"Co-design Starting from Zero Exhibition"

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

PROJECT		
Participant:	[1] - [Nadacni Fond Archa] ([Arks])	
PIC number:	[884874450]	
Project name and acronym:	[Arks Testimonies] — [Arks Test]	

EVENT DESCRIPTION		
Event number:	9	
Event name:	Co-design of Starting from Zero exhibition	
Туре:	School based workshops on co-design of art exhibition	
In situ/online:	in-situ	
Location:	Geneva, Switzerland With in-person education in Hungary and Czech Republic	
Date(s):	14-15 th December, 2023	
Website(s) (if any):	https://arksfoundation.net/events https://arksfoundation.net/events/starting-from-zero-role-of-art- and-co-design-of-exhibition	
Participants		

Female:	147
Male:	137
Non-binary:	3
From country 1 Czechia:	33
From country 2 Hungary:	22
From country 3 France:	12
From country 4 Italy	2
From country 5 Switzerland	216
From country 6: Norway	1

6

Total number of participants:	287	Fron

n total number of countries:

Description

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

We completed an event on "Starting from Zero: role of Art and co-design of the exhibition" in Ecolint, Switzerland with additional school outreach of the activity to schools in Hungary and Czech Republic.

For 2024, given the context, we will use art actively to illustrate the life and contribution of survivors, to Jewish and European culture. This focuses on the Jewish bauhaus textile artists Otti Berger and Anni Albers, one who survived and another who did not, and together created European bauhaus design in this area. In addition, the art of the Schindler Jew Joseph Bau was shown, who used poetry and jokes to save as many lives as Oskar Schindler first in the ghetto and then in Brnenec. The students had met his family in June 2023 and we include new testimonies from the Bau family. This highlights Jewish creativity, agency through art and the different forms of resistance which do not use violence.

It is followed by an educational activity on Jewish resistance and art and an exhibition in June 2024 which will reach several thousand people, with the leading European art of survivors and of the bauhaus (and Otti Berger who did not survive). This will be an opportune moment to use this form of expression, and in the spirit of co-design this activity worked with students to get their input to ensure it is relevant to the current context and next generation.

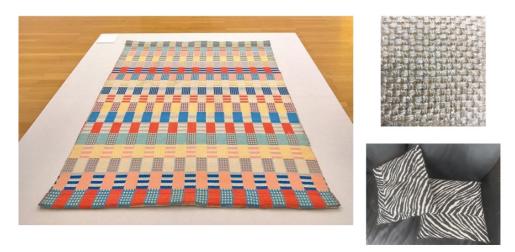
The materials were presented by Widar Halen, the director and curator of the exhibition and expert on bauhaus art, and by Daniel Low-Beer of the family behind Schindler's Ark and the Tugendhat Villa, and teaching outreach in schools in Hungary and Czechia, with the objectives:

- 1. **Discuss the role of art** in showing the creativity, resistance and agency of survivors who shape our world
- 2. Discuss how to show Otti Berger, who did not survive, and her colleague Anni Albers who survived and shaped our world in textiles
- Include other artists from the 1920s and 1930s, Lucie Rie and Lilly Reich from different European countries to introduce the role of Judaism and gender in European Bauhaus culture in the 1930s
- 4. **Co-design** provide co-design inputs with your educators in each of your classrooms to contribute to the exhibition



"Starting from Zero" – opening 30th June 2024 then to Arks

"Listen to the fabric's secrets, track down the sound of materials"



The exhibition and materials included the Otti Berger carpet which was reproduced so students could touch and interact with it for this exercise

Art and Survivors - resistance and renewal

- 1. "Starting from Zero"
- 2. Otti Berger, Anni Albers, Lilly Reich, Lucy Rie
- 3. What is the role of Art?

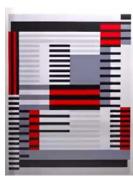
The event got student input on "Starting from Zero", the artists Otti Berger, Anni Albers, Lilly Reich and Lucy Rie, which highlight both Jewish and gendered contributions to European culture, and the role of Art in communicating how "Survivors shape our world".

The students provided additional inputs for the Museum to add to the 40 co-design contributions documented across 9 countries. They highlighted the universal interest in art and how it directly communicated the role of survivors in European culture. They also stressed the need to augment it with new technology and the use of screens and interactive elements to mix their life stories with their art. These will be further developed and included in the final exhibition, together with a panel on the co-design process "Making a Museum".

The activity covered the following 4 artists who highlight survivors as well as Jewish and gendered contributions to core European culture and values:

Anni Albers- "At least once in life it is good to start from zero"











Otti Berger



LucieRie- "to make pottery is an adventure for me, every new work is a new beginning"



Lilly Reich— "One must have courage for colour ...grow together with the woman .. give a picture of her spirit"



Each of these artists responded to the events of the twentieth century with the joy of making and beauty rather than violence, and inscribed the legacy of survivors into the core of European culture, values and history. They are of particular relevance today.

The above photo of the Tugendhat Home, designed by the finest German architect (Mies van der Rohe), Austrian designer (Lilly Reich), with Czech artisans for a Jewish family (the Tugendhat and Low-Beer families who support Arks) represents the values of Europe. It is recognized by UNESCO as the finest 20th century European home, designed by the directors of architecture and textiles in the bauhaus. It will be the site of the exhibition "Starting from Zero" in July 2024 which will reach several thousand people. It will then be transferred the Museum of Survivors in Brnenec. The student co-design will be incorporated into how this key part of European culture is displayed in Schindler's Ark.

We also highlighted the role of art through our partners, the Chapman University which houses the Schindler Archive in USA, and presented to our students their competition on art and the Holocaust this year: chapman.edu/holocaust-arts-contest

The activities and student inputs will also be incorporated into a testimony lesson on Jewish resistance and art to be delivered in 2024. This will include the testimony of Joseph Bau and his family with original recorded testimonies, and showing his art provided to the Museum. The bau family met the students from 9 countries. Students have input that we should use the contrasting colours, of black and white to show the events of the war ("Whoever saves a life") and bauhaus colours in the art of survivors to show how they then shape our world.



JOSEPH BAU



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HISTORY OF CHANGES				
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE		CHANGE	
1.0	01.04.2022	Initial version (new MFF).		