

Ms. Linda Stein Have Art Will Travel, Inc. 100 Reade Street New York, NY 10013 November 4, 2015

Dear Ms. Stein,

As the Visual Arts and Museum Director here at the Dave and Mary Alper Jewish Community Center for 15 years, I have had the privilege of presenting over 90 exhibits in both our Futernick Family Art Gallery and our Lisa Ann Watson Children's Discovery Museum. Of the 75 or so gallery exhibits, I am honestly unable to think of an exhibit that I am more proud of showing than *Holocaust Heroes: Fierce Females*.

The quality of the work, the fascinating subject matter, the professionalism of Linda Stein and the importance of the exhibit are unmatched with anything I have ever put on display. As I told our staff a few weeks ago when we met in the gallery, we have shown dozens of exhibits that are gorgeous to look at, and an equal amount that are meaningful and educationally rich. Rarely, though, have I been able to find an exhibit that is all of that. *Holocaust Heroes* is not only historically and sociologically significant, it is really beautiful.

Ms. Stein's tapestries are imaginatively and beautifully created, and chock full of fascinating historical information about exceptional women who sacrificed much - even in some cases their lives - to do the right thing under harrowing circumstances. The artistic portraits of these ten brave women show their spirit and humanity, and are testaments to the many heroic deeds of so many stalwart women throughout history that have gone unrecorded.

Ms. Stein's *Shell to Spoon* box sculptures are fabulous as well. They are a treat to examine, but more importantly, they were created as a reaction to the disturbing story of a woman's predicament - the need to keep her dignity intact even in the face of death. That Ms. Stein cares so deeply about the lives of victims, their struggles and the choices they are sometimes forced to make, is evident in her detailed work.

Ms. Stein's underlying "Female Superhero" theme makes a real statement and I, for one, walk a bit taller after being engaged in the work. The accompanying 7-minute video is poignant, artistically done and explains the exhibit in Ms. Stein's own words, with input from well known people. Ms. Stein and her staff have been a pleasure to work with and the installation/de-installation instructions packet is the best I've ever gotten by any artist anywhere! If only they were all so thorough!

This has truly been an important and extraordinary exhibit for our Center. Our audience has been thrilled by *Holocaust Heroes* and I'm truly delighted that we have been able to bring it to our community.

Sincerely,

Suzy Breitner

Visual Arts and Museum Director

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