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Links: [deeparts.org/](http://deeparts.org/), [facebook.com/DEEPARTSPRODUCTIONS](https://facebook.com/DEEPARTSPRODUCTIONS)

## **As Ukrainians flee homeland, Rochester's DEEP Arts Presents at Berlin Symposium on Displacement Then to Vienna to follow in footsteps of *Moses Man***

Rochester, NY – Rochester artists **Deborah Haber** and **Casey Filiaci** from [DEEP Arts](#) and **Dave Marshall** from [Blue Sky Project](#) will leave for Berlin, Germany early next week to participate in Indiana University's European Gateway [Symposium on the Displacement of Peoples Between Africa and Europe](#). In an event that will bring together scholars from all over the world to create awareness of refugee persecution, their topic will be "Finding Home: Storytelling, the Arts, and Displacement."

"Who knew a year ago, when this was in the planning stage, that the world's worse humanitarian crisis in a century would be happening right in front of our eyes? And that we would be in city that is welcoming Ukrainian refugees," muses Haber.

Haber is somewhat of an expert on displacement. Her own parents, Lily and Kalman Haber, fled Vienna, Austria in 1938 during Hitler's annexation. A veteran theatre producer (she was founding producing artistic director of the long-running Rochester Children's Theatre before creating DEEP Arts), Haber and award-winning music producer and composer Casey Filiaci wrote a musical about that perilous nine-year journey through Europe, Cyprus, Palestine, and Africa to finally find home and freedom in the United States. [Moses Man: Finding Home](#) also began a journey that now includes award-winning film director Dave Marshall, who is chronicling the musical's process as well as survivor testimony and scholarly input such as the Berlin symposium for a future documentary film.

"Just as my parents did, the Ukrainian people are fleeing the home they love in order to stay alive, not knowing what the next day will bring. *Moses Man: Finding Home's* mission to link past and present shines a light that 'never again' is truly 'never ending.' We are honored for this amazing opportunity," says Haber.

Following the symposium, the three will travel to Vienna, where they will film Haber as she visits her parents' home, the synagogue where they were hastily married in a mass wedding, the elementary school that served as a prison in which her father was interrogated by Adolf Eichmann, and more.

Adds Haber: "What makes this such an important piece of history is that it's still happening. There are more than 70 million refugees and internally displaced people in the world today. This is truly a global tragedy."

More about [Moses Man: Finding Home](#): the musical made its NYC premiere in 2015 at the Signature Theatre Center in NYC after Geva Theatre Center, Indiana Repertory Theatre, and Indiana

University workshops. At the conclusion of its run, Germany opened their border to Syrian refugees and Deborah and Casey took a hard look at the musical's storyline and its relationship to current journeys of refugees and rising anti-Semitism. They realized the importance of linking past and present, made even clearer by current world events. To that end, DEEP Arts formed a partnership with The Center for Global Change at The Hamilton Luger School of Global and International Studies at Indiana University. In 2017 and 2019, the partnership presented the highly successful "Art and Refugees" Symposiums, where scholars and artists convened to investigate the complex intersection of art, refugees, and persecution. The shift of the musical combined with the symposiums have been documented by filmmaker Dave Marshall. Most importantly, Dave captured multiple sessions of testimony from one of the musical's centers, Lily Haber, who was Rochester's oldest Holocaust survivor when she died in 2020 at the age of 101. Upcoming: new partner Columbia University will host a NYC reading in the fall of 2022. *Moses Man: Finding Home* has been generously supported by New York Council on the Arts, The Farash Foundation, The Jewish Federation of Greater Rochester, Rochester Area Community Foundation fundholders Scott and Susan Miller Family Trust and Dr. Marvin Hoffman, The Jewish Welcome Service Vienna, Austria, European Studies Program and the Borns Jewish Studies Program Indiana University.

More about [DEEP Arts \(Develop, Explore, Enrich, Perform\)](#): DEEP Arts is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit arts organization offering high quality, cultural experiences that entertain while fostering enrichment, communication, positive values and an awareness of literature, social and historical issues to as broad and diverse an audience as possible. Focusing on developing new and innovative work, DEEP Arts has forged partnerships not only within performing arts, but to multiple arts media and organizations who can inform direction of a new generation of multidisciplinary art projects. This collaboration with project specific partnerships broadens DEEP Arts' capabilities to further education through the arts, community outreach, and an awareness to particular artistic and humanities and social justice issues addressed.

[Blue Sky Project](#) is a 501 (c) 3 not-for-profit conceived to create and distribute documentary films focused on underreported social issues that shape an open and enlighten society.

David B. Marshall a multi-E Emmy award winning Producer, Director, Cinematographer and Editor. His work has taken him around the world many times in his 30-year-career. He holds a B.S. in photography/film and an M.F.A. in computer graphics / animation. Dave's documentary films reflect his interest in human rights, social justice, and the power of contextualized history. His work has been broadcast throughout North America, Europe, Asia, and South America and has been presented at film festivals around the world. Dave is the recipient of sixteen Emmy nominations and six Emmy awards.

[Portions of relevant news articles:](#)

*The New York Times:* [More than 1 million people](#) have fled Ukraine since Feb. 24, according to the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), mostly traveling overland to neighboring countries in Eastern Europe. The United Nations refugee agency estimates that up to 4 million people may leave Ukraine if the violence continues. “At this rate, the situation looks set to become Europe’s largest refugee crisis this century,” Shabia Mantoo, a UNHCR spokeswoman, said Tuesday in Geneva.

*The Washington Post Editorial Board:* This is already being called “Europe’s largest refugee crisis this century,” and it’s likely to get far worse in the weeks ahead. One of the United States’ great moral failures in the 20th century was [turning away some Jewish refugees](#) during World War II and then not taking in more [displaced people after](#) the war, especially Jews who survived the Holocaust. Today’s leaders should not repeat that mistake. We should welcome Ukrainians with open arms.

Media, please note: interviews, additional and higher-resolution photos, and broadcast-quality video are available upon request.

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