

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:31,900

2
00:00:31,900 --> 00:00:33,440
Five sound roll fifty

3
00:00:33,440 --> 00:00:33,940
--1.

4
00:00:33,940 --> 00:00:35,200
--1.

5
00:00:35,200 --> 00:00:36,060
Synch 25.

6
00:00:36,060 --> 00:00:40,230

7
00:00:40,230 --> 00:00:43,320
Now, you left off--

8
00:00:43,320 --> 00:00:44,490
could you just say again?

9
00:00:44,490 --> 00:00:47,370
You painted many portraits
for Germans in exchange?

10
00:00:47,370 --> 00:00:49,020
Yes.

11
00:00:49,020 --> 00:00:51,420
One even brought
me a whole bread.

12
00:00:51,420 --> 00:00:54,730
This was such an event, yes.

13
00:00:54,730 --> 00:01:00,090
Yes, later in the

camps, when the German--

14

00:01:00,090 --> 00:01:03,690

when they knew that
I was an artist,

15

00:01:03,690 --> 00:01:07,290

they brought me photographs of
their children and their wives.

16

00:01:07,290 --> 00:01:13,480

And once our commandant,
who was a very bad German--

17

00:01:13,480 --> 00:01:20,760

he caught me drawing, and
he came in and beat me up.

18

00:01:20,760 --> 00:01:27,660

So the other soldiers
said, instead of a prize,

19

00:01:27,660 --> 00:01:29,820

you get beaten up.

20

00:01:29,820 --> 00:01:34,530

And then he came to me later,
look, I'm going on my leave.

21

00:01:34,530 --> 00:01:37,680

Please do my portrait,
and tell me what you need.

22

00:01:37,680 --> 00:01:38,820

I will bring you.

23

00:01:38,820 --> 00:01:44,520

And then he brought me
paper and China ink,

24

00:01:44,520 --> 00:01:49,630

and in my little book,
the Jewesses in Slavery,

25
00:01:49,630 --> 00:01:53,610
there are drawings done
with a pen and ink, yes.

26
00:01:53,610 --> 00:01:59,190
Others I have done with a
sliver of wood with some ink

27
00:01:59,190 --> 00:02:02,760
that the Germans
gave me to do write

28
00:02:02,760 --> 00:02:09,610
the numbers I had to
write for numbering, yes.

29
00:02:09,610 --> 00:02:12,090
So there were
different ones, yes,

30
00:02:12,090 --> 00:02:14,610
but they exchanged
him later because he

31
00:02:14,610 --> 00:02:22,200
started a romance with one
of the women in the camp.

32
00:02:22,200 --> 00:02:27,000
The next one was
better, and then they

33
00:02:27,000 --> 00:02:30,300
overwhelmed me with work.

34
00:02:30,300 --> 00:02:38,280
And then they started to bring
me every day a cup of soup

35
00:02:38,280 --> 00:02:42,750
from the German kitchen, yes.

36

00:02:42,750 --> 00:02:45,690

I shared with the
sick people because I

37

00:02:45,690 --> 00:02:51,270

could sit in the sick
room for my drawings, yes.

38

00:02:51,270 --> 00:02:54,990

It was warm in there, yes.

39

00:02:54,990 --> 00:02:59,550

And once, one of the Germans
took me in the evening

40

00:02:59,550 --> 00:03:03,810

into town to draw
his mistress, yes,

41

00:03:03,810 --> 00:03:08,460

and she brought me
a package of onions.

42

00:03:08,460 --> 00:03:12,780

She has heard that we were
so desperate for onions

43

00:03:12,780 --> 00:03:15,140

because onions had vitamins.

44

00:03:15,140 --> 00:03:17,970

45

00:03:17,970 --> 00:03:20,370

It helped to survive.

46

00:03:20,370 --> 00:03:23,550

I always shared what I had.

47

00:03:23,550 --> 00:03:26,190

And this was all at Stutthof?

48

00:03:26,190 --> 00:03:29,250

No, this was in the labor camp.

49

00:03:29,250 --> 00:03:32,970

In Stutthof, I
had my story, too,

50

00:03:32,970 --> 00:03:36,720

because the Kapo
there had a mistress.

51

00:03:36,720 --> 00:03:40,470

And when she knew that I was
doing portraits here and there,

52

00:03:40,470 --> 00:03:44,490

she came, and she wanted
her portrait done.

53

00:03:44,490 --> 00:03:48,090

And she said to me, if you
don't make me beautiful,

54

00:03:48,090 --> 00:03:51,330

you will see what
will happen to you.

55

00:03:51,330 --> 00:03:56,640

Well, she was satisfied, and
then she gave me a whole bread.

56

00:03:56,640 --> 00:04:00,750

57

00:04:00,750 --> 00:04:03,510

We got a slice.

58

00:04:03,510 --> 00:04:06,760

I had a whole bread.

59

00:04:06,760 --> 00:04:10,150

I made a feast with my friends.

60
00:04:10,150 --> 00:04:13,660
So the other things happened
in the concentration camp?

61
00:04:13,660 --> 00:04:16,660
Yes, this was in the
concentration camp.

62
00:04:16,660 --> 00:04:18,903
This was where the little--

63
00:04:18,903 --> 00:04:23,440

64
00:04:23,440 --> 00:04:28,570
let's say little lights
that got up here and there.

65
00:04:28,570 --> 00:04:30,670
It never lasted, yes.

66
00:04:30,670 --> 00:04:36,230
It never lasted because
the Germans were exchanging

67
00:04:36,230 --> 00:04:38,270
the personnel all the time.

68
00:04:38,270 --> 00:04:41,480
They were afraid that
we were fraternizing.

69
00:04:41,480 --> 00:04:44,190

70
00:04:44,190 --> 00:04:46,040
Back in time--

71
00:04:46,040 --> 00:04:46,770
Back in the--

72

00:04:46,770 --> 00:04:47,280

--back to--

73

00:04:47,280 --> 00:04:48,113

Yes, what I wanted--

74

00:04:48,113 --> 00:04:50,340

--October 28, I want

you to tell me--

75

00:04:50,340 --> 00:04:51,510

October--

76

00:04:51,510 --> 00:04:55,140

--28, 1941, the Great Action.

77

00:04:55,140 --> 00:04:57,883

Oh, the Great Action, yes, yes.

78

00:04:57,883 --> 00:04:58,800

Just tell me that day.

79

00:04:58,800 --> 00:05:00,630

Yes, yes.

80

00:05:00,630 --> 00:05:06,960

Well, there was the announcement
that everybody but everybody

81

00:05:06,960 --> 00:05:14,910

had to go with his whole family
to the big Demokratu Square,

82

00:05:14,910 --> 00:05:19,580

and there will be a
count of the population.

83

00:05:19,580 --> 00:05:22,250

84

00:05:22,250 --> 00:05:24,550

How do you call it?

85

00:05:24,550 --> 00:05:27,460

There is one word for it.

86

00:05:27,460 --> 00:05:33,370

And whoever will be found in his
home will be shot on the spot.

87

00:05:33,370 --> 00:05:37,370

So everybody, of course,
was very, very much afraid,

88

00:05:37,370 --> 00:05:39,700

and everybody came.

89

00:05:39,700 --> 00:05:44,710

But at the time, there
were already brigades.

90

00:05:44,710 --> 00:05:49,090

These were groups of people who
were protected by the Germans,

91

00:05:49,090 --> 00:05:53,110

yes, who worked for them
in town or somewhere.

92

00:05:53,110 --> 00:05:59,050

They came to fetch them,
people with professions, yes,

93

00:05:59,050 --> 00:06:03,520

and they were separated
not to touch them.

94

00:06:03,520 --> 00:06:08,920

And I went with my sister--

95

00:06:08,920 --> 00:06:15,180

my brother-in-law was already
away with the 500 intellectuals

96

00:06:15,180 --> 00:06:20,020

they had taken in the
beginning of the ghetto--

97

00:06:20,020 --> 00:06:25,120

my sister with her two-year-old.

98

00:06:25,120 --> 00:06:30,670

And the young man who had
helped me with my drawings--

99

00:06:30,670 --> 00:06:37,210

he came with us, and he
said that we were his family

100

00:06:37,210 --> 00:06:42,880

because he was a brigadier
in a detachment that

101

00:06:42,880 --> 00:06:45,250

worked at the airfield.

102

00:06:45,250 --> 00:06:48,280

And he had his
privileges, and his uncle

103

00:06:48,280 --> 00:06:52,510

was in the Council of Elders.

104

00:06:52,510 --> 00:06:59,770

He had the [NON-ENGLISH],,
the Jordan paper.

105

00:06:59,770 --> 00:07:04,430

That was the paper
that saved people.

106

00:07:04,430 --> 00:07:10,540

And on that day, 10,000 people
were separated and driven

107

00:07:10,540 --> 00:07:13,660

to the little ghetto first.

108

00:07:13,660 --> 00:07:17,680

At the beginning, no one knew--

109

00:07:17,680 --> 00:07:23,230

maybe they wanted to renew
the little ghetto because it

110

00:07:23,230 --> 00:07:25,690

was very crowded here.

111

00:07:25,690 --> 00:07:30,970

And they said now they had
to send people to Germany

112

00:07:30,970 --> 00:07:35,890

for other work in other camps.

113

00:07:35,890 --> 00:07:45,700

But the next morning, we noticed
that big, big numbers of people

114

00:07:45,700 --> 00:07:49,870

went up to the Ninth
Fort, that road

115

00:07:49,870 --> 00:07:53,380

that we called the Via Dolorosa.

116

00:07:53,380 --> 00:07:56,080

And then it was told
that they shot them all,

117

00:07:56,080 --> 00:07:58,630

and then no one, no
one, no one wanted

118

00:07:58,630 --> 00:08:06,640

to believe until a woman who
survived under the corpses

119

00:08:06,640 --> 00:08:08,780
and crawled out--

120
00:08:08,780 --> 00:08:14,920
and she came and told the
story, and still no one--

121
00:08:14,920 --> 00:08:17,410
Look, you couldn't take it.

122
00:08:17,410 --> 00:08:18,880
You just couldn't take it.

123
00:08:18,880 --> 00:08:21,440

124
00:08:21,440 --> 00:08:22,910
A woman came back?

125
00:08:22,910 --> 00:08:25,640
A woman came back because
they shot the people,

126
00:08:25,640 --> 00:08:28,160
and sometimes they
didn't shoot them.

127
00:08:28,160 --> 00:08:33,440
They only wounded them, so they
crawled out back again, yes.

128
00:08:33,440 --> 00:08:37,020
And somehow they found their
way back to the ghetto,

129
00:08:37,020 --> 00:08:40,070
and they were telling
their stories.

130
00:08:40,070 --> 00:08:41,210
Did you talk to her?

131

00:08:41,210 --> 00:08:42,680
Yes, I talked to her.

132
00:08:42,680 --> 00:08:44,640
I talked to her.

133
00:08:44,640 --> 00:08:46,610
She was a young woman of 30.

134
00:08:46,610 --> 00:08:48,860
She looked like 50, 60.

135
00:08:48,860 --> 00:08:50,050
And I write about her.

136
00:08:50,050 --> 00:08:53,510
I just went through my
material to remember.

137
00:08:53,510 --> 00:08:56,060

138
00:08:56,060 --> 00:08:59,090
And then--

139
00:08:59,090 --> 00:09:02,870
Did you see-- the next day,
you saw people coming back

140
00:09:02,870 --> 00:09:04,040
with baby buggies?

141
00:09:04,040 --> 00:09:06,570

142
00:09:06,570 --> 00:09:15,350
Yes, the next day back
from the mountain,

143
00:09:15,350 --> 00:09:22,370
they came with lorries,
with trucks full of clothing

144
00:09:22,370 --> 00:09:27,020
and full of baby
buggies, all the things

145
00:09:27,020 --> 00:09:32,300
they had robbed from the
people they executed.

146
00:09:32,300 --> 00:09:39,480
But from me, you wanted to know
about culture in the ghetto,

147
00:09:39,480 --> 00:09:42,320
so I wanted to mention
that there were musicians.

148
00:09:42,320 --> 00:09:45,920
There were many musicians
that at a certain time

149
00:09:45,920 --> 00:09:49,400
were organized in an
orchestra, and there

150
00:09:49,400 --> 00:09:52,460
were orchestra performances.

151
00:09:52,460 --> 00:09:59,450
Even the Gestapo people
came to listen to them.

152
00:09:59,450 --> 00:10:05,150
And there were writers,
and we had lectures.

153
00:10:05,150 --> 00:10:07,730
I even gave a lecture on art.

154
00:10:07,730 --> 00:10:14,270
There were doctors who
lectured on medicine,

155

00:10:14,270 --> 00:10:24,740
and there was some quiet
in the middle of '43.

156

00:10:24,740 --> 00:10:29,360
And when I went for my
lecture, they already

157

00:10:29,360 --> 00:10:36,930
talked about sending people
from Kovno to Estonia,

158

00:10:36,930 --> 00:10:40,980
and I even thought of
canceling my lecture.

159

00:10:40,980 --> 00:10:44,550
But people were already
assembling there, and I did it.

160

00:10:44,550 --> 00:10:45,410
I delivered.

161

00:10:45,410 --> 00:10:48,190

162

00:10:48,190 --> 00:10:53,320
But this time never came
again, and then came

163

00:10:53,320 --> 00:10:58,390
the parcellation, and the
sending to the satellite

164

00:10:58,390 --> 00:11:03,540
camps, and the
dissolution of the ghetto.

165

00:11:03,540 --> 00:11:07,560
And then a new commandant
came, a new commandant

166

00:11:07,560 --> 00:11:12,360
who had been in Mauthausen.

167
00:11:12,360 --> 00:11:21,990
He had orchestrated the
gassing and the extermination

168
00:11:21,990 --> 00:11:25,470
of hundreds of
thousands, and he came

169
00:11:25,470 --> 00:11:29,510
to be our head in the ghetto--

170
00:11:29,510 --> 00:11:36,029