



**PINEWOOD
HOLOCAUST
EXHIBITION**

**Full version with written and visual artworks will be uploaded soon to
the Pinewood school website**



The Jewish Mermaid

This reflection draws inspiration from the tragic history of Auschwitz and the profound suffering endured there, exploring the tension between hope and despair. A mermaid, symbolizing Thessaloniki's once-thriving Jewish community and its mythological lore, represents the loss and judgment tied to the past.

The artist used linocut carving to create bold contrasts of black and white, reflecting the stark realities and emotional weight of war. The medium's raw texture mirrors the intensity of the tragedy, while the permanence of the printed image signifies the enduring imprint of these memories in history. The work seeks to honor the victims of Auschwitz and convey the solemnity of their experiences.

Ziv Kornblit

Year: 2025

Medium: Relief Painting

Dimensions: 30 (w) x 42 (l) cm



Never Forget

This digital collage is inspired by the history of Greek Jewry during the Holocaust, highlighting both their rich Sephardic heritage and the atrocities they endured. The artwork incorporates photographs, historical documents, and symbolic imagery, with the Star of David representing both identity and persecution. Key elements include architectural plans for the Saoul Gallery and archival photos of deportations.

The digital medium allows for the seamless blending of ornate, colorful frames with stark black-and-white images, reflecting the contrast between cultural vibrancy and tragic loss. Floral motifs symbolize pre-war beauty, juxtaposed with haunting imagery of suffering and survival. Each layer conveys how history is fractured yet preserved, honoring lives lost while ensuring their stories endure.

Chloe Entenman

Year: 2025

Medium: Digital Collage

Dimensions: 30 (w) x 42 (l) cm



Stars of the Salonica

This artwork highlights the deep connection between Thessaloniki's Jewish community and the city's cultural identity. At its center is a dark blue Star of David, symbolizing both the sorrow of loss and hope for the future. Each section of the star features landmarks like Casa Bianca, Modiano Market, and the Holocaust Memorial, representing the Jewish community's vibrant pre-Holocaust life and its lasting influence.

These buildings are more than historical icons; they evoke the thriving culture and economy once shaped by Thessaloniki's Jews. The Holocaust Memorial within the star commemorates the tragic loss of lives while honoring the resilience of survivors. A soft purple-blue background and a city skyline emphasize the blend of tradition and modernity, celebrating the enduring legacy of Thessaloniki's Jewish population.

Eleftheria Sofia Kizos Avgeris

Year: 2025

Medium: Pencil on paper.

Dimensions: 28(w) x 35.5(l) cm



Casa Bianca

This artwork of Casa Blanca, created for Greek Jewish Remembrance Day, captures the emotional essence of a home deeply tied to historical and cultural memory. Using a limited palette of black and pink, the piece conveys a tension between love and loss. Pink symbolizes warmth, resilience, and enduring love, even amidst the atrocities faced by Greek Jews during the Holocaust.

The digital medium enabled precise control of light and shadow, with the dark background emphasizing Casa Blanca's silhouette to evoke a somber, reflective tone. The contrast between black and pink highlights the duality of tragedy and humanity. The piece honors Casa Blanca as a place of life and memory, serving as a tribute to the resilience of Greek Jews and a reminder of love's enduring power in the face of darkness.

Ismini Durand

Year: 2025

Medium: Digital Painting

Dimensions: 30 (w) x 42 (l) cm



The Start of the War

This artwork reflects the tragic experiences of Greek Jews during the Nazi occupation, inspired by a haunting photograph of families being loaded onto cattle trucks at Thessaloniki's railway station. The expressive faces in the image, filled with fear and pain, deeply resonated with the artist and informed the piece.

Created with pencil on paper, the medium captures subtle emotions and intricate details, with soft lines conveying fragility and harsh lines symbolizing tension. The figures are intentionally similar to emphasize the fundamental equality of all people. Soldiers are depicted uniformly to reflect the dehumanizing rigidity of oppression. Through varied line work, the piece explores themes of fear, grief, and despair, serving as a powerful call for empathy, equality, and resistance to injustice.

Noa Antebi

Year: 2025

Medium: Pencil on paper.

Dimensions: 35 (w) x 28 (l) cm



Past into Flames

This painting juxtaposes symbols of warmth and destruction to reflect the Holocaust's devastating impact. Fire, typically a comforting element, is depicted as a force of destruction, referencing both the Holocaust and the fires in Thessaloniki that destroyed homes, synagogues, and lives. The cracked tiles on the floor symbolize the collapse of what was once strong, sloping downhill to reflect the gradual disappearance of Thessaloniki's Jewish community during the Nazi occupation.

The empty void left behind evokes the loss of a vibrant culture and bustling streets. Using markers, colored pencils, and soft pastels, the artist blends fire and broken tiles to convey both fleeting hope and the lasting scars of history. This piece serves as a poignant reminder of how the Holocaust transformed cities and lives, leaving behind enduring memories of loss.

Lia Leibel

Year: 2025

**Medium: pencil, markers, colored pencils, and pastels
on paper**

Dimensions: 32(w) x 23(l) cm



Journey Through Time (The Salem)

This artwork is inspired by the story of Salonica's Jewish community, particularly the migration, displacement, and cultural heritage of families like the Salems. A 1909 portrait of the Salem family—Esther, Jacques, Karsa, Michael, and Adolphe—sparked the artist's imagination about their lives, journey to Thessaloniki, and tragic loss during the Holocaust.

The Salems, like many Sephardic Jews, were likely descendants of those expelled from Iberia in the 15th century, speaking Ladino and calling Salonica home for centuries. Shifting borders turned them from Ottomans to Greeks, and history scattered their descendants across the globe. Using pencil to capture delicate detail and emotion, the artist included a symbolic ladder to represent their journey and resilience. This piece honors families like the Salems, reflecting migration, loss, and the enduring strength of cultural memory.

Paolo Marra

Year: 2025

Medium: Pencil and color pencils on paper.

Dimensions: 28 (w) x 35 (l) cm



Tales of Talmud

This piece highlights the enduring legacy of the Talmud, a cornerstone of Jewish law, ethics, and philosophy, emphasizing its role in providing hope and guidance during dark times. The central feature is the Talmud's cover, surrounded by four illustrations of legends from the text: Honi the Circle Maker, The Oven of Akhnai, The Four Who Entered the Pardes, and Rabbi Akiva at the Ruined Temple with Foxes. Each story resonates with themes of faith, perseverance, interpretation, and hope amidst destruction.

The artwork uses a mix of materials—watercolor for dreamlike qualities, fabric for texture, markers for modernity, and pen for historical precision—creating a dynamic contrast. This piece honors the timeless power of Jewish storytelling and reflects on how faith, learning, and resilience persist through generations, even in the face of profound loss.

Sofia Papakosta

Year: 2025

Medium- Example: mixed media

Dimensions: 28 (w) x 35 (l) cm



Fading Leaves, Fading Lives

This artwork reflects the history of Greek Jews during the Holocaust, focusing on the community of Ioannina and the devastation they endured. It consists of two contrasting acrylic paintings. The first depicts a vibrant 1940s Greek Jewish village, alive with color, bustling streets, and lush greenery, symbolizing a thriving culture and community before the war.

The second painting, in stark black and white, shows the same village after the Holocaust, silent and desolate, with empty streets and bare trees, conveying the haunting absence of life. The use of acrylics enhances the vividness of the pre-war vibrancy and the starkness of post-war desolation. This juxtaposition symbolizes the abrupt erasure of a thriving community and serves as a visual memorial to the irreversible consequences of hatred and violence. The piece honors the memory of those lost and urges reflection and remembrance.

Sofia Sloutskaya

Year: 2025

Medium: Acrylic on paper

Dimensions: 30(w) x 23(l) cm each



Friday, Shabbat Dinner

This painting uses symbolic imagery to depict the story of the Jewish community before and after the Nazi occupation. On the right side, a table set for Friday showcases traditional foods like hummus, fish, challah, malabi, and lit candles, representing the warmth, tradition, and close-knit nature of Jewish life before the Holocaust. In the center, a crack divides the painting, symbolizing the abrupt and devastating rupture caused by the Nazi occupation.

On the left, a single loaf of bread and a broken plate with scattered pieces convey the destruction of the community through death, exile, and loss. The broken plate also reflects the emptiness left behind for those who remained after the Jewish population disappeared. Using chalk as the medium, the artist emphasizes the raw and fragile emotions of this history. This piece conveys the profound loss and emptiness experienced by the Jewish community, serving as a powerful reminder of how the Holocaust forever altered their lives and their home.

Shaked Leibel

Year: 2025

Medium: pastels on paper

Dimensions: 38(w) x 29.50 (l) cm



Threads of Love

This artwork is inspired by the vibrant marriage contracts of the Jewish community, known for their intricate details and colorful depictions. It features a man in traditional Romaniote Jewish attire from Ioannina (mid-19th century) and a woman in Byzantine Jewish dress (10th–11th centuries) to honor the love and culture that thrived during these periods.

The piece represents lost marriages and fading traditions, but instead of merely mourning, it celebrates the love, culture, and joy once central to these unions. The figures are separated by a thin, broken rope, symbolizing separation through death, displacement, or exile. Despite this, the vivid colors and intricate details of the marriage contract preserve the beauty and resilience of love. The red flowers symbolize passion and beauty, balancing sorrow with the enduring vibrancy of a culture that cherished unity and love.

Sophia Karneva

Year: 2025

Medium- Example: Color pencils on paper.

Dimensions: 20(w) x 25(l) cm



Monastir Synagogue: The Way Through Time

This triptych is inspired by the transformation of the Monastir Synagogue in Thessaloniki, Greece, across three key periods: before the Holocaust, at the onset of World War II, and during the Holocaust. Each panel reflects the emotional and historical shifts experienced by the Jewish community through variations in medium, color, and technique.

The first panel, painted with soft beige oil on canvas, symbolizes a time of peace and stability, representing the synagogue as a thriving center of faith and culture. The second panel, created with markers in dark red hues, captures the early days of the war, with intense reds symbolizing bloodshed and suffering, and rough lines conveying growing fear and destruction. The final panel, in deep green and gray tones, reflects the synagogue during the Holocaust, using somber colors and fragmented forms to evoke emptiness, loss, and the tragic fate of the once-vibrant community.

Sofiya Polyakova

Year: 2025

Medium- Example:

Dimensions: 29.50(w) x 20(l) cm (each)



Echoes of the Allatini Mansion

This artwork is inspired by the Allatini family and their historic home, the Allatini Mansion, which underwent various transformations throughout history. The mansion, built in 1898 by Italian architect Vitaliano Poselli, served as the residence for the Jewish Allatini family before playing roles in pivotal historical moments, such as housing Sultan Abdul Hamid II, hosting the Philosophical School of the University of Thessaloniki, and serving as a hospital during the Greco-Italian War.

The piece depicts the father, mother, and two daughters of the Allatini family, with the mansion drawn in pencil to symbolize its enduring presence. The family's portraits are created with lighter, delicate strokes, reflecting the fading memories and the passage of time. This artwork captures the layers of history contained within the mansion and honors the Allatini family's legacy.

Uri Lipkin Afek

Year: 2025

Medium: Pencil and pastels on paper

Dimensions: 28 (w) x 35 (l) cm



People

This artwork reflects a deep connection to the Jewish community of Rhodes, honoring its rich history and enduring legacy. The faceless figures of Jewish men, women, and children, depicted in traditional clothing, symbolize the anonymity and universality of the countless lives affected by displacement and loss. Charcoal and oil pastels were used to evoke both fragility and resilience, while the handmade paper background emphasizes the craftsmanship of the Rhodes Jewish community.

The floating, untethered figures represent immigration and the continuous journey of resilient people. The Jewish presence in Rhodes, dating back to the 2nd century B.C., is symbolized through the figures and the medieval Juderia quarter's Jewish symbols. This work seeks to bridge the past and present, honoring the spirit of the Rhodes Jewish community and ensuring their story is never forgotten.

Sofia Naumenko

Year: 2025

Medium- Example: Charcoal and oil pastels on handmade paper.

Dimensions: 50(w) x 32.50(l) cm