

Inspiration.
Innovation.
Imagination.



Jewish Federation
OF GREATER CHARLOTTE



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Sue's Book Shelf

By Sue Littauer

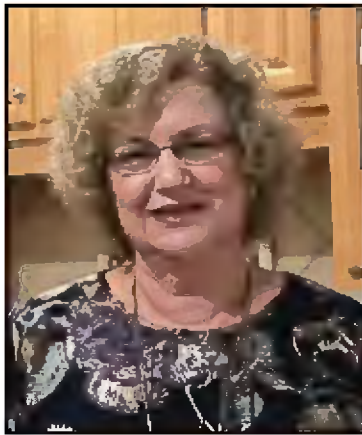


During World War II, Nazi Germany led a systematic campaign to loot and plunder art from Jews and others in the occupied countries. Much of the stolen art was recovered by the Allies in the immediate aftermath of the war; however, thousands of valuable art pieces were not returned to their rightful owners or were never relocated. In the decades following the Holocaust, a concerted international effort was undertaken to identify Nazi plunder that still remains unaccounted for with the aim of ultimately returning the items to the rightful owners or their families. (Jewish virtual library)

"Holocaust Restitution: Recovering Stolen Art" is an important theme of both *Stolen Beauty* by Laurie Lico Albanese and *Memento Park* by Mark Sarvas. *Stolen Beauty* tells the story of Adele Bloch-Bauer (better known as the "Lady in Gold" in the paintings by Gustav Klimt), and her beloved

niece Maria Altmann. At first this glamorous, delicious novel which tells the story of Adele, is set in Vienna in the early 1900s; but continues in the voice of Maria during dark pre- and post-World War II. Those familiar with the movie *Woman in Gold* starring Helen Mirren will appreciate the rich history behind the famous painting, which was the center of a Supreme Court battle to return the painting to its rightful owners.

Memento Park, a contemporary novel set in the United States, delves into the unsettling relationship between Matt Santos, a Hollywood actor, and his father, a Holocaust survivor living in New York. When Matt receives a call from the Australian consulate about a painting allegedly looted by Nazis from his father's family in 1944 Budapest, his world is turned upside down. The discovery sends Matt on a journey of exploration of his previous unknown family history,



the meaning of art, Judaism, and his relationships with the women in his life. What intrigues and inflames Matt is the burning question "Why does his opportunist father want nothing to do with the return of this very valuable painting?" *Memento Park*, a well-written novel, is best appreciated for the psychological study of the complicated father and son relationship.

The search for rightful ownership of art stolen by the Nazis continues today. The painting "Deux Femmes Dans Un Jardin" painted in 1919 by Renoir was stolen by the Nazis in 1941 from the bank vault of Alfred Weinberger, a prominent art collector in pre-war Paris. On Wednesday, September 12, 2018, it was re-

turned to Weinberger's last remaining heir, his granddaughter Sylvie Sultizer, at a ceremony at the Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York.

CJE Book Club News:

Stolen Beauty was the October selection for the CJE Book Club which meets the third Wednesday of each month from 10:30 AM-12 noon. Please note; however, that the book club will meet on the second Wednesday of November when we will discuss *Faithful* by Alice Hoffman. *The Book of Separation* by Tova Mirvis is the selection for our meeting on December 19. All are welcome to attend. For more information, please contact sueb.littauer@jewishcharlotte.org. ☆

CHECK OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE CJE: NOVEMBER 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
The Center for Jewish Education (CJE) enhances community engagement, promotes lifelong Jewish learning, and creates pathways to Jewish identity. LIBRARY HOURS: Monday - Thursday, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm; Friday, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm; and Sunday, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm				1	2
					PJ Library Baby Storytime 11:00 AM Levine-Sklut Judaic Library
4	5	6	7	8	9
			Once Upon a Storytime 1:15 PM Levine-Sklut Judaic Library		PJ Library Baby Storytime 11:00 AM Levine-Sklut Judaic Library
11	12	13	14	15	16
Global Day of Jewish Learning			Once Upon a Storytime 1:15 PM Levine-Sklut Judaic Library CJE Book Club 10:30 am - 12:00 pm		PJ Library Baby Storytime 11:00 AM Levine-Sklut Judaic Library
18	19	20	21	22	23
			No Storytime Today!	Library Closed Today!	Library Closed Today!
25	26	27	28	29	30
					PJ Library Baby Storytime 11:00 AM Levine-Sklut Judaic Library



SPECIAL EVENT!



Calling all families with children ages 2-8

JOIN US FOR A MORNING OF FUN!

- Mr. Ed from "Dakota and Friends" will bring his large, walking dinosaur puppets. Witness a baby T-Rex hatch from his egg!
- Storywalk: *Dinosaur Goes to Israel*
- Snack



**Sunday, November 11
10:45-11:30am
Poliakoff Pavilion
at Camp Mindy at Shalom Park**

**FREE – Limited Space
Registration Required: www.jewishcharlotte.org/gdj**

Questions? Debby.Block@jewishcharlotte.org

