

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Stitching History From The Holocaust

Original exhibit on display Sept. 14, 2014 - Feb. 28, 2015 at Jewish Museum Milwaukee

MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin— Paul and Hedy Strnad are trapped as the Nazis close in. Can Hedy's dress designs and their cousin in Milwaukee help them get to the United States? All efforts failed. Hedy and Paul perished in the Holocaust, but their memory lives on in a letter and sketches, which form the core of this haunting exhibit.

Experience Hedy's designs brought to life from Sept. 14, 2014 – Feb. 28, 2015 at Jewish Museum Milwaukee, 1360 N. Prospect Ave.

The Milwaukee Repertory Theater's costume shop meticulously created with historic accuracy the eight dresses and accessories from the original sketches by using period styles and techniques. The museum staff has collected years of research to give visitors a closer look into the lives of this couple — a story that represents one of the millions of lives extinguished by the Holocaust and the immeasurable loss of talent and creativity.

An opening reception will be held from 5:30-9:30 p.m. on Sept. 10 and will feature a presentation — "What the World Lost by the Murder of Europe's Jews" — by Dr. Michael Berenbaum, who directed the creation of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

For a virtual look of the making of this exhibit, related details and several exhibit-related programs and events, visit StitchingHistory.org.

Gallery hours are Monday-Thursday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Friday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. and Sunday 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. Admission is free for museum members. Non-member price includes both museum and special exhibit: \$6 adult; \$5 seniors; \$3 students; \$15 families. Further information on the museum may be found at JewishMuseumMilwaukee.org.

Note to reporters and photographers: The exhibit and curator will be available for media prior to the opening, by appointment, on Sept. 8 – 12. Dr. Berenbaum will be available for interviews, by appointment, the morning of Sept. 11.

About the Jewish Museum Milwaukee

The Jewish Museum Milwaukee is dedicated to preserving and presenting the history of the Jewish people in southeastern Wisconsin and celebrating the continuum of Jewish heritage and culture. The history of American Jews is rooted in thousands of years of searching for freedom and equality. We are committed to sharing this story and the life lessons it brings with it, so that we may enhance the public's awareness and appreciation of Jewish life and culture.

About the Milwaukee Jewish Federation

For more than 100 years, the Milwaukee Jewish Federation has been dedicated to building a strong Jewish community. We distributed \$20 million last year to Jewish and non-Jewish organizations locally and around the world, and manage philanthropy through our \$150 million Jewish Community Foundation.

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