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**MENCZEL, KAHN, AND REICHNITZER FAMILY PAPERS, circa 1891-circa 1948
2020.276.1**

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

Descriptive summary

Title: Menczel, Kahn, and Reichnitzer family papers

Dates: circa 1891-circa 1948

Accession number: 2020.276.1

Creator: Menczel, Feiga

Extent: 2.25 linear feet (4 folders, 4 book enclosures, 2 oversize boxes)

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

Languages: Polish, German, English

Abstract: The Menczel, Kahn, and Reichnitzer family papers include documents and photographs relating to Feiga (Fanny) Menczel and her family's prewar life in Poland and Austria. The collection also documents Fanny's husband, Wilhelm Kahn, and his family's prewar life in Vienna, Austria. Documents include a German passport for Fanny's parents Szmila and Adele Menczel and work documentation, a marriage announcement, and a graduation invitation for Fanny, as well as transportation passes and a letter of employment for Wilhelm Kahn. Prewar and wartime photographs depict Fanny, Wilhelm, and their families, including siblings, parents, and cousins. The collection also includes Frieda Reichnitzer's poetry book and cookbook, two of Fanny's autograph books, and Lory Kahn's autograph book.

Administrative Information

Access: There are no known restrictions on access to this material.

Reproduction and use: Material(s) in this collection may be protected by copyright and/or related rights. You do not require further permission from the Museum to use this material. The user is solely responsible for making a determination as to if and how the material may be used.

Preferred citation: (Identification of item), Menczel, Kahn, and Reichnitzer family papers (2020.276.1), United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

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Related material: Shulamith Ziv also donated a textile embroidered with a lullaby that belonged to Lory Kahn (2020.276.2).

Acquisition information: The Menczel, Kahn, and Reichnitzer family papers were donated to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2020 by Shulamith Ziv.

Processing history: Morgan Voth, July 2023

Biographical note

Feiga (Fanny) Menczel (also Menzel and later Kahn, b. 1906 or 1907) was born in Poland to Shmil Menczel (b. 1869) and Adele Menczel (née Tinter, b. 1870) and had three siblings: Berta (b. 1900), Joseph (b. 1911), and Helen (Lene, b. 1912). During World War I, Fanny and her family left Poland and moved to Vienna, Austria. Fanny met Wilhelm (Willy) Theodor Kahn (b. 1904, Vienna, Austria) through the Blau Weiss Zionist Youth movement and they married on June 20, 1931. Wilhelm had at least one sibling, Lory (Lore, circa 1902-1922) Khan, and his mother's name was Frieda Reichnitzer (d. circa 1923). Wilhelm left Vienna for Palestine in 1933 and was joined by Fanny in 1934. Fanny briefly returned to Vienna to finish her degree at the University of Vienna then returned to Palestine where she worked as a pharmacist and Wilhelm worked as an electrical engineer. They had one daughter, Shula (Shulamit) born on January 28, 1937 in Palestine. Helen studied medicine in Vienna and married Edouard Reichwager (later Reeves). After the Anschluss, Joseph left for France where he settled in Lyon. Shmil and Adele emigrated from Vienna to Palestine in 1938.

Scope and content of collection

The Menczel, Kahn, and Reichnitzer family papers include documents and photographs relating to Feiga (Fanny) Menczel and her family's prewar life in Poland and Austria. The collection also documents Fanny's husband, Wilhelm Kahn, and his family's prewar life in Vienna, Austria. Documents include a German passport for Fanny's parents Szmila and Adele Menczel and work documentation, a marriage announcement, and a graduation invitation for Fanny, as well as transportation passes and a letter of employment for Wilhelm Kahn. Prewar and wartime photographs depict Fanny, Wilhelm, and their families, including siblings, parents, and cousins. The collection also includes Frieda Reichnitzer's poetry book and cookbook, two of Fanny's autograph books, and Lory Kahn's autograph book.

System of arrangement

The Menczel, Kahn, and Reichnitzer family papers are arranged as a single series.

Indexing terms

Manczel, Feiga.

Kahn, Wilhelm.

Kahn, Lory.

Reichnitzer, Frieda.

Jewish families--Palestine.

Jews--Austria--Vienna.

Palestine.

Vienna (Austria)

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Correspondence.

Photographs.

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Menczel, Kahn, and Reichnitzer family papers, circa 1891-circa 1948

Box/Folder	Description
1 of 4	Documents, 1912-1934 (1 folder)
2-4 of 4, 2	Photographs, circa 1901-circa 1948 (3 folders and 1 oversize box)
BE 1 and BE 4	Fanny Menczel's autograph books, circa 1920-1925
BE 2 and BE 3	Freida Reichnitzer's cookbook and poetry book, circa 1891
1 and OS 1	Lory Kahn's autograph book 1912-1915