



IN 1944, A TEN-YEAR-OLD GIRL NAMED EVA MOZES KOR and her twin sister Miriam were shipped off to Auschwitz Concentration Camp along with the rest of their family and their entire village. They were Jews, and the Nazi genocide was at its peak. Upon arriving at Auschwitz, after weeks of starvation and abuse in a regional ghetto, Eva and Miriam were dragged away from their family, destined to become the subjects of Dr. Joseph Mengele's medical experiments on twins. They never saw their family again.

Seventy-one years later, violinist Ariel Horowitz stumbled upon Eva at her home and museum (CANDLES Holocaust Museum) in Terre Haute, Indiana, while the former was traveling for a concert. Many hours, laughs, tears, and cookies later, Ariel left Eva's museum having learned that Eva leads a trip to Auschwitz every summer in addition to sharing her story and mission that "forgiveness is the seed for peace" all over the world. Eva expressed her deep desire to hear music performed at Auschwitz where the fates of over one million Jews and members of other targeted groups - including the members of her own family - were decided during World War II. "I've never heard a musical piece about forgiveness as healing," she said that day.

On June 30th, ARIEL HOROWITZ and double bassist SEBASTIAN ZINCA will present a musical testimony at the "Altejudenrampe" at Auschwitz Concentration Camp. Inspired by the life's work of Eva Mozes Kor, this musical offering seeks to commemorate the unfathomable tragedies that took place during the Holocaust while acknowledging the power of forgiveness to help heal in its wake. Now more than ever, as today's political climate is filled with hateful rhetoric and action, Ariel and Sebastian endeavor to embody Eva Mozes Kor's message. They will offer their own composition, Seed for Peace (2017), written especially for this occasion, as well as an arrangement of Roxanna Panufnik's Hora Bessarabia (2017), a defiant piece based on the music of Jewish and Roma cultures.

Before and after the duo's visit to Auschwitz, they plan to present their musical offering at Jewish centers in Romania and Poland, the places of their own families' heritage and struggle. Additionally, the duo premiered Seed for Peace at the 92nd St Y's annual Holocaust program in New York City on April 24th, 2017, receiving a standing ovation from a deeply moved audience.

Ariel and Sebastian's dream is to continue to share and spread Eva's message and mission as widely as possible using music as their medium. This endeavor is generously supported by a Project Grant from The Juilliard School.

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