

# **MIMICA TSEZANA HYMAN**

BOARD MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE JEWISH MUSEUM OF GREECE

## CONTACT

For scheduling a "Song of Life" presentation and fee information, please contact: mimicahyman@gmail.com

# A PRESENTATION OF "SONG OF LIFE"

#### THE WORLD WAR II STORY OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF ZAKYNTHOS

For the past fifteen years, I have been doing presentations of the documentary "Song of Life" by Toni Likouressis. This important film details the life-affirming events that took place during the Second World War on the Greek island of Zakynthos, where my father and his family lived. It is an amazing story of courage. The entire Jewish community on the island was protected from the Nazis by the bishop, the mayor, and other residents. As a result of this, all 275 Jewish lives on Zakynthos were saved.

My presentation consists of a summary of Jewish life there in the days before WWII, stories of my father, and a screening of the documentary. On occasion, my children have joined me, with my daughter, Sabrina Hyman, performing the song "Outcast" (a song against bullying, which social psychologists have connected to genocide), and my son, Sam Hyman, speaking about human rights.

I strongly believe that this presentation matters greatly, and that the story should become known worldwide. My hope is that the people in my audience will be inspired to go out and do good in whatever way they can. If you are interested in hosting my presentation, please feel free to contact me.

#### Places that have hosted my presentation

Temple Beth Jacob, Newburgh, NY, April 2004

Greek Consulate in Manhattan, February 2008

2nd Annual Greek Film Festival, Cinema Village, NYC, Oct 2008

Congregation Agudas Israel, Newburgh, NY, November 4, 2008

University of Southern Maine, October 21, 2009

Vassar Temple, Poughkeepsie NY, April 9, 2010

Vassar Temple Youth Groups, Poughkeepsie, NY, April 7, 2010

Hillcrest Jewish Center, Queens, NY, March 21, 2010

University of Southern Maine Hellenic Society, October 30, 2011

Stockton College, New Jersey, March 20, 2012

Hadassah Organization, Newburgh, NY, March 28, 2012.

Congregation Shaarey Israel, Suffern, NY, October 4, 2012

Grecian Echoes, a Greek American radio program, Boston, Mass., October 25, 2012

Tufts University, Boston, Massachusetts, October 17, 2012

OXI Day Foundation, Washington, DC (I was the keynote speaker at an event where Eli Weisel was presented with the Chrisostomos Award), October 25, 2012

Temple Emeth, Teaneck, New Jersey, December 1, 2012

Poughkeepsie Day School, Poughkeepsie, NY, November 14, 2013

44th Annual Scholars Conference for the Holocaust and the Churches, Los Angeles, Ca, March 9, 2014

Jewish Museum of Maine, Portland, Maine, April 12, 2014

JCC, Albany, NY, June 26, 2014

Faces of Faith, Albany Times Union, March 6, 2015

Saint Sophia Greek Orthodox Church, Albany, NY, March 14, 2015

Hadassah Metro Area Symposium #3, October 30, 2015

Poughkeepsie Day School, Poughkeepsie, NY, January 23, 2018

#### Places (continued)

Weber High School, Atlanta, Georgia, October 28, 2018

Vassar College, The Life Long Learning Institute, Poughkeepsie, NY, April 18, 2019

Woodland Pond, New Paltz, NY, September 17, 2019

Second Generation of Holocaust Survivors, Poughkeepsie, NY, January 8, 2020

Poughkeepsie United Methodist Church, Poughkeepsie, NY, October 11, 2021

Combat Antisemitism Movement, virtual event, January 25, 2022

Weber High School, Atlanta, Georgia, March 9, 2022

### Publications that have mentioned my presentation

The Jews of Zakynthos: A Five Centuries-Old Chronicle by Samuel Mordos

Compassion in Action by Dr. Adele Baruch Runion, University of Southern Maine

The Sentinel, March 16, 2012

The Times Herald Record, March 27, 2012

The Poughkeepsie Journal, May 5, 2012

The National Herald, May 12-18, 2012

The Eleanor Roosevelt Leadership Center at Val Kill newsletter, May 2012

The Tufts Daily, October 17, 2012

The Albany Times Union, interview, March 6, 2015

"Faces of Faith", The Albany Times Union, December 25, 2015

"The Faces of 2015", The Albany Times Union, December 2015

Listening to Stories of Courage and Moral Choice, edited by Baruch, Atkinson, and Khiel, 2020