



Stephen Goldberg

Photography

How did you come to be an artist?

I found that producing memorable photographs requires creativity and passion and is less about mastering the knobs and buttons on my camera. Over time I honed my photographic skills by joining photography clubs and learning how to produce photographs that both tell a story, and that have an impact on my audience and stimulate their emotions. I share my stories in print and online as well as giving occasional lectures.

How is it that you came to select these particular pieces of work?

Each of these images highlight areas of Prague and Budapest, European cities with meaningful Jewish history.

- “Freedom’s Perch” is a composite photograph taken in the Terezin concentration camp in Prague.
- “The Doheny Street Synagogue” in Budapest is the largest synagogue in Europe and served as a shelter during World War II.
- “The Hungarian Parliament” is an iconic structure and sits alongside the Shoes on the Danube Bank memorial.

How does the work you are exhibiting fit into your Jewish journey?

I’m not sure I have what one would call a defined “Jewish Journey.” I am proud of my Jewish heritage and wherever I travel I seek out Jewish cultural and religious sites to visit and memorialize in photographs. The three artworks in this exhibit each display an important part of Jewish history.

Biography

Stephen Goldberg and his wife Marsha both grew up in the New York City area and moved to Dayton, Ohio in 1981. Stephen has held both technical and management positions in companies such as Sperry Univac, the Mead Corporation, Pitney Bowes, Scitex Digital Printing, and The Eastman Kodak Company.

Stephen retired in 2015 and says “...Upon my retirement my wife made it abundantly clear that I needed a hobby, and it was not going to be driving her around all day.” He was always interested in photography, so he bought his first real camera, took some lessons and soon it became a passion as he learned to use these newfound skills to capture natural life as he and Marsha traveled all over the globe.

Stephen was proud to have been selected to participate in a joint workshop held in Budapest, along with three artists from the US, three from the Western Galilee in Israel, and three from Hungary. The group collaborated in a workshop sponsored by Partnership2Gether, a program of the Jewish Agency connecting Jewish communities around the world. Stephen displayed a video project and hosted a workshop titled, “How to Take Great Photos.”

Stephen is a moderator at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Dayton where he moderates seminars such as, “Anyone Can Take Great Photos,” “What is Street Photography,” and “‘You See It – But Should You Believe It’ the Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Photography.”

He belongs to several Dayton photography clubs and is the current Vice President of the Focus Camera Club in Dayton, Ohio and an active member in the Tripod Camera Club. Stephen also volunteers as a business mentor with SCORE, a national nonprofit organization that helps small businesses achieve their goals.