

KRYSTYNA LINDEN PHOTOGRAPH COLLECTION, circa 1925-1947 2006.122.2

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW
Washington, DC 20024-2126
Tel. (202) 479-9717
e-mail: reference@ushmm.org

Descriptive Summary

Title: Krystyna Linden photograph collection

Dates: circa 1925-1947

Accession number: 2006.122.2

Creator: Linden, Krystyna, 1942-

Extent: 0.1 linear foot (1 folder)

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

Abstract: The Krystyna Linden photograph collection contains photographs of the Lindenbaum and Kuniegis families, circa 1925-1947. The majority of the collection contain photographs of Krystyna Linden (born Lindenbaum, 1942-) as a hidden Jewish child in Poland and with her adopted parents, Sara and Bernard Kuniegis, directly following the war.

Languages: Polish, English

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), Krystyna Linden photograph collection (2006.122.2) United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: Krystyna Linden donated the Krystyna Linden photograph collection to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2006 and 2009. The collections accessioned as 2006.122.1, 2006.225.1, and 2009.240.1 have been incorporated into this collection.

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

Related materials: Photographs of the Lindenbaum and Landau families can also be found in the Leon and Rebeka Ilutovich Collection (2000.22.2) and the Lindenbaum and Landau families collection (2006.226.1).

Processing history: Katelynn Vance, January 2019

Biographical note

Krystyna Linden (born Lindenbaum, 1942-) is the daughter of Lutek (Leon) Lindenbaum (1910-1942) and Rutka (Rozalia née Labenska, d. 1942). Before the war, Lutek worked as an engineer. Lutek and Rutka Lindenbaum were forced to live in the Warsaw ghetto and had a small room in the Schultze workshop. On September 6, 1942 a massive deportation took place in the ghetto. Despite being nine months pregnant Rutka avoided deportation by holding a raincoat and standing between Lutek's sister Renia and brother-in-law Michal Landau. Three days later, on September 9, 1942, Rutka gave birth to a daughter, Krystyna Krysia. The German guards were bribed to allow Rutka to keep her child. After a few weeks, a close Polish friend, Mary Gasinska, smuggled the baby out of the ghetto in a wicker basket. The infant was taken to Żółwin, Poland where Michalina Janiszewska cared for Krystyna for almost five years. Krystyna was baptized by her rescuer in 1944 and her naturally dark hair was dyed blonde. Janiszewska received money for her care and support. Lutek and Rutka Lindenbaum escaped the Warsaw ghetto in April 1943. They were hidden with a Mr. Czechorowski in Warsaw. However, after a few weeks he took the couple to an open field and abandoned them. They were discovered and denounced by an unnamed Polish couple. The Polish police turned them over to the Gestapo who executed the couple near the Brudno cemetery. Their daughter, Krystyna survived the war in hiding. After the war, she was adopted by her aunt and uncle, Sara and Bernard Kuniegis, who raised her as their own daughter.

In 1932, Sara Lindenbaum married Bernard Kuniegis. Their son and Krystyna's cousin, Jerzy Edward Kuniegis was born in the mid-1930s. During the war, Jerzy was smuggled out of the Warsaw ghetto and sent into hiding, separate from his parents. They never saw him again and it is presumed that he perished. Sara and Bernard survived under the false identities of Waclaw and Janina Kierski. For the first years following the war, Krystyna's rescuer, Mrs. Janiszewska, visited the little girl in Warsaw around Christmas time and brought her a small tree and treats. However, Krystyna hid from her. Krystyna's aunt and uncle never told her she was adopted or about her cousin. In 1954, Krystyna discovered she was adopted after looking through family papers. In 1962, Krystyna and her adopted parents immigrated to Israel. Krystyna lives in Tel Aviv, Israel. She is the mother of two daughters, Ruti and Yael and has three grandchildren, Bar, Tomer, and Ilay.

Scope and content of collection

The Krystyna Linden photograph collection contains photographs of the Lindenbaum and Kuniegis families, circa 1925-1947. The majority of the collection contain photographs of Krystyna Linden (born Lindenbaum, 1942-) as a hidden Jewish child in Poland and with her adopted parents directly following the war.

The photographs of the Lindenbaum and Kuniegis families taken before the war including photographs of Jerzy Edward Kuniegis, a portrait of three Lindenbaum siblings, Sara, Dawid, and Wella, circa 1925; and the Lindenbaum family celebrating Purim in the Warsaw ghetto. Photographs taken during the war of Krystyna Linden while hiding include baby photographs; Krystyna as a toddler with her hair dyed blonde; a baptismal photograph of Krystyna dressed in white, 1944; and Krystyna being visited by her aunt Sara Kuniegis while still in hiding. Photographs taken after liberation include Krystyna at a summer colony outside of Warsaw and Krystyna with her adopted parents.

System of arrangement

This collection is arranged in a single series.

Indexing terms

People:

Goldberg, Wella, 1904-1942.
Ilutovich, Rebeka, 1917-
Kuniegis, Bernard.
Kuniegis, Jerzy.
Kuniegis, Sara.
Linden, Krystyn, 1942-
Lindenbaum, Curtla, ?-1942.
Lindenbaum, Dawid.
Lindenbaum, Tobiasz, 1878-1939.
Rosen, Gitel, ?-1942.

Topics:

Hidden children (Holocaust)
Holocaust survivors.
Holocaust victims.
Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)
Jewish children in the Holocaust.
Jewish children.
Jews--Poland.
World War, 1939-1945.

Geography:

Łódź (Poland)
Poland.
Warsaw (Poland)

Gene / Form:

Photographs.

CONTAINER LIST

1 of 1	Lindenbaum and Kuniegis family photographs, circa 1935-1947
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