

THE ARTIST WHO CAPTURED EICHMANN

**A Traveling
Exhibition from
the St. Louis
Kaplan Feldman
Holocaust Museum.**



ST. LOUIS
KAPLAN FELDMAN
HOLOCAUST MUSEUM
In honor of the survivors and the memory of the victims



About the Exhibit

The Artist Who Captured Eichmann: A Traveling Exhibition

In May 1960, a team of Mossad agents—Israel's secret service—hunted down and arrested Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann. Among the agents was Peter Malkin, chosen for his quick thinking and expertise with disguise. He was also a highly skilled visual artist. The hands of Malkin, the spy, captured Eichmann by the throat; the hands of Malkin, the artist, captured Eichmann through emotion.

Throughout a three week operation in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Peter Malkin recorded his experiences through drawn and painted artwork in a small *South American Guidebook*. The images created in this guidebook document scenes of everything from everyday life in Argentina in 1960, to intimate scenes from the days spent in anxious isolation while holding Adolf Eichmann in custody.

The scenes from this *South American Guidebook* have been professionally printed and framed and made into a collection for education and museum presentation. Visitors who view this exhibition will be introduced to the subjects of the Holocaust, the establishment of the Jewish State of Israel, the events surrounding the capture and trial of Adolf Eichmann as well as introduced to the themes in art history which inspired the artworks of Peter Malkin.

The Artist Who Captured Eichmann

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Photograph of Peter Malkin in Israel in 1960. This image was taken prior to the mission in Argentina. Courtesy of Patricia Ambinder, Executive Assistant to Peter Z. Malkin, 1995-2005.



Object List

Key Objects included in the traveling Exhibition.

- 12 framed, high quality scans of Peter Malkin's original artwork from the famed *South American Guidebook*.
- 1960 copy of the *South American Guidebook*. The same book used by Malkin during his time in Argentina.
- 16 fabric banners ranging between 5ft -12ft in width and height. Each banner illustrates a larger representation of one of these framed prints. The banners are constructed of a durable, opaque fabric that light can penetrate.
- Two original 1960-1961 editions of *Life Magazine* which show numerous photos of Adolf Eichmann's imprisonment as well as contain an interview with Eichmann documenting his written beliefs about his own role in the Holocaust.
- 36 text panels with archival photographs and images that tell the story of the capture, arrest, and trial of Adolf Eichmann.

Additional Materials Included by the St. Louis Kaplan Feldman Holocaust Museum

- Art supplies for art activity (optional.)
- List of 25 books highlighting the key historical themes and topics associated with this event.
- Print ready files for marketing and exhibition needs.
- Print ready files for all vinyl graphics.
- Online docent training is available with a member of Museum staff.

Exhibit Specifications:

- **Display area:** 1200-1500 sq. ft.
- **Exhibition Cost:** \$8,000 for three-month rental period.
- **Availability:** 2026 -2028

Contact:

**For inquiries regarding this new
traveling exhibition please contact:**

- **Robb Nelson**
Coordinator of Exhibitions
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Exhibit Photos



Who Was Adolf Eichmann?

*"Eichmann was not at all much a man to me as an abstraction, a myth."
—Franz Kafka, *Diary**

The Final Solution was a plan developed by Nazis during World War II to annihilate Jews in Europe. Adolf Eichmann was one of 14 high-ranking Nazis who attended the Wannsee Conference, where the implementation of a "Final solution to the Jewish problem" was discussed. Eichmann had a long career in the Nazi Party. Beginning in 1934, he was appointed commander of the Center for Jewish Emigration, where he was responsible for coordinating Jewish deportations across the continent.

Eichmann initiated roundups for the deportation of Jews from Hungary. During the first deportations in 1944, approximately 48,000 Jewish people were sent to Auschwitz-Birkenau, where most were murdered on arrival.



The Mark

There had been multiple sightings of Eichmann throughout the 1950s. Two years before the mission, the Mossad had received a tip about his whereabouts, but it was initially discounted. A Jewish expatriate's daughter was dating 19-year-old Nicholas Eichmann, Adolf's son, who was heard making antisemitic statements. As more details fell into place, Isser Harel, the director of the Mossad, decided to move forward with a plan. Eichmann was now officially a mark.



Adolf Eichmann in Argentina.
Courtesy of Yad Vashem Photo
Archives, Jerusalem.



Adolf Eichmann's worker identification
document for his employment at
Mercedes Benz, Argentina, under his alias,
Ricardo Klement. Courtesy of Yad Vashem
Photo Archives, Jerusalem.



"During the day, I would sketch houses and toward the evening, I gazed from the Cathedral celebrating Argentina's 150th anniversary of independence. In the small hours of the night, however, I depicted Eichmann. These personal memories and memories of my own family, as well as local people I encountered during my stay in Argentina... Today, after many years, the book still affects me, as if I had made the drawings only yesterday."
 -Rene Malin (The Argentine Journal)



Art and Memory
 This artwork is a collage of various images and text, including a photograph of a person and a drawing of a house. It is a visual representation of the artist's memories and experiences in Argentina.



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Continued Hunt For War Criminals
"They're still out there, and they're still guilty."
 -Miguel Ángel Torres, Argentine Journalist (The New York Times, April 12, 2011)
 The Argentine government has been accused of covering up the truth about the dictatorship's crimes. The government has been accused of covering up the truth about the dictatorship's crimes. The government has been accused of covering up the truth about the dictatorship's crimes.



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