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(Natan Rothstein)



(Shmulik Balmas)

Polish-Jewish artist Arthur Szyk exhibition opens at Begin Center

ttendees at the opening of the Arthur Szyk: Man of Dialogue exhibition at the Menachem Begin Heritage Center on May 4 were treated to a dynamic, standing-room-only lecture on the works of noted Polish-Jewish artist Arthur Szyk (1894-1951) by Irvin Ungar, the world's leading Szyk scholar and curator emeritus of The Arthur Szyk Society

In recent years, Ungar has often traveled to Jerusalem to speak about the artist. Over the past 30 years, during which Ungar published a world-class edition

of the Szyk Haggadah - created by Szyk between 1934 and 1936 - he discovered artwork by Szyk that was thought to be lost.

Ungar has almost single-handedly produced an entire body of literature about the artist, comprised of books and articles, several of which appeared in *The Jerusalem Report* and The Jerusalem Post. Ungar's books on Szyk include Arthur Szyk:



Soldier in Art, which won the National Jewish Book Award in 2017; and 2023's Arthur Szyk Preserved: Institutional Collections of Original Art.

The exhibition Arthur Szyk: Man of Dialogue was created by Joanna Podolska at the Marek Edelman Dialogue Center in Lodz and was brought to Israel by the Polish Institute in Tel Aviv and the Multidisciplinary Unit for Polish Studies of the University of Haifa. It has been shown in cities in Poland, as well as in Vilnius and Paris. Ungar spoke at many of those venues.

Additionally, a major museum exhibition of Syzk artwork is slated to open at the Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York on September 18, with Ungar serving as consultant and guest curator.

Ungar's memoir on his life with Arthur Szyk, Reviving the Artist Who Fought Hitler, is scheduled for publication next year.

The Arthur Szyk: Man of Dialogue exhibition will run until the end of July at the Begin Center. Entrance is free.

(Text: David Geffen. Photos: Steve Linde)



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