

**RENA BERLINER PAPERS, approximately 1945-1949
1999.50**

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW
Washington, DC 20024-2126
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Descriptive summary

Title: Rena Berliner papers

Dates: approximately 1945-1949

Accession number: 1999.50

Creator: Berliner, Rena

Extent: 0.3 linear foot (3 folders)

Repository: United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW,
Washington, DC 20024-2126

Abstract: The Rena Berliner papers consist of photographs, programs, and school records documenting Rena Berliner's time at the Neu Freimann displaced persons camp, musical performances at displaced persons camps, and attendance at the Händel-Konservatorium in Munich. Photographs depict Berliner performing at the Föhrenwald displaced persons camp and a group of ORT UNRRA vocation school students in front of their classroom at Neu Freimann. Programs document Berliner's performances at displaced persons camps. School records include an identification card, membership card, report card, certificate, and two programs documenting Berliner's studies and performances at the Händel-Konservatorium in Munich.

Languages: German, Yiddish

Administrative Information

Access: Collection is open for use, but is stored offsite. Please contact the Reference Desk more than seven days prior to visit in order to request access.

Reproduction and use: Collection is available for use. Material may be protected by copyright. Please contact reference staff for further information.

Preferred citation: (Identification of item), the Rena Berliner papers, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: Rena Berliner donated the Rena Berliner papers to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 1999.

Related archival materials: Rena Berliner also donated a diploma documenting her mother's completion of a dressmaking course at the ORT school in Neu Freimann, a 1948 copy of the Yiddish newspaper *Unser Welt*, and a poster advertising a Munich Miniature Theatre performance featuring Rena Berliner. Digital images of the certificate and poster can be viewed on the Museum's website as images N04940 and N03110. Digital images of four of the photographs and one of the programs in the collection can also be viewed on the Museum's website as images 96449, N04942, 96448, N04950, N04941.00 and N04941.01.

Accruals: Accruals may have been received since this collection was first processed, see archives catalog at XXXX.ushmm.org for further information.

Processing history: Julie Schweitzer, March 2013

Biographical note

Rena Berliner was born Rena Schönthal in 1925 in Lvov (now Lviv, Ukraine) to Salomon Schönthal (1890-1943) and Klara Rapp Schönthal. Her family lived in the ghetto in Lvov from 1941-1943, but after her father died, she and her mother went into hiding in Warsaw using false papers. After liberation, they spent several months in Krakow before being smuggled into Germany with the help of the Bricha. They lived at the Neu Freimann displaced persons camp from 1945-1949, and Berliner studied at the Händel-Konservatorium in Munich. She founded a Yiddish cultural organization consisting of music students that traveled among the displaced persons camps giving performances.

Scope and content of collection

The Rena Berliner papers consist of photographs, programs, and school records documenting Rena Berliner's time at the Neu Freimann displaced persons camp, musical performances at displaced persons camps, and attendance at the Händel-Konservatorium in Munich. Photographs depict Berliner performing at the Föhrenwald displaced persons camp and a group of ORT UNRRA vocation school students in front of their classroom at Neu Freimann. Programs document Berliner's performances at displaced persons camps. School records include an identification card, membership card, report card, certificate, and two programs documenting Berliner's studies and performances at the Händel-Konservatorium in Munich.

System of arrangement

The Rena Berliner papers are arranged as a single series:

- Series 1: Rena Berliner papers, 1942-1947

Indexing terms

Neu Freimann (Displaced persons camp)
Föhrenwald (Displaced persons camp)
World ORT Union

Jewish singers – Germany – Munich.
Refugee camps – Music – Performance.
Conservatories of music – Germany – Munich.
Holocaust survivors.
Jewish refugees – Poland.
Jewish refugees – Germany.
Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)

Munich (Germany)

Photographs

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Rena Berliner papers, approximately 1945-1949

Folder	Item	
1	1	Photographs, approximately 1945-1949
1	2	Programs, approximately 1945-1949
1	3	School records, Händel-Konservatorium, Munich, 1946-1948