Memorial Auschwitz Birkenau State Museum

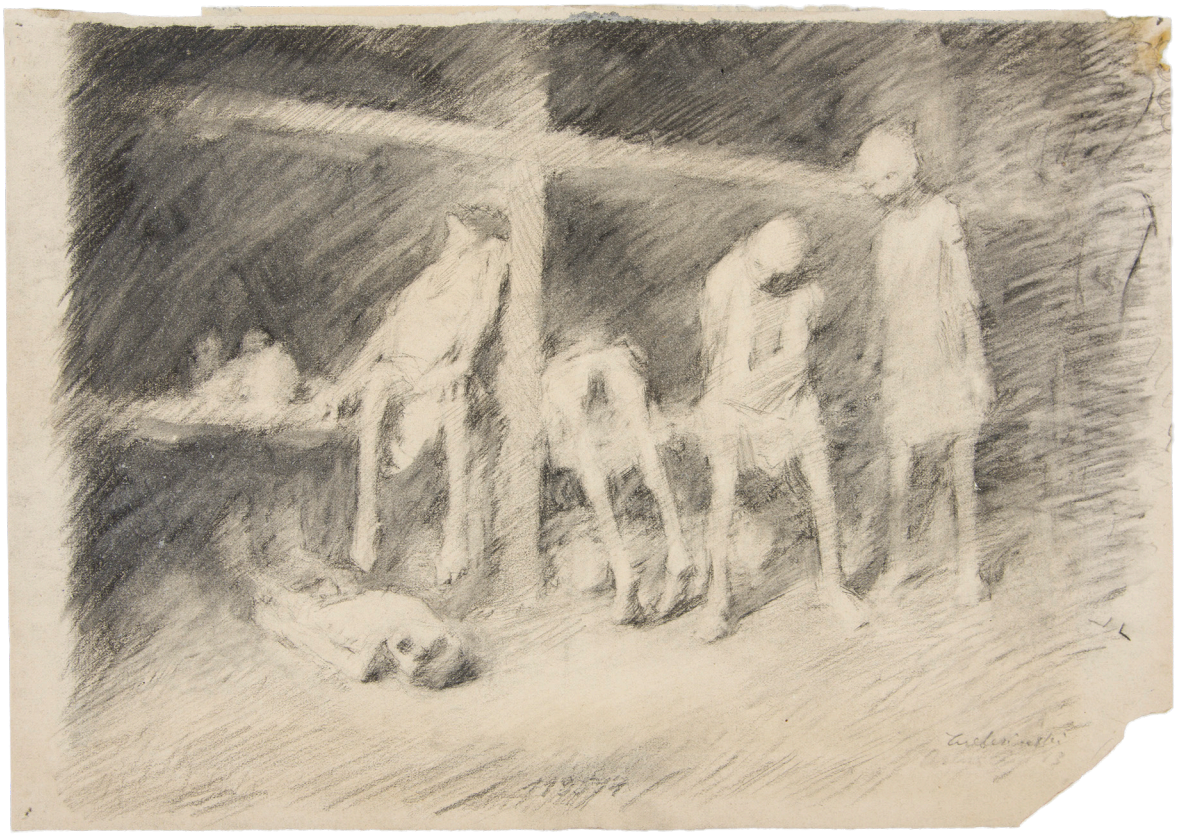
Press Release

One day, I will paint it…Original works by Auschwitz Survivors

A special presentation in support of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum and Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation

Hauser & Wirth New York, 22nd Street

19–25 November 2026



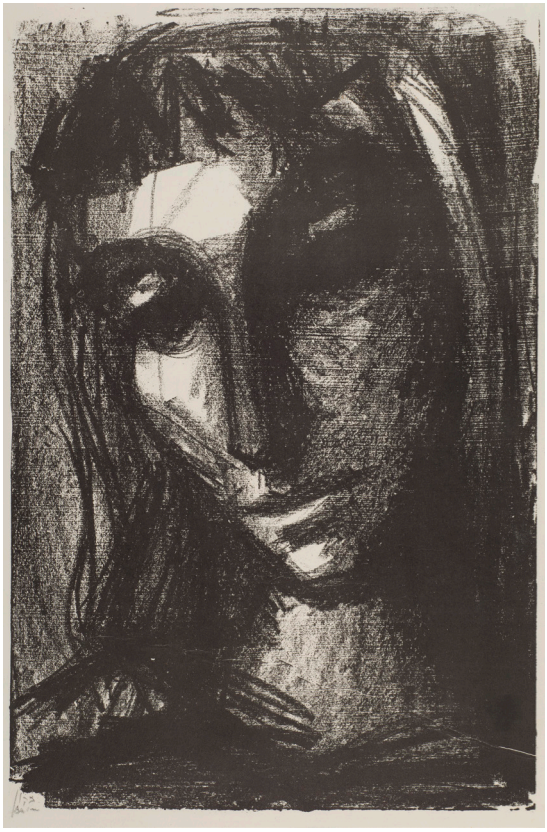
Jerzy Zielinski, *The Hospital*, 1946

New York…From 19 to 25 November 2026, Hauser & Wirth New York will host 'One day, I will paint it…', a special presentation of work created by six survivors of the German Nazi concentration and extermination camp Auschwitz, which operated in occupied Poland during World War II. Organized by the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum and the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation, this focused exhibition brings together drawings and paintings by Yehuda Bacon, Jerzy Adam Brandhuber, Władysław Siwek, Halina Ołomucka, Walter Spitzer and Jerzy Zieleziński. While their tragic personal experiences differed, each turned to art as a means of recording and confronting what they had witnessed, often placing the human figure at the center of their work

The exhibition's title is taken directly from the words of Władysław Siwek, who repeatedly returned to his experiences of Auschwitz in his work after liberation. Jerzy Adam Brandhuber also created an extensive body of work documenting his time in the camp, and after the war contributed to the establishment of the Auschwitz Museum. Walter Spitzer made sketches and portraits during his imprisonment, while Halina Ołomucka secretly drew scenes of camp life and portraits of fellow female prisoners, later devoting much of her artistic practice to the memory of the Holocaust. Jerzy Zieleziński depicted different stages in the life of a concentration camp prisoner in a post-war series of graphic works, while the Holocaust remained a central point of reference throughout Yehuda Bacon's work. What unites them is not a single artistic language, but by the imperative to bear witness to what they had experienced.



Halina Olomucka, *A Man in the Camp,* 1949

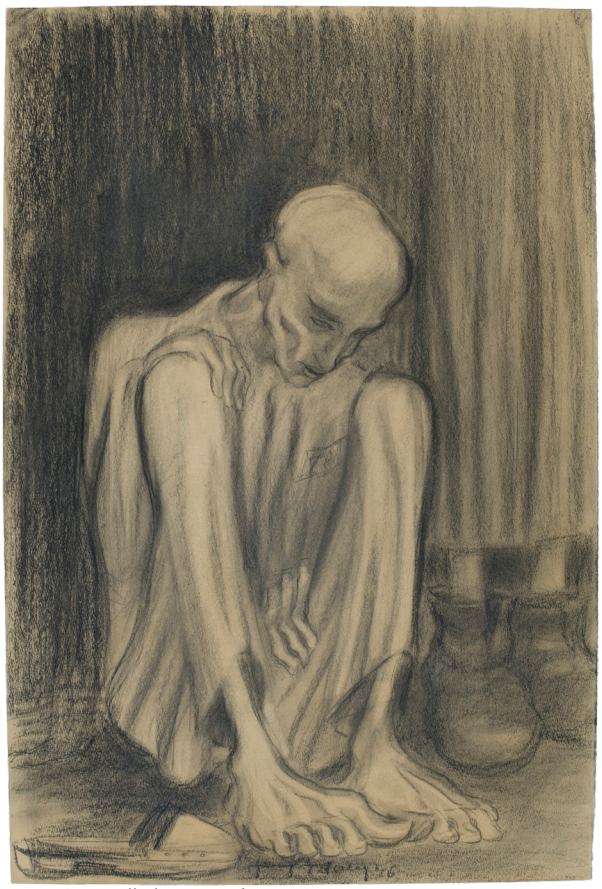


Yehuda Bacon, *Sorrow*, 1949

Historical material presented alongside the individual works provides context for the circumstances in which they were created and introduces the individual experiences of each artist. This includes biographical information on the six Survivors, as well as material relating to their experiences during and after the war. Among them, Jerzy Zieleziński had a particular connection to New York. After emigrating to the United States in the mid-1950s, he worked under the name Georg Ziel and became a prominent book-cover illustrator, designing more than 300 covers and becoming a member of the Society of Illustrators.

The Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum holds approximately 4,000 works created in the camp and by survivors after liberation. The collection includes depictions of camp life and portraits, as well as works expressing longing for the world beyond the camp and attempts to process experiences carried into the post-war period. It allows viewers insight into something documents and statistics alone cannot fully convey: the humanity behind the historical record.. 'One day, I will paint it…' offers a NY visitors to have a direct encounter with some of these personal testimonies and an important opportunity to reflect upon their significance.

Dr Piotr M. A. Cywiński, Director of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum, said: 'The camp is very difficult to describe. Words belonging to our world do not fit the reality of Auschwitz. These drawings and paintings are a unique attempt to convey the tragedy of the camp without using words.'



Jerzy A Brandhuber, *Muselmann,* 1947



Walter Spitzer, *Muselmann*, 1995

Future Permanent Exhibition

'One day, I will paint it…' serves as a preview of a major project currently being developed at the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum: a permanent, large-scale exhibition devoted to art created in the camp and by survivors. That exhibition will be housed in the historic building of the former camp kitchen at Auschwitz I site, where these fragile visual testimonies will be presented in direct relation to the place they document. The project will also encompass the conservation and digitization of the collection.

Wojciech Soczewica, Director General of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation, said: 'The creation of a permanent art exhibition is a commitment to memory and to future generations. Safeguarding objects of such fragility and uniqueness, however, requires significant resources and a collective effort. We are therefore grateful to our partners and donors, both institutional and corporate, as well as private. We are grateful to Hauser & Wirth for hosting the New York exhibition and to Google, M. Klein & Company, the Jusidman Foundation, Evonik, the Landecker Foundation, and many other significant donors, current and future, whose encouragement is invaluable.'

For more information on the furture permanent exhibition, including how to support the project, please visit: https://www.auschwitz.org/en/prisoner-art-exhibition/

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