour ago

Sorry, I think this video is a semiotic failure. Your family is dancing on the graves of millions of Jews because the camps are their graves, the ground is made of their ashes. You should have gone to Kolmeshöhe Cemetery near Bitburg and danced on the graves of the SS. G-d bless_ your family and especially your father, but I find it unseemly and cringed.

Hamás's Victory (youtube)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EPhh6h6M2mQ>. sarayaelquds

1 year ago 9

If you strike at, imprison, or kill us, out of our prisons or graves we will still evoke a spirit that will thwart you, and perhaps, raise a force that will destroy you! We defy you! Do your worst!

I SALUTE THE """"HAMAS"""" FIGHTERS

love to palestine

love to gaza

OUR BLOOD TO YOU HAMAS

you_ are men unlike your enemies you are lions unlike the cowards of the zionists being. come face to face jew,, thou shall pay heavily,, you rather wish for HITLER OVENS

Reply from Jane:

@gilarulz

Hi, I'm Jane. Yes, we thought about other survivors who don't want others to dance in these places - and it was very difficult for us to do this work because of that reason. But it was also important to show the world that the generations from the Holocaust are continuing, and we are doing our best to be positive human beings, to acknowledge the terrible past, but to proudly and humbly continue and survive as a Jewish nation.

It is also true that the world is full of Neo Nazis, full of hate - that really wouldn't be 'fun' to carry that feeling all your life.

Thanks for writing,
Warm regards,
Jane

Norbeemagination 6
days ago

Have I ever spoken to? What a stupid question!

Worse than that is "have I ever read the talmud?"

Of course I did! That is why I fully believe that jews are not only fucking insane but filled with hatred and the worst rassist people on this planet.

All I like to say to your bunch is:juden raus! :D

You jews are fucking lucky that most people on this planet never have even started to read your talmud bullshit!! You would be all locked up in a mental institute dude...there you could_ dance :P

@Norbeemagination

Reply from Jane: I think you need to study it carefully and not to read it with predisposed hatred. Read other 'Holy' books too, such as the Koran, and the New Testament, with an untainted mind. Then maybe, we can have a healthy conversation

Norbeemagination 39 minutes ago @janekorman
You make too much assumption about me?

What makes you think that you can mentor me?

What makes you think that I haven't been studying all those books or even more?

You see here comes your basic mentality that you think you are all above the non jewish! If you were that intelligent nation as you try to show then there would be no problem all around the jews.

We are having a healthy conversation just you can't read from your religious blindfold...

Other religions are the same sh*t!
@Norbeemagination

Reply from Jane: No assumptions made. I asked you some questions. I'm not interested in mentoring you. I have to learn a lot myself before I mentor anyone. I have no religious blindness...the truth is I hardly know anything about all the religions...if I was black/ blue/ green a Jew/a Muslim/whatever..I'd still answer you this way.

3.7.10 timidimit has replied to your comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz:

@janekorman

In short, he is saying that you and your grandfather have the right to celebrate life and he doesn't understand why some idiots and douchbags spend time to register only to leave negative comments.

holocostmaker 5
hours ago

About what in general it is possible to talk to you? You double-faced invaders, and a zone of your occupation - all earth, and Israel became your rest_ house and that place about which you dreamt reading the books. what with garden shed rockets. We can see the map. We know that israel declared itself unilaterally as a state, effectively annexing 70% of the land with palestinian title deeds to create israel. we know who the terrorists are and when the_ zionist state falls, there will be a war crimes tribunal where zionazis and it supporters like you will face a long long time in some dungeon @ilfordnorth

@holocostmaker

Reply from Jane:

hey sir - it's a bit hard for me to understand you.

But what I'm guessing is that you really hate Israel/Jews. Well, that can't be helped. it is normal to hate Jews. There is a virus called the 'Jew hating' virus which lies dormant then raises its ugly head every number of years. There is always some justification which blames the Jews for the woes of the world.

All the best Sir.

from Jane the Jew

6.7.10 lfordnorth 1 day ago @janekorman

What with garden shed rockets. We can see the map. We know that israel declared itself unilaterally as a state, effectively annexing 70% of the land with palestinian title deeds to create israel. we know who the terrorists are and when the_ zionist state falls, there will be a war crimes tribunal where zionazis and it supporters like you will face a long long time in some dungeon

@ilfordnorth

Reply from Jane:

Whatever I say to you will not persuade you. You are stuck and blind to see beyond what you are spoon fed. Hamas has no intention to annihilate Israel with garden shed

rockets. That's baby play. Google 'Jihad'. Also read some uncensored history books. Many of my family were so called 'Palestinians' and I am a Jew. How come? Because 'Palestinians' were ALL people that lived in 'Palestine'. Israel gained Independence after being voted in by the U N in 1947. Have a good life.

ExposeZionistCrimes has replied to your comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz:
@janekorman

Kind of like a criminal-hater or gang-hater disease? Are you all really so dense that you can not see the reasoning behind anything? You really think its all some worldwide gentile conspiracy spanning thousands of years? Various people with no common background or language allow you all into their lands, and then end up disliking you and expelling you from their lands "for no reason at all"? You cant think of any jewish behavior that would cause such a thing? Really?

nippytaytay 9 hours ago @janekorman

I am sorry that your whole concept of history is based on fiction, from the torah, to the holohoax. LOL. Also I_ don't hate jews. Many jewish woman are sexy. Even one of the girls dancing in this video is sexy, and has sexy legs

cpisretardedmuch has posted a comment on your profile:

Zionist jews are fucking EVIL... Just look what are they doing with the people of Gaza...
The Holocaust is a LIE!!! HOLOHOAX!!!

The42697 has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz:

you will not survive the real holocaust you fucking jew

Israel aims its nuclear warheads at Europe :

[watch?v=prcPU4AJiBw&NR=1](#)

Stupid Jewish family SHAME!!!

andreaoffshore has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part2:

the world NEED a new Hitler, ASAP !!

paw84el has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz:

Yeeea cool. I always wish to see a jaws dancing on a greave other jaws. Well they has a pretty much things to be happy with. 6 milion has died, but this jaw on this film has gonna make to survieve and propoably get a lots of money from germany later. So he can dancin now ^^ sweete

paw84el has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz:

This older man doesn't seemd to be as happy, as his grandchildrens were. Maby they gave him an ultimatum: dance or euthanasia old man ? I think i wasn't his idea to come to auschwits with plane with aircondictioning, eat a pizza drink cola and go to dance on the grave of jews that has not gonna make it. Great idea Especially when the peplo wich are dancing this never grab in hand nothing havier then a soap or shit of paper ! great idea young mans and poor old one.

23 hours ago cute granny! he should be dancing this song, but i have a feeling that his family didnt think about other survivors who dont want others to dance in those horriable places.

MrLimsky83 has posted a comment on your profile:

Just think some Germans probably danced their ass off on the same place you guys did after killing Jews makes you proud to be part of history, don't it?

TripleZ89 has posted a comment on your profile:

A good portion of the people praising the vids here are young idialistic disconnected and disrespectful ignorant kids who are brainwashed by today's society.

That is the single most disrespectful thing, to dance on the graves of the millions of lives lost. IF this really is such a great idea then WHY are we not dancing in cemeteries? What if your mom and I both had cancer. She dies and I survive. Does that give me the right to dance on her grave? According to this vid, we are.

TheScrinson 16 minutes ago

I am a very proud person, my father, my_ grandfather and my great-greatfather pledged thier lives to rid the world of the Jewish conspiracy. As long as a Jew breathes on this planet Earth there will be trouble, burn them all I say!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Your video was a very sophisticated contribution to the Holocaust debate. I am sure the kids of today will really get the meaning of Arbeit Macht Frei by viewing your family dancing on the soil that still contains the human ash of my family members. As an artist, I am sure that you will tell me that you have a license or privilege to produce whatever demeaning and inhuman drivel that comes out of your head (the same defence that violent women-hating pornograghers use to debase and demean women)....

Good luck with future projects.... How about "Land Downunder" dancing on the graves of Aborigines massacred by British troops or "Give Peace a Chance" dancing on Anzac graves....

Madame,

Je vous méprise et j'ai honte pour vous.

J'ai vu votre vidéo sur Auschwitz et Therezin, où, avec toute votre petite famille, vous dansez - oui, vous êtes des survivants, mais des survivants sans éducation, sans respect pour les millions de morts de notre peuple ; Auschwitz-Therezin : c'est la marche de la mort à laquelle mon père et mon beau-frère ont survécu. Eux n'ont jamais eu envie de danser, parce que même des décennies après la libération du camp, ils survivent, ils ne vivent pas.

Auschwitz, c'est le symbole de la douleur d'un peuple, ce n'est pas le lieu pour vous réjouir d'être vivante, vous réjouir d'avoir le bonheur d'avoir une petite famille. Votre joie est laide, votre joie est égoïste, et à votre place, j'aurai honte..

(Translation: I despise you and I'm ashamed for you. I saw your video on Therezin and Auschwitz, where, with all your family, you dance - yes, you're surviving, but surviving with no education, no respect for the millions of lives of our people, Auschwitz-Therezin: is the death march where my father and my brother in law survived.

They have never wanted to dance, because even decades after the liberation of the camp, they survive, they do not live.

Auschwitz is the symbol of the pain of a people, this is not the place for you to enjoy being alive, you are welcome to have the joy of having a small family. Your joy is ugly, your joy is selfish, and at your place, I shall be ashamed.

Guitl Zajdenweber
Paris France

XmXFLUXmX 22 minutes ago

Hey that's weird, alot of vietnam vets I know would never want to go back to Vietnam, yet these hook nose kike swindlers are dancing in front of a supposed "genocide center"

Come on people, don't_ be so stupid to fall for Jewish lies.

AngryTheWhiteman11 has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part3:

Look at the nse on the KIKEROACH!

MsWS6 has posted a comment on your profile:

stinking jews

escobar80wawa has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz:

Jeb.... ZYDY Fa*ing JEWS !! NO ENTRY TO POLISH! For the Jews

Paul Farrimond 16 July 2010 at 15:39

Subject: your a disgrace

just seen your video on sky news, your a disgrace to the jewish race, call that art, your a joke, and i suspect you'll be on the end of far worse comments

I hate the nazis, but I have ways to get back at them WITHOUT compromising the unaltered deference for those who never had a chance to see their grandchildren.

Otto Waldmann

Sydney

wijse has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz:

Still needs to grind the holocaust machine.

18.7.10 msun5@yahoo.com

Ms. Korman,

I think your videos on YouTube, despite being made with good intentions, are just a sign of how these days anything that goes 'viral' is considered cool and therefore a good thing.

If you felt extremely awkward and uncomfortable, it was for good reason...and you can find a better way of expressing yourself than through a video like this. You basically talked your elderly father into doing something he probably didn't really want to do...more likely you were very persuasive and he didn't want to let his children and grandchildren down.

How does making a video like this cause desensitized young people to become less so??

It has the exact opposite effect - people doing things they normally wouldn't do simply because the thought of getting a million hits on YouTube is too tempting. I have a feeling that most Holocaust survivors would be highly offended, no matter who is dancing in the video..and they are not the ones who are replying to online polls and they luckily probably have never been shown your videos because their children/grandchildren know better.

Melissa

Hi,

I'm just a descendant of one of the 6 M, and I find that no man has the ability to give pardon, so do not apologise, let alone for something you did with a good intention.

If you read "If it is a man" from Primo Levi, he writes about a prisoner who was not "selekted", who says Kaddish in front of another selekted prisoner, and Levi writes something like : "if I were Him, I would spit your prayer down the floor"

"Levi tells us of the last "selection," where men were randomly chosen for the gas chambers. Soon after the selections have been completed, he remembers hearing an old man named Kuhn, whose life has been spared, saying a prayer of thanks to God, heedless of the ears of a young man just a few feet from his bunk who has been chosen to die. Levi's response to this man's prayer is forceful and biting:

Does Kuhn not understand that what has happened today is an abomination, which no propitiatory prayer, no pardon, no expiation by the guilty, which nothing at all in the power of man can ever clean again? If I was God, I would spit at Kuhn's prayer."

Take care.

"Never shall I forget those moments which murdered my God and my soul and turned my dreams to dust. Never shall I forget these things, even if I am condemned to live as long as God Himself. Never." Elie Wiesel, *Night*, Ch. 3

De : Olivier BILTZ (DR-IDF)

Envoyé : mardi 20 juillet 2010 10:43

À : 'jane korman'

One day Elie Wiesel had to witness the hanging of a small boy.

"For more than half an hour he stayed there, struggling between life and death, dying in slow agony under our eyes."

A man behind Elie asked, "Where is God? Where is He? Where is God now?"

A voice inside Elie answered, "Where is He? He is hanging here on this gallows..."

Olivier.BILTZ@direccte.gouv.fr

Some are fasting today to commemorate a sad event: the black hole of humanity, the « final solution », will be an everlasting mystery which should be respected with silence and dignity. Anybody forgetting this could try to count up to six million.

Reply from Jane:

Hi Oliver.

We're also fasting! (my son and I - we are in Israel). The rest of the family are in Australia, so I don't know whether they're fasting.

In making Dancing Auschwitz, I had not intended to disrespect our memory - my intentions were to fully respect it, to keep this overwhelming memory alive for the whole world to never forget. We (the males) said Kaddish at Auschwitz with a minyan, then we danced to celebrate that we were alive inspite of the continual attempts to wipe us off the planet - may the nation of Israel live on!

But I am sorry if I offended you personally.

Sincerely,

Jane Korman

ryoohki23

I realize this is an attempt to brighten the grimness of the Holocaust by celebrating life and the triumph of the people over Nazism and death but dancing on graves it still dancing on graves. They can do their dance anywhere else too! That said, I wonder how the many people who never got to have families would feel? Seeing many people support them(polls show 90% or more approval) makes me wonder if departed would have liked this. There's no way to tell but they would be the ideal judge.

770magdiel has replied to your comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz:
@janekorman

In the name of the Kedoshim, my saintly grandfather and grandmother who were murdered at Auschwitz, this video is a desecration of their lives and their final resting place.

You are literally dancing on the ashes of the Kedoshim- for what- your ego?

SHAME ON YOU.

I came across the dance clip by Mr. Adolek Korman and his deranged and insane artist daughter: I think the entire spectacle is totally obscene. How can one sing and dance on the worlds largest tragic Jewish graves and ashes cemetery, or any cemetery. I feel like vomiting. They are a deranged family with a twisted sense of artistic humor. They should hang their heads in shame. I'm certain that they never heard of Tisha B'Av and the profound thousands years of Jewish weeping and lamentation. It is more becoming of un repented Nazis and Jew Haters to dance on Jewish graves and ashes. Eddie G.

84aussiechick has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz:
Whats next- running a victory lap around the twin towers because you got out unscathed??

I read all ur responses to my work. I hate the peaceful Jews and I love the murderous Arabs

david31515@gmx.de

niederträchtig, finden Sie nicht auch?

Ein deutscher NichtJude

(*Translation: Up to distinguish themselves at the expense of millions of murdered Jews is fairly vile, do not you think?*)

A German non-Jew

<http://www.stormfront.org/forum/t724658/>

Re: I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz

Oh of course they should dance, that place has brought them more cash and loot than their money changing ancestors could ever have dreamed of.

Jewish Group Denounces Video on Auschwitz

Aug 10, 2:32 PM (ET)

By JOCELYN GECKER

<http://apnews.myway.com//article/200...D8BT4GMG0.html>

"The Simon Wiesenthal Center's European office denounced the video as "outrageous," saying it goes "beyond the bounds of freedom of expression to an unprecedented level of obscenity."

The media Jews are the first to defend any anti-Christian obscenity. This is only unprecedented because it is not aimed at Christians, but rather at Jews.

<http://www.stormfront.org/forum/t223923/>

The video seems in poor taste but not any worse than the hundreds of anti-white rap songs out there. Think we'll see the Wiesenthal Centre condemn any of these any time soon?

Lack of taste, perhaps. On the other hand the production of the tape, and reaction to it are both signs that the holocaust is losing it's guilt power and sinking into the realm of just being another historical event.

Watch out Broadway!

The kids will be dragged off for a cultural visit to the theatre to see it when it comes.

Żydzi Wont z Polski!! Juden raus aus Polen!!

(*Translation: Żydzi Wont z Polski! Jews out of Poland!*)

Völlig Pietätlos!

Dieses Video ist einfach eine peinliche Initiierung der Enkeltochter.

Die selbsternannte Künstlerin, sollte sich mal echt den Finger an den Kopf halten!

Was hat das bitte mit Kunst zutun? Das Video ist einfach eine bodenlose Frechheit und sollte unter Ausschluss der Öffentlichkeit bewahrt werden.

(*Translation*: wtf! Completely irreverent!

This video is simply a painful initiation to the granddaughter.

The self proclaimed artist, should be great times to keep his finger to his head!

What has your intervention with art? The video is simply a bottomless insolence and excluding the public should be preserved.)

Wed, Aug 11, 2010 at 5:15 PM

STARFOXPERIENCE has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part3:

...und was soll der Dreck ?! Ist ja nichtmal witzig... ich finds ja super den Nationalsozialismus nur noch zu veralbern - aber was soll dieses Geschwafel..

(*Translation*:... And what is the dirt? Is indeed not even funny ... ich finds so great to make fun of the Nazis, only - but what is this gibberish ..)

One main and serious problem is that it is kind of a complement to the "Never Again" collective PR campaign, because not only does it not include representation from ethnic, religious, national or culturally-associated peoples which have been attacked in new conflicts since World War II - in the form of their survivors, of course - but also from those which suffered alongside the Jews in the War and are being persecuted continually, such as Roma, Sinti... (a.k.a. Gypsies).

I doubt they were intentionally excluded, so it just shows continued ignorance and, after all, the Italians, French, Swedish etc do not tell tourists about who has been kicked out of their country recently. Still, the videomaker could have done a bit more research.

Certainly other victims of Hitler who are probably currently just a few rungs up on the Historical Ladder of Persecution, in particular in Poland and some other parts of Eastern Europe, is the GLBT community. One could certainly justify expanding the inclusive approach, but I think we all know the problems with comparing suffering... at its worst Coca Cola or Nike would buy the rights to the song and do a contest cosponsored by the UN.

Perhaps a Part II is coming...

Fri, Aug 13, 2010 at 5:27 PM iwonar100 has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part2:

this is very disturbing... layers of dead are buried there.. he never consulted with relatives of others if it is OK to dance over their parents graves.. would you be so inviting to strangers to trample over your tortured parents grave to the disco music? there must be limits to what people are allowed to do for publicity.. mass graves command respect, silence and a prayer... and he is entitled to dance and celebrate but not on anothers graves or places of torture.. you find it inspiring?!!!!

2n2z5 has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part3:

Sat, Aug 21, 2010 at 1:45 AM

Dear Ms. Janekorman:

When a set of people--the Jews--rob another people--the Palestinians--of their country, then it is fully in the rights of the robbed people to do whatever--9/11- whatever to liberate said country. The Americans underwrite the Israelis. Well, fine, if they think they can sit on the sidelines, and are not culpable, they, and you, should think again. A real holocaust, that of the nuclear kind, cannot be that far down the road. jano455 has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part2:

I think that this man isnt normal. He must have some kind of psychical illnes. This is not normal that he dance next to crematory furnace with tshirt "survivor".

22.8.10 2n2z5 22 hours ago Dear
1Aurelija:

You Jews/Zionists/Israelis are the dregs of the earth. No, lower. You are merciless, and your fate is inscribed in your execrable characters. You steal Palestine, and you bleat to the world of your success.

You were booted out of Europe for a reason. Not anti-Semitism, as you pretend, but, indeed, because you are a hated race, and there is good cause for this universal distain. Look inside yourselves, your insidious texts. You will yet again, soon, discover godlessness.

@2n2z5

Sorry - you're writing to the wrong person. I'm trying to sew up the world not widen it. If you want to engage in hate, there are many neo nazi sites to get excited about - Kurac / Stormtroopers etc etc:

Also - read up on Jihad. I'm sorry that you spout hate-crap and that you_ are looking forward to the nuclear Holocaust.

<http://www.youtube.com/user/2n2z5>

1 day ago

Dear shr444:

You really are an unpleasant race. I hew to Jefferson's opinion of the Old Testament: it is barbaric and believed in by barbarians.

You have taken Palestine. Granted. Now it_ is our job to recapture it. I think we can agree that you and your faith are despoilers, violators, sickened mythmakers, the wretched of the earth.

It took two world wars for the fall of the British Empire, and for the conditions to ripen for a Jewish takeover of Palestine. Another is needed, clearly shr444 2 days ago @2n2z5

if we are brutal then hamas is nazi ! how dare u say to say brutal !
U THE COUNTRY! WHO STARTED TO ATTACK ISRAEL IN 1948 ! wanted to throw us all to the sea but u saw that israel is not bitch and we beat u_ back ! so now u moaning that israel using brutal against u ! u brought it on urself dont blame anyone but URSELFS! LEBANON AND HEZBOLLHA!

Dear Ms. Janekorman:

The problem remains: one people stole land from another people. If the Zionists and their backers want to give their war gains back, fine. If not, all that's left is the nuclear option. I think that's pretty clear. Why on earth_ should the Palestinians sit among the ashes alone?

Also, I am not a neo-Nazi, but I've lived in Lebanon, and seen just how brutal the Jews/Zionists/Israelis are--it's, clearly, a character trait, whether caused by their recent history, or by...

2n2z5 1 day ago

Dear Unpleasant Jews: Rejoice_ in your theft of Palestine, or, if we go to Biblical times, theft from the Canaanites.

Your God promised you the land? Interesting. This is the selfsame God who allowed your slaughter in Europe? Better to curse God and die.

You have outdone the Nazis in causing human misery. While the Nazis lasted 12 years, you Zionists/Jews/Israelis have caused misery for many scores of years. You are the dreg

2n2z5 16 hours ago

Dear Ms. Janekorman and other Zionists/Jews/Israeli/Criminals:

There is no talking to you folks. You corrupt history. You believe that you have been in Palestine for 7000 years? I've had it slumming. Please do not respond to me again, as I feel filthy enough after these past few days of pleasant insults.

Answer yourselves this, you spiteful evil-filled nation: Where was God with the death of the_ 6 million? Answer: There is no God.

Question: Have you eclipsed the Nazis in your brutality?

2n2z5 has replied to your comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part3:

Dear Ms. Zionist: Please don't quote Lebanese history to me. My dissertation was on Lebanon. Plus, you're wrong, which is not surprising, given your race.

The name change came well before 1943. The mountains were Druze and Maronite. The coast Sunnis, Orthodox. The farming interior, Shiite.

You are a silly woman believing the Big Lie that Arabs left Palestine at the behest of the Arab League.

You Jews/Zionists/Israelis will believe anything because you are corruptors of history.
Adieu

Reply from Jane: @2n2z5

Israel's done it in 60 years where other countries have taken thousands. Its inhabitants have a moral fiber and strength that is unique. Its culture permitted the Christian world and the Muslim world to grow from it. Did it ever try to destroy anyone who did not believe in its beliefs - No. Ask the same question of the Muslim world. So WHAT exactly are you_ talking about, Mr Nuke-em-all?

Go and get educated

Nuke the world!!! What kind of maniac are you?

The present inhabitants of Lebanon want to steal Israel for themselves because Israel has succeeded in building one of the most amazing states in the world. It's done it in 60 years where other countries have taken thousands. Its inhabitants have a moral fiber and strength that is unique. Its culture permitted the Christian world and the Muslim world to grow from it. Did it ever try to destroy anyone who did not believe in its beliefs - No. ...(continued)

Then they'll go through Syria & so on. Goodbye Lebanon, farewell Syria, see you later Jordan, adios Turkey, cheerio Egypt.

And who will you be cheering for? An empire based on the morals and thinking of a 6th century mind set? Bravo.

Well Mr nuke-'em-all, we in the enlightened world don't agree with your rotten anti-Semitism. We search for solutions where people can find ways to live side by side....

(continued)

So why are they attacking Israel when there are no border disputes? Because, like you they hate the Jews and want them wiped off the face of_ the earth. It has nothing to do with Palestinians, not the Jewish Palestinians, the Christian, Armenian or Muslim Palestinians.

Those southern Arabs, now under the control of Iran, will soon take over the entire country, killing everyone non-Palestinian, putting another foreign power on its throne, Iran.....(continued)

jane korman 17 hours ago Reply

from Jane: @2n2z5 Lebanon shoved them into camps and left them to rot. There are 12 camps in Lebanon, housing 200,000 displaced Arabs, still rejected by their Lebanese brothers, still festering hatred. Nuke Lebanon?

In 2006 the Muslim Arabs of Lebanon went on another killing spree, opening the door to the fanatical Muslim world_ and Hisballah.

Lebanon attacked Israel in 1948, lost, again in 1967, 1973 & 2006 lost. You have to admit, they have balls, but they lack morality. ...(continued)

jane korman 17 hours ago Reply

from Jane: @2n2z5

Lebanon was mostly Maronite Catholic and Druez. It got its_ present boundaries and new name in 1943. Five years later Israel got its independence. The Israel/Lebanon border did not change. Lebanon's Civil war tore it apart from 1975 to 1990. While Israel united and grew, the Arabs killed each other and complained. Thousands of Arabs fled from Israel in 1948 at the orders of the Arab League, many in fear of reprisals for slaughtering Jews.....(continued)

Reply from Jane: @2n2z5

But then it's complicated - if I'm born a Jew and I care for Israel_ and I sometimes keep the Jewish holidays and (I'm not sure I understand the morality stuff) i have read the Old Testament,(but I dont understand or agree with what I read sometimes- but I also feel that way with the other Holy books) and I dont believe in murdering, I don't believe in war, I try not to judge and I try not to hate. So - am I bad or good - I think I try to be good. So why fight? janekorman 2 days ago

2n2z5 2 days ago

Dear Ms. Janekorman: Let us agree that all religions that refer to the divine are false, and people that choose one_ over the other are not only delusional, but lack the capacity for rational thought.

Could Mormonism be any less silly than Judaism, or Catholicism, or even Buddhism? Accidents of birth need not be confused with the ability to choose. You choose Judaism--a most noxious religion--because of birth. There is today an article in the NYT on black Orthodox Jews. Choosing slavery!

Reply from Jane@2n2z5:

Hi. Maybe.

But as much as it sucks at times (most times) - I like the fact that I'm a Jew. It heightens MY awareness of MY own prejudices_ and intolerances towards others. You might find this strange. I am speaking for myself, and no-one else.
janekorman 1 day ago

thenameless13 1 month ago

This dirty jew is an asshole. He's insulting all the other dirty_ jews that didn't survive i fucking hate jews and hope you die the next time we have a Holocaust

rictor129 1 month ago @skinhead871 go

fuck hitler_ asshole

1019drummer 1 month ago

He's earned the rite to dance for sure no doubt. However this is today and not 70 yrs ago. The fkn nazi's were crushed and the world moved on. When do the Palistinians get to do the tango as well. It seems to me as though one cannot discuss the holocaust(s) of the past without addressing the ones occurring_ today,especially in the middle east.

bubba007ss 1 month ago That's all" _ What a waste of video

GravDiga 1 month ago
This is something... i don't know what to sayl can understand it but why not make a video about what is happening today...Don't you just hate when people bring up slavery? The majority of people agree today is what we can change.. today is our time.. not tomorrow not yesterday..Why_ not dance to stop the killing... Free Palestine

macks7241 1 month ago
WHEN do_ the PALESTINIANS get to DANCE???

takotheoktopus 1 month ago @mack7s241
Good question. Hopefully before the number of dead Palestinians is equal or greater to that of the WW2 holocaust. Too many have died at the_ hands Zionism already.

fatcatbuzz 1 month ago @takotheoktopus
That sad truth about Israel is now that are doing what was done to the them to the Palestinians. Maybe not to the same extent as the Nazis did, but they certain are putting Palestinians in ghettos, keeping them poor, and not letting others bring aid to their impoverished lives. And the Jewish people should know better considering their background.

1 month ago @fatcatbuzz
Not all Jews are Zionist and not all Zionist are Jews. You can't claim that the Jewish people should know better._ The majority of Jews that first moved to what is now called Israel were only taking advantage of what was sold to them (by the Zionists) as an opportunity for a better life. After the horrific treatment they had received during and after WW2, I would think that almost anyone would take up such an offer. I'm sure most were told that Palestine was an uninhabited desert.

The propaganda in Israel and the USA isn't helping the Palestinians either.

Thu, Sep 2, 2010 at 8:34 AM

MermaidBlueFins has made a comment on I Will Survive?? Dancing Auschwitz.
Silenced version:

Wow you are one sick group. I'm greatful that your father survived the atrocities. However think of all those other poor souls that died of starvation, medical

experiments, forced work or those poor children and elderly and disabled who were sent to the gas chambers.

Your dancing on the graves of millions of innocent people. If this is art why don't you add photographs of those innocents that were tortured and starved to death in Auschwitz.

Sat, Sep 4, 2010 at 10:05 AM

GwaiTsi has replied to your comment on Gaza Ghetto (In The Ghetto) Palestinian Protest:

@janekorman

this is your reaction to my comments over your sickening video dancing in Auschwitz. the only one brainwashed here seems to be you Jane. if i was so anti Jewish - why would i find your video offensive? at what point have I been anti Jewish? i am anti Zionist Israel (as opposed to anti Israeli) which mirrors what the Nazi's have done in almost all aspects. at no point have i condoned Hamas or the like. indeed they are the Palestinians worst enemy.

Sun, Sep 5, 2010 at 6:29 PM, Eric Scott <ericscott@videotron.ca> wrote:

Thanks Jane!

I wasn't too taken with your slapstick Auschwitz version of Gloria Gaynor's "*I will survive*". You know better than me that the singer's trite lyrics are strictly about surviving the breakup of a romantic relationship and have absolutely nothing to do with the unspeakable horror that the victims and survivors went through.

However, I did see your point and the way you creatively tried to tackle the subject, provocatively pushing the boundaries of good taste.

I like how you thought "outside the box" but the result this time offended me. Ahamadinijan would have loved it!

Later,
E.

Reply from Jane:

Hi Eric,
Thanks for your thoughts. I can understand why you might be offended. It's interesting that you say that

Ahamadinijan would have loved it. So far, all the people that are affiliated with Ahamadinijan/ Neo Nazis have hated the clip and have sent me hundreds and hundreds of emails claiming their dismay that 'Jews not only are alive, but they're actually DANCING..We didn't annihilate them in the last Holocaust - but we will in the next.' See (if you can be bothered):

<http://kuruc.info/r/22/61638/>

<http://egymagyar.blogspot.com/2010/06/vilagszam.html>
<http://www.stormfront.org/forum/t395023-161/#post8128007>.

I also just received these emails which are similar to thousands of others. But horses for courses!!

All the best.

Jane

gfigizag1906 7 hours ago

I don't see it as dancing on graves because it is a survivor that's dancing not a former SS man, I do how ever see it as dancing on the nazi monument to the final solution. 3 generations of Jews happy and alive in a place that was supposed end them before they even begun. I don't see the disrespect for the dead just_ for the executioner. Good luck to your family and the old man speaks nice fluent Polish.

http://www.youtube.com/comment_servlet?all_comments=1&v=DpfID7pLe7M

NovusOrdo2012

5 hours ago

@ranahalprin he was laughing and pretending to beg for food and water. i guess he can laugh now. the other 60 million people have been dead 60 yrs. but hey, he survived so why not just dance on their graves. if my grandfather had_ been visiting it would have been ironic because that old bastard would have died a more horrific death than any nazi could have inflicted.

MermaidBlueFins

2 weeks ago

Wow you are one sick group. I'm greatful that your father survived the atrocities. However think of all those other poor souls that died of starvation, medical experiments, forced work or those poor children_ and elderly and disabled who were sent to the gas chambers. Your dancing on the graves of millions of innocent people. If this is art why don't you add photographs of those innocents that were tortured and starved to death in Auschwitz.

GassItUp

1 month ago Gass_
it up!

SMGrawks 2 months ago

This is sick! People actually believe this stuff? I mean, geezus Gentiles how gullible can we_ get :(

http://www.youtube.com/comment_servlet?all_comments=1&v=DpfID7pLe7M

RabbiMarvTapirman 2 months ago @TheWhitevoices

Did you know you can fit 106 Jews in a VW beetle, 2 in the front, 3 in the back, one in the trunk and the 100 in the_ ashtray?

AngryTheWhiteman11 2 months ago

Look at the nse on the KIKEROach!_

AngryTheWhiteman11 2 months ago @CreativeDissent

His own family who was never there can't understand_ how he can be there smiling, they are all fucked in the head, yet he was there and is all cool and smiles! This guy is a bullshit artist I would bet!

LokiTrickaras 3 hours ago

Why are there no gas residue found on the chamber Walls? To gas six million in the space of a few years would require resources and manpower the Nazis simply didn't have. Open your eyes tithethe propoganda. With_ this guilt trip, zoonoses were able to establish the illegal state of Israel.

LokiTrickaras 3 hours ago

If so many Jews were killed, why are_ autopsies forbidden on tear supposed gasses victims?

3 hours ago

Haha. Ur_ pathetic.

Reply from Jane: @LokiTrickaras

Sorry that I'm upsetting you for being a Jew.

Be careful though, - your parents/ grandparents might be Jews, (as seen by latest research in Poland, and documented by CNN - called 'Secret Jews.' - where the biggest 'Jew haters' are actually Jews!) What would you do???

7.12.10

zobielamouche1

it's true what finkelstein says. holocaust has become an industry. also, it is used to distract from inhuman israeli policy and blackmail concessions.

spookscantswim 1 month ago

filthy Jews

How dids these_ ones manage to survive?

hitler fucked up

Reply from Jane:@spookscantswim

Wow, It's so interesting receiving comments like yours. Can i ask you how old you were when you started hating Jews, and what happened that made you start hating them?

Thanks alot.

I like this ol jew for some reason and the reason he probaly survived was because he had a good sence of humer unlike most jews.

HEALING mail

*I am a German woman, 53,
and I read the newspaper today with a portrait of your history,
then I watched your video in youtube.
I feel deeply moved and overwhelmed by your video.
For me it is a masterpiece of art,
and I want to thank you for it.
The expression of survivors' triumph did not happen before.
I did not think that it could be possible in this generation.
For me it is an expression of a part of mourning which was not possible before.
It is a real inner development.
And it is the opposite of destruction -
for me it is incredible what you did.
It is an act of humanity and a sign that life is stronger than death.
My father was a member of the SS, and he could not live with it,
how could he.
Meanwhile at least I can, and I feel pity for him.
But what you did is great, and I bow myself with deep respect to your father .
Thank you, thank you*

*I grew up in the Middle-East
among people who were split on the holocaust issue between deniers and Hitler
admirers. After visiting the holocaust museum in Washington DC and making my first
Jewish friend,
my previously held convictions were shattered
and I became an admirer of the Jewish people,
their resilience and love for life.
Mr. Kohn, seeing you dance with your beautiful family in Auschwitz brought tears to my eyes.
The song has more meaning now than it ever did.
Thank you*

Hi dear Mrs. Korman,

I saw your video this morning and I absolutely loved it, it actually did something to the cells in my body that felt like a freeing of memories. I cried of joy.

I just wanted to be there and dance with you guys.

This is such an important video, one of the only things I've seen that brings a real closure and moving on, not that things shouldn't be remembered....

I don't know how to say it, it is just a real celebration of life and the power of love.

Thank you for making it.

I made a small 10 min.film last year about smiles and I would like to send a copy to you and your father as a present. If you can give me a mailing address, I will send it right away.

Bless you and your family and Please give a big hug and a kiss to your father from me.

Lot's of love,

Isabella Pironti (I attached a photo of me)

DFactHirte@aol.com

Sat, Aug 28, 2010 at 2:01 PM

Dear Jane,

thank you very much for the video "Dancing Auschwitz", that I just saw on youtube. It was recommended in a german forum for highly-sensitive-persons (empfindsam.de). I both laughed and cried, when I saw it. Because I am a german woman, aged 46, I was always concerned by the things, that once happened in my country to innocent people, before I was born.

I am very touched by the way, your father deals with his history. He really is a strong man, a true survivor.

Please tell your parents, that I wish them all the very best and you too.

Greets from germany,

Sabine Hirte

Dear Jane,

Thank you very much for your answer.

You asked me for an explanation for highly sensitive Persons. Here it comes:
According to Elaine Aron, psychologist and author of the most read book about this subject, "The Highly Sensitive Person", written in 1996, such a person has the innate trait of high psychological or/and sensory sensitivity.

She and other colleagues say, that HSPs, who comprise about a fifth of the population, may process sensory data much more deeply and thoroughly, due to a biological difference in their nervous systems.

They spiritually, mentally or emotionally attune to things outside of the normal realm of conciousness, that most of the people reside in.

I am an HSP and maybe you are too?

Your´s sincerely and once more best wishes for you and your family,

Sabine Hirte

Dear Jane,

Processing things so much more intensely and deeply than other people is not always a bad thing ;)).

For example it could be a necessary condition, a prerequisite for your art. You maybe would not be the kind of artist you are, if you were not that sensitive. And it can lead to a deep and holistic perception of mankind, of being incarnated in this life, maybe even of universal things...

Even though this way of perception is not always a happy one. It can be very overwhelming or exhausting.

Maybe it could help you cope better with that, reading something about being HSP? There are several sites in the www about being HSP and it helped me a lot reading, that other people feel close to the way that i do, because before that I sometimes felt like kind of alien.

Even though it may sometimes feel like this, you are not alone.

With pleasure,

Sabine

Jane Kohn, dear Adolek Kohn,

I am a German woman, 53, and I read the newspaper today with a portrait of your history, then I watched your video in youtube. I feel deeply moved and overwhelmed by your video. For me it is a masterpiece of art, and I want to thank you for it. The expression of survivors triumph did not happen before. I did not think that it could be possible in this generation. For me it is an expression of a part of mourning which was not possible before. It is a real inner development. And it is the opposite of destruction, for me it is incredible what you did. It is an act of humanity, and a sign that life is stronger than death. My father was a member of the SS, and he could not live with it, how could he. Meanwhile at least I can, and I feel pity for him. But what you did is great, and I bow myself with deep respect to your father. Thank you, thank you Ute Witassek

For the first time, I have viewed Auschwitz with tears of joy, along with the tears of sorrow. The sorrow will never leave any of us, no doubt...but to see your father, with the family he was able to create...to bring them there, to that place, to dance on the grave of atrocity, and to be the victor.....well that says it all doesn't it?

U.Witassek@gmx.net

Having lost family members to this atrocity myself, Auschwitz is always in my mind and in my heart as a painful, deeply dark and depressing place that I would never want to physically go to, I thank-you for another vision. Of course the pain is still there, and of course it is still dark and depressing, as it always will be, but your film makes room for a different

perspective....it gives way to the ultimate revenge, the ultimate celebration of endurance....and the ultimate celebration of of LIFE and living.

Facebook

Beate Ruchatz

15. September 2010 um 16:23

Subject: Praise for the You tube video from Germany

Dear Jane,

I just wanted to thank you for the idea for the video and your father especially, but also all the other members of your family for making this beautiful and moving video.

I am German and I - of course- am occupied always in some kind, with the history of the holocaust. i read a lot of biographies of survivors and because of that I was very touched by the video which is in my opinion a different kind of approach of dealing with history- a very direct way to the heart!!! I cried alot the first time I was watching it. Give my best wishes to your family and all of your family, too.

Beate

Cynthia Thiessen <thiessencyn@yahoo.com>Jane:

Just another human thanking you for your incredible installation on Dancing Auschwitz. I've watched Part 2 (in context) obsessively for the last few weeks: it is spirit-restoring. Here's from a blog on Leonard Cohen's song:

"I've always interpreted this as a paeon to the indomitable human spirit -- capable of arcing upward towards beauty, even in the presence of unspeakable evil and horror.

Remember, also, that Leonard has often envisioned the act of love as a heroic act of resistance against oppression, and love itself as a riposte against despair -- in this context, then, to bravely and fully submit oneself to this sacramental act in a fallen world of dissolution and darkness might be analogous to playing music in a string quartet in a seemingly god-forsaken landscape peopled by monstrous oppressors -- the soul continues to proclaim "I Am!" even against all evidence, even against all hope."

The "string quartet" you have reinterpreted is authentic and powerful.

Your friend,

Cynthia

NStein2342@aol.com

Hi, my name is Neville Stein. I live in Savannah Ga USA, although originally born in Zimbabwe. Both parents Lithuanian Jews - their parents emigrated to South Africa.

Just a solitary voice of praise. I saw your video (I do have the right Jane?) and Bravo Bravo Bravo!

It did my 50 something year old heart good to see it - what a triumph!

Unlike you, I was relatively unscathed by the holocaust, but it has haunted me for my adult life - and your video has done something positive in my angst department!

Thank you for sharing that - You have beautiful children (one of them speaks Hebrew?)

Neville

Hello Jane

I live in Queensland and heard on the radio today about your video that you and your family made in Poland and Germany.

I just finished watching it and I'm crying buckets!! There are no words to express about this time of Jewish history or what your father went through...

Thank you for posting this on youtube for all the world to see!

Beautiful website too Jane.

Good job and keep up the good work!

Yahweh bless you and your family!

Shalom

Bonnie Horvath

My mother and i after reading the age this morning went straight to the computer with my 4 year old son ...who is watching it for the second time ... We sat here with tears in our eyes - and my mother esp who had visited Auschwitz about 20 years ago - laughed and cried her way through the piece. The last words ... of the grandfather - What you talking about? sums it up for me!

SithAngel77 has posted a comment to your profile

I'm so sorry the 1st Dancing in Auschwitz video got taken down. I had told my whole family about it; it really meant a lot to me because when I had been to Terezin you could still feel all the pain from the people who had been there and it felt like a balm to my soul to see someone go there and deal with it that way. In my own hometown now unless you are the right religion, right race or the right political party they are picking on people, trying to scare them out of town, and it worries me to think that this same thing can happen again, but there are a few of us who are trying to make sure that such a thing will not happen, not ever again. Too bad it ever happened in the first place...

16.7.10

joannr@ix.netcom.com

Dear Jane,

I just wanted to write and let you know that your art piece which included your family dancing both at Auschwitz and in the forest moved me beyond my imagining.

Trite to say I know, but I laughed, I cried and have spent my entire morning watching those videos over and over again. I felt mesmerized, cracked open, and what surprised me the very most - hopeful - and not in any Obamakin, pollyanna sort of way lol.

I have believed for a very long time that there are two kinds of people - dancers and others. Either you dance with life or you don't.

I don't always dance and am more grateful than I am able to express for the reminder that came to me from your art and videos today.

Best to you and your
family, Jo Ann Rayfield
3408 NE 92nd Ave.
Portland, OR, US

brendasmith10

May your loved ones rest in peace...

I see you and your family has found peace. Congratulations on your strenght and ability to truly celebrate your lives!

I am still seaching for my inner peace, you have made me see that hope again, thank you.

On Tue, Aug 10, 2010 at 1:17 PM, Winfried Koepelle Laborjournal <wk@laborjournal.de> wrote:

Dear Jane,

I'm a German science journalist (with no jewish ancestors to my knowledge).

I've just seen your video "Dancing Auschwitz" and it made me tears in my eyes. Please, don't lose heart because of all the blithering idiots who whinge around now! They are wrong and you are right.

It's absolutely legitimate to return to Auschwitz as a 89-year-old survivor, to take his grandchilds at their hands and to dance (being happy to live and having overlived all these cruel, horrible nazis)! That's not a disparagement (as some political correct ignoramus say) - no, it's a sign of humanity.

Best wishes from Germany to you, to your father and to your children.

Winfried Koepelle

Regensburg

P.S.: Is it possible to download the video from your website? (Youtube permanently deletes it from its site)

Muktar 4 September 2010 - 7:41pm / USA

I grew up in the middle-east among people who were split on the holocaust issue between deniers and Hitler admirers. After visiting the holocaust museum in Washington DC and making my first Jewish friend, my previously held convictions were shattered and I became an admirer of the Jewish people, their resilience and love for life. Mr. Kohn, seeing you dance with your beautiful family in Auschwitz brought tears to my eyes. The song has more meaning now than it ever did. Thank you

Helge Schreiber 11. August 2010 um 02:16

Just saw your video on you tube...awesome! I'm really excited watching your dad dancing to "I will survive" as it's a clear statement that the Nazis didn't win over your family. As a german I'm very happy that so many allied soldiers fought the germans, so that we here in Europe were able to grow up in a normal life, without fascism and without murdering people just because of their race and religion. Thanks a lot

Helge Schreiber

Dear Jane,

I just saw the video with your father and I am deeply touched. I had the strange feeling of crying and laughing at the same time. I want to thank you for this video, I am glad to find it and to watch it. I'm a German teacher and I will show it to colleges and pupils. Please excuse, my English surely has a lot of mistakes, but I hope, you understood, what I wanted to tell you. Greetings,
Michael Hiesberger

SKAetzchen

Dance Auschwitz

Hello Jane

I saw your video at german news few minutes ago.

It's a crazy idea but i think its great to show something like that. Everytime people think about jewish people who died at Auschwitz but only a few think about people you survived. Of cause its important to think about the past and these cruel think what had happened at second world war. In my oppinion your video shows a man who is happy about surviving. Who lives with his family and know what life is! He knows more than we want to know. But we also have to know. And we have to make sure that something like that don't happen anymore.

I hope you will understand. I didn't write english since a year.

Great video

greetings to your father and your children (at TV they said that it's your father and his grandchilds) Chrissi

P.S.: The former speaker of jewish central committee in germany loves your video too. ;)

Thu,

Aug 12, 2010 at 5:51 AM sam@samlaserco.com

Jane, out of all the clips you made of the "Dancing at Auschwitz" series, this one moved me to tears.

If my parents would have lived, they surely would have been in this group.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I_Np3aZh6sU

Barbara.Wrede@gmx.deFri, Aug 13, 2010 at 1:05 PM

Dear Jane Korman, i am deeply moved by your video dancin auschwitz-i will survive, an I take a very, very big bow in front of you and your family.

best wishes from Berlin, Gemany

Barbara Wrede

Facebook

Miriam Kusterer January 22

Dear Jane Korman,

I saw your family's video today and watched it several times.

I am really happy for your family and I love the way how you deal with it. It is really impressive.

I dont know if my English skills are good enough to say as the new German generation how sorry I am for the past. I sorry deeply.

At the end I wanna thank you for this new view on this historical story. Your video makes me smiling and loving life even more.

Many greetings to your father.

Take care.

Miriam

Reply from Jane:

Dear Miriam, Thank you so much for your message, it is very touching. I think the new German generation are very very different from the generations of the past, and are working on making their lives and the world around them a better place. It is crazy to imagine how

Germans (and most Europeans) thought and believed in not so long ago. But maybe it is not that crazy - because there are still many groups and people around the world that unfortunately hate Jews and other people they regard as 'different.'

Anyway, I really appreciate your warm, heart-felt message.

With best regards,

Love from Jane

jessica.rath@knottinginto.org

Fri, Aug 13, 2010 at 8:20 AM

Dear Jane -

I was born in 1946 in (then West) Germany. All throughout my childhood and teenage years I felt a heavy burden because of the Nazi time, the war, and the Holocaust. Not that I felt personally guilty -- but it was like a shadow, a weight, a cold grip on my soul. There were no satisfactory answers to my questions; my parents' generation was unable to explain; they just wanted to forget and not deal with this, I felt. I always blamed them for this. I became a rebel and a "revolutionary" in the late Sixties when I studied philosophy at the university in Munich; dropped out, traveled through India, Nepal, South-East Asia; lived in Japan for several years; and finally ended up in the United States, first California and for the last ten years New Mexico. I never found conclusive answers to the early questions, but slowly I added more facets, like puzzle pieces. For example, only recently did I realize that my parents were too young to have voted for Hitler... I had blamed them for allowing all these atrocities to happen.

The reason that I'm telling you all this is the Dancing Auschwitz video I just watched. I read about it in the on-line version of the magazine SPIEGEL. This was such a cathartic moment; I cried and felt an immense sense of relief. As if a hard knot had finally dissolved. Seeing your father dancing and smiling, listening to his words, was such a moving experience -- it has a profound meaning. I want to thank you and your father and your family for this special gift. The message is absolutely wonderful.

Affectionately,

Jessica Rath

Dear Jessica,

Thank you so much for your letter - it was so touching that I hope you don't mind that I forwarded it to my parents and family. i'm very happy that Dancing Auschwitz has this cathartic power - i never planned on this - I guess it's what I just strongly believe in and it came from the heart through my work. yes, it's hard to fathom the past events and wonder who was involved in the madness..and all those other thousands of thoughts. All we can do today is live as an example of how we would want others in the world to live/think. (and even that is difficult).

With very warm regards,

Jane

Sat, Aug 14, 2010 at 3:12 PM

How nice of you to answer me, and with such kind words. I won't swamp you with my emails :-), but I'd just like to add a few words. I woke up several times last night after I had written to you, and I kept thinking about the video and its message.

What it is saying to me, what your father is saying to me with his dance and his kind, smiling face, is that deep down, fundamentally, the universe is good. Yes, there is evil, yes, there are people who commit atrocities and who are monsters; yes, they can cause immense suffering to innocent victims -- and yet, they will not prevail. Goodness and love are stronger; cannot be eradicated, and will outlast evil. Evil is a flaw, an aberration, a mistake -- but it's not the fundamental substance of creation; that is goodness. And that's the truth.

In some ways, I feel grateful that I was born right after the war. It was a strong influence during my early childhood, and as long as I can remember, I had an aversion against uniforms, the military, police, army, war, authority, blind obedience, meaningless orders, etc. Also, I never had any use for patriotic feelings. When I was 16, I went to Paris for a short vacation, and I noticed with surprise that the people my age there were proud to be French. That's when I realized that I wasn't proud to be German, and I never regretted this. I love the saying by Martin Luther King (I have to paraphrase) that one shouldn't be judged by the color of one's skin (or by one's nationality/tribe/group, I'd add) but by one's actions.

Anyway, thank you again for your video and your father's courage and spirit -- with heartfelt thoughts Jessica

dr.leist@web.de

Sat, Aug 14, 2010 at 3:12 PM

Dear Jane Korman,

Like so many visitors, I am deeply moved by this outstanding video. On today's website of the Berlin newspaper Der Tagesspiegel is another article on your video, to which I made a blog, which was first not accepted by the newspaper, but upon my request has meanwhile been published. In my blog I compare your father with Dancing Shiva:

"Adolek Kohn ist Shiva Nataraja.

Der alte Auschwitz-Überlebende tanzt mit seinen Enkelkindern an den Mordplätzen den kosmischen Tanz und zeigt so, daß er Hitler besiegt hat, wie der tanzende Shiva den Dämon."

(Adolek Kohn is Shiva Nataraja. The old Auschwitz-survivor dances with his grandchildren on the killing places the cosmic dance and by this shows, that he has defeated Hitler, like the dancing Shiva did to the demon.")

As an artist you have used a visual language that universally will be understood, to make clear that life always wins. Thank you so much!

With kind regards

Wolfgang Leist

Mon, Aug 16, 2010 at 3:35 PM

Hello again, Jane,

Thank you for your kind interest in the Swedish video. As I don't speak Swedish I also did not understand Joe's words. I'll ask him to mail me a German or English translation. I think in the video he writes and reads a farewell letter to his beloved girl on the photograph, before escaping from the Gestapo to death. - When I get the text I send it to you.

It's heavy stuff and a sad one, indeed, like of the kind I can see in the stills of the sequel "Prejudice: The Outcome" or "The sweet Death" in some of the videos on your homepage. What prompted Joseph and his friends to make it I don't know. Of my three sons he is closest to my heart, and he understands his father best. - It would lead to far to discuss some background, and I don't want to bother you. For me it is a hopeful sign that the Holocaust will not be forgotten, not in Germany, in Sweden, in South-America or elsewhere. Also the plot of that short-movie seems to me very Hispanic, like a story from J. L. Borges.

Meanwhile I've browsed on your homepage and clicked most of the links: I am excited to learn about the work of an entrancing artist in far DownUnder. For example, I do love and in a certain way even a little bit do envy your Thai-Man Som Chai, for the care he gets from you. Jane, you are not only a creative and daring artist in the visual arts, but also a thrilling actress, who's performances make one laugh before any melancholy can emerge. It is so beautiful to see how strong your love for life is. You are absoluteley inspiring!

P.S.: When here in Berlin I click on the links from your homepage, in order to play the three video clips on Dancing Auschwitz and on your family, it says something like: this video is not accessible in your country because of content from Sony Music Entertainment. - As a former lawyer I do not understand it, for your video clips - pictures together with sound - are independent and new works of art which cannot hurt any existing music copyright. Sony should pay you fees for bringing its old Gloria Gaynor hit out of oblivion.

The Cabaret Gang pictures also give an idea of what a wonderful family you have. By the way, I miss a hint on who took the videos you are to be seen on.

Friendly regards again,

Wolfgang

Hi Wolfgang,

I hope you don't mind that I forwarded your touching email to my sister and other family members. They were moved by your son's video. I was also honoured that you took such an interest in my work. The truth is I feel my website is neglected - I have so much more work to do, plus fix up my website, and finish uploading my videos - and I don't manage cos of lack of time. Especially being here in Israel - my eldest son has been unwell (he has bipolar - that's why I came here, and my daughter, who lives here, is due in a few weeks.)

The idea that you mentioned of comparing my dad to Shiva Nataraja still stays in my mind. It would be interesting to do some painting/sculpture on this- but maybe it's too 'idol-like'!

I have a question in regard to my video clip that has been removed.

A family member changed the words to 'I Will survive' and suggested I replace the original words with the ones he's written (because then it's a 'parody' which Universal Studios might accept). But somehow it feels a bit too angry/harsh and defiant - which is not the feeling I was hoping to convey - but I'd appreciate hearing your opinion.

Again,

With warm regards

Jane

dr.leist@web.de

Sun, Aug 15, 2010 at 4:44 PM

Dear Jane,

Thank you for your reply. The link to the local newspaper article is as follows: www.tagesspiegel.de/meinung/i-will-survive/1903052.html?commentSort=chrono#kommentare

The one or other blog is dumb - please don't worry, most of the comments show that you have really reached their authors by your video. Video art is a relatively new medium in art history, it fits to the globalized family of man. Your video may have a still uncalculable effect, but I wish it will work like an avalanche, here in Germany and everywhere.

Tonight I will send the link to your video to my youngest son Joseph Konstantin who lives and works as a Swedish school teacher in Malmö. In March he had sent me a Swedish video that was made by him and his Mexican friends there. When I saw it I cried for sadness, but when I saw

your video I cried for joy. The link to the Mexican short-movie is as follows:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=wcxqohQFsuU

Thank you again for your life endorsing video. And to your marvellous father and his grandchildren my sincere respect, admiration and sympathy for making this work of art possible.

With kindest regards

Wolfgang Leist

Hi Jane,

Thank you so much for your mail of August 28, which I opened at midnight that same day, but came only now to answer on it. First, I don't mind if you forward my emails to your parents, sister or other family members, or to whom ever you want. I trust in you. You know who will understand, and who not. I feel greatly honored.

Jane, don't replace the original words in your video "I will survive"! I respect your family member's suggestion to replace the words, and also the changing itself, which is a fine variant and as such a literary original, that deserves an own copyright, and should be published in an anthology. But it won't help against eventual claims from the royalties-collecting companies, because they exploit the music, not the words. What helps you is the world wide web itself with its freedom of communication, and the fact that the global net community will not accept any censorship. That's what governments like the ones of Iran or of China do fear. If your video is removed by one of the companies, it will immediately get replaced by some user, as it did already happen. The medium is so new, and they still have to learn about the limits of commercialization. Putting a video in the net is like singing a song on the street - nothing that you must pay for to Universal Studios, Sony, APRA/AMCOS or the German GEMA, or some other company. And, as I already said, your video clip as a whole is an independent work of art with an own copyright. If they sue you, you may sue them in return for copyright violation and illegal censorship. Nobody will cease from buying a Gloria Gaynor CD because he can hear the song in your video clip; on the contrary it is your video that is able to promote the song, be it on a CD or in a live performance. I know they still have to learn all this. If an artist in his work of art makes use of a motive like of Godfather clicking Adam's finger in the Creation Fresco on the Sixtine Ceiling, or like of mysteriously smiling Mona Lisa, neither the Vatican nor the Louvre as owners of the paintings can collect royalties for that. The same is for video clips, which are by definition original art works of a mixed media kind, mainly of sound and pictures.

There are also inner reasons to stay with the original words. Lines as "I have survived", "I could never live with all that genocide", "I just came back to see these ruins, staring evil in the face" and others, are a correct description of what is happening, but already expressed visually by the scenes of the video clip themselves. So it is not necessary to repeat it by words. The stunning impression of your video comes not at least from the contrast, not to say the contradiction, of the Gloria Gaynor song, which is a discotheque hymn, and of the horrible places shown in the video. This is what makes your father's and his grandchildren's dance a victorious dance. It's the paradox of such an incompatibility between song and dance on the one side and the slaughterhouse territories on the other, that kills Hitler's memory again and again for all times.

And still another aspect. "I have survived" would be a historical statement. Such statement is already given by your dad when he says: "This is really a historical moment!". But "I will survive" is much more. It covers the future, as represented by his grandchildren, your and your sister's daughters and sons - all of them young ones of a breath-taking beauty - who join him in his cosmic dance. The message is: I will survive also in my grandchildren, and in their children and grandchildren. The title "I will survive" makes clear that Adolek Kohn is immortal, and so, also in a transcendent sense, is a Survivor, as it says on his shirt when standing in front of Baal Moloch's burning place.

Jane, your video is a manifesto. With its elements of improvisation and technical imperfection it is a document of greatest creativity and authenticity comparable to an old master's inventive drawing. Nothing comes closer to inspiration. Don't change it any more. The closing sequence with Leonard Cohen's melancholic "Dance me to the end of love" and your dad's clear voice from the off is a wonderful ending of this epochal video.

You mentioned the Shiva Nataraja idea. When I watched your father dancing with his grandchildren at the ramparts of the Terezyn concentration-camp fortress, I saw him clip-clapping with his hands on his knees. That was when I realized the four arms of Shiva Nataraja, which symbolize the universal competence of this Hindu god, the Lord of Dance, who did overcome the dwarf demon. I think many cultures know such a kind of dance icon; for example in Hellenistic and Roman art tradition the dance of the children rescued by Theseus who had slain the monster, or even Ariadne dancing just before she helps the Greek hero to slay her murderous half-brother, the Minotaur. Other examples should be found in the Bible. But Shiva Nataraja for my taste is the nicest sculptural and pictorial materialization, and, as I said, came into my mind seeing your dad in your video. No, it would not be "idol-like" if you would do some painting or sculpture on this. You are not the type of artist to create idols, and if so, they certainly would more look like cute Som Chai, and not like the Golden Calf.

I learned from your mail that you are in Israel now, with your eldest son being unwell and your daughter, who lives there, being due in a few weeks. Jane, I do not believe in bipolar as a disease, but as an endowment, which can be dangerous, of course. It is not uncommon for an artist-mother's child, especially for a son, to live his life to the extremities. The ancient Romans and again the Renaissance philosophers and artists had a friendly name for this bipolarity: *vita activa* and *vita contemplativa*. In the extreme it could be fury and black melancholy, and in between singular creativity and outstanding inspiration. Such a personality needs much love, understanding and devotion. What profession has your son? Would it be helpful to change it? - I know it may sound pretty helpless what I am saying, but you should know that I am aware of your sorrows.

As to your daughter; is she one of the beautiful young women in the video? I have a strong feeling that her birthgiving will be fortunately. Since I am convinced that you'll stay as strong as you always were, I am positive that you come to terms with your work, in which I take a constant interest.

Germany's greatest boulevard newspaper "Bild" says that "the disputed film" *Dancing Auschwitz* will be shown at the film festival "dokumentART" in Neubrandenburg (Germany) and Stettin/Szczecin (Poland), in Oktober.

The link is:

<http://www.bild.de/BILD/news/telegramm/newsticker,rendertext=13596238.html>

"Stettin" is the inscription on the Auschwitz cargo wagon in your video.

Again from my side, with
my friendliest regards and
feelings,

Wolfgang

Postscriptum: my son Joseph, 29, did not yet send a translation of the text from his video. The reason is that school classes have already begun in Sweden and he as a young teacher has very much to do right now. As soon as he sends it, I will forward it to you.

-W

Sibadd has made a comment on *I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part3*:
Sat, Aug 14, 2010 at 5:43 PM

The way we've addressed the horror is with humour - usually by proxy in the work of professionals. This sweet thing is the work of amateurs, using playfulness. It's a new invention. Hannah Arendt talked of the banality of evil. This and its accompanying clips,

which regardless of silliness about copyright, can be seen in many places on the internet, shows the triumphant banality of good. Well done Jane and family and thanks for so unique an antidotes to the poison of Shoah.

Jan 4, 2011
nealpm@aol.com

I didn't know the meaning of who I am and where I came from until I stood in the village square of Cloyne, County Cork, Ireland!

My Greatgrand father was orphaned by the plague. I did not even know his father's, until a few years ago. When I was in Ireland, Noone had the time to look it up for an obscure tourist from America. They didn't understand!

Overcome with emotion, I stood in the little Catholic church. I cried for my family, swaying with the emotion, feeling the reality of the place, The sacristan asked "What is the matter with you, are you drunk?"

In a small weak voice I could only just say, "You don't understand, this was my father's dream, I am here instead, I have come home!"

I have learned a little Gaelic, founded an Irish music session to get back in touch with what my family lost.

How wonderful that you could celebrate in the living years. Bless you all for having the courage to share your video. It's a new year, with a new beginning.

Banocht deajaylet, (Blessings of God upon you, phonetic Gaelic)

Fred T. Murphy

lenamarie10

Date Fri, Aug 13, 2010 at 5:14 PM

Comment posted on "I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part3"

I had to cry when I saw this video. Partly of joy and partly of the things that happened in Auschwitz and that never can be atoned. I'm from Germany and I'm so ashamed about what happened in my country long before I was born. I think this video was a good idea and it doesn't disrespect the victims. It is his right to feel joy about his survival and I'm glad that he can feel joy and isn't traumatized.

Oh, Poland (a little bit off-topic)

Hello Jane!

I would like to point something out (hopefully, you have also come across this thought): when it comes to "the Jewish issue," Poles are extremely divided. Nothing else derives as many emotions as Jews and their actions do.

Look how many different comments from Poland your video got! Tons of haters, tons of supporters, tons of moralizers (I'm among the last ones)... Absolutely everyone has something to say.

Why? I have no single idea, but if I was to make a thesis statement here I would say "its because of our common, complicated history." Past is the key to the present. Me, for example. I'm 21 and in the span of 21 years I personally met one (yes, one!) Polish Jew. One of my great-grandparents was a Wermacht soldier (so, to simplify, he was "anti-Jewish"). On the other hand, one of my great-grandmothers was a Polish resistance fighter and she daily provided bread and milk to the Auschwitz prisoners (so, to simplify, she was "pro-Jewish"). Thus, as you can see, there are no simple answers since there is no personal experience, but lots and lots of historical stuff going on.

We feel like we should have something to say, however we truly have no idea on what to actually say.

Take care,

Lukas

schwereinennamenzufi has made a comment on I Will Survive: Dancing Auschwitz.Part3:

meine frau hat geweint so emotional war der film, möge es nie wieder so eine schreckliche zeit geben my wife has been crying, was so emotional the film, may it never again be a terrible time.
