



Civ-Ashoah

Report on event 1: Exchange workshop (France)

1. Presentation of the event:

The event's objective were twofold:

- Raise awareness among citizens about the Shoah's remembrance through a cultural prism, the discovery of the Ashkenazi culture
- Propose to citizens resources and participatory methods in order to learn about the Ashkenazi culture

The event included a participatory introduction with the audience, conducted by two historians. M. Guido Furci, lecturer at the Sorbonne Nouvelle University in General and comparative literature, specialist in testimony and the Jewish culture and Béatrice Munaro, cultural mediator at the Shoah memorial of Paris. Then the participants were split into different workshops to experiment resources addressing the Shoah and the Ashkenazi culture. These workshops were:

- *Workshop 1* : a theatre workshop on remembrance and World War II
- *Workshop 2*: a photo exposition illustrating the stories of ten Jewish children who lived in Europe during World War II and survived the Holocaust
- *Workshop 3*: the discovery of *stolpersteine*, remembrance pavements to commemorate individually the victims of Nazi extermination or persecution
- *Workshop 4*: an initiation to the Yiddish language

The event ended with the tasting of traditional specialities and a Klezmer musical performance.

The workshops were conducted by different partners including the Shoah Memorial, the associations Yad Layeled France/L'enfant et la Shoah and Stolpersteine France, as well as the House of Yiddish culture.

2. Participants :

The event brought together 62 participants from which 53 women and 9 men.

3. Methodology (animation methods and outcomes):

During the participatory introduction on the Shoah and the Ashkenazi culture, the objective was to use pictures and photos illustrating key elements from this culture and exchange with the public to better grasp their impressions and understand their level of knowledge on the topic.

The four workshops were animated with active participative methods.

Workshop 1 : Theater workshop

During this workshop, the participants had the opportunity to discover the play "Chawa, pieces of my memory" written, played and staged by Maud Landau. The workshop started with an extract of the



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play which tackles with humour and tenderness the question of identity, cultural heritage, and memory of the Shoah through the story of Maud's Polish grandmother.

Then the participants were asked to evoke a personal memory on stage in order to share it with the others. Many mentioned memories linked to the Second World War. Some mentioned their Eastern European roots. Debates focused then on the role and the importance of theatre in remembrance programs, especially among young people.

Workshop 2: Photo exhibition

During the photo exhibition, the participants were asked to work with a file including photos and texts about a child's history. Based on the documents, they had to fill in a questionnaire to describe the life story of the former child. Once the exercise was over, the participants debriefed collectively not on the content (the children's journey) but on the underlying issues of this workshop. This allowed to create identification and empathy towards the victims, while transmitting historical information and perpetuating the remembrance of these children. It led the audience to reflect on the intentions of each protagonist: hatred/racism for the SS, fear/courage of the children and family, solidarity and non-acceptance of injustice for the resistance fighters... The workshop was also useful to show the variety of origins, cultural habits within the European Jewish community (language, religious practices, etc.).

Workshop 3: Stolpersteine

During this activity, the participants discovered the concept of *stolpersteine*, polished brass pavements which honour the individual memory of victims of Nazism. Individually, they worked with the reproduced archival file of a victim and tried to design his/her *stolpersteine*. Following the exercise, they debriefed collectively and discussed on the categorisation of victims, the different ways of preserving memory, on the meaning of *stolpersteine* and on all the dimensions of the debates that this concept created, especially in Paris where *stolpersteine* are not allowed in the public domain.

Workshop 4: Initiation to the Yiddish language

The workshop's objective was to give a brief introduction on the history of the Yiddish language. The speaker also introduced the Yiddish alphabet, specificities and evaluations during the history. This led some of the participants to share their personal memories of the Yiddish language and some of the expressions they already knew. The participants were asked to read out loud some Yiddish words and to have brief conversations with each another in order to work on the alphabet and the sounds.





4. Communication:

MÉMOIRE ET CULTURE ASHKÉNAZES - RETOUR SUR LE PREMIER ÉVÈNEMENT ORGANISÉ DANS LE CADRE DU PROJET CIV-ASHOAH

Samedi 3 septembre, une soixantaine de personnes ont participé à un événement sur la mémoire de la culture ashkénaze et la Shoah. Organisé par le confédéral et la Ligue de Paris dans le cadre du projet européen Civ-Ashoah, cet événement a permis aux participants de découvrir une culture méconnue, à travers une conférence animée par les historiens Guido Furci et Béatrice Munaro, un atelier de théâtre, un atelier d'initiation à la langue yiddish, une exposition de photos... Ils ont également pu expérimenter des ressources pédagogiques, tels que « les pavés de mémoire ». Ces derniers, autrement appelés stolpersteine, sont présents partout en Europe et honorent la mémoire individuelle de victimes du nazisme.

Ces ateliers ont été animés par nos partenaires, le Mémorial de la Shoah, l'association Yad Layeled France/l'enfant et la Shoah, l'association Stolpersteine France et la Maison de la Culture Yiddish.

L'événement a été clôturé en musique avec la dégustation de spécialités culinaires ashkénazes.

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CIV ASHOAH

ateliers culture musique Shoah

La Ligue de l'enseignement
3 septembre, 2020

Centre Jacques Bravo : Merci aux dizaines de personnes venues participer au premier événement de notre projet Civ-Ashoah consacré à la mémoire de la culture ashkénaze.
Programme CERV de la Commission européenne en France
Cc Ligue de l'enseignement de Paris

MÉMOIRE ET CULTURE ASHKÉNAZES

Samedi 03/09

Centre Jacques Bravo

Gratuit et ouvert à tous !

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Ligue de l'enseignement

*mes cailloux de mémoire, les cailloux avec *
mes cailloux d'amour et d'espoir **

SAMEDI 3 SEPTEMBRE 2022 À 15:00

Mémoire & culture ashkénazes : rendez-vous le 3 septembre !

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- Pictures of the event

Introductory participatory lecture by Guido Furci and Beatrice Munaro



Guido Furci and Beatrice Munaro proposed an introductory exchange with the public about the cultural heritage and the genocide of the Jewish and Ashkenazi culture.

Workshop 1: Theatre workshop



The actors of Chawa, a play created and directed by Maud Landau, led a workshop about the memory of the Ashkenazi culture.

Workshop 2 : Photo exhibition



This workshop was led by the association Yad Leyeled-L'Enfant de la Shoah to introduce the exhibition "Sur les traces d'une photo".



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Workshop 3 : Introduction to stolpersteine



Christophe Woerlhe presented the Stolpersteine France association, the history of the paving stones, their manufacture and their objectives.

Workshop 4 : Initiation to the Yiddish language



Laurence Aptekier-Fisbein implemented an initiation workshop on the Yiddish language.

The event ended with the tasting of traditional culinary specialities and a Klezmer musical performance



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5. Evaluation outcomes

An evaluation questionnaire was distributed during the event and sent by email to all the citizens that participated to the event.

The event helped all participants to know more about the CERV program. Most participants very much appreciated the participative methods as well as the variety of resources that were presented during the event.



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