



Sam Lauber (of blessed memory)

Photography

How did you come to be an artist?

Sam's wife, Ellen, bought Sam his first camera from Sears for \$100 as a Chanukah gift. He started taking pictures everywhere he went. Eventually the pictures became more and more beautiful.

How did you come to select the work you are exhibiting?

Each picture chosen was very unique and so meaningful to Sam and his family. Each piece of work shows different techniques of the medium of photography.

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

The photograph of the Jewish Cemetery in Worms, Germany has special meaning to the Lauber family, as Sam's son was the first in decades to become a Bar Mitzvah at the Worms Synagogue, also known as the Rashi Shul.

Biography

Belgian-born and a Holocaust survivor, Lauber embarked on his photographic journey from humble beginnings. Serendipity struck during a routine shopping excursion with his wife at Sears, where they stumbled upon a camera, lens, and flash on sale. This fortuitous encounter led to the camera becoming a meaningful Chanukah gift, igniting a newfound passion. While Lauber didn't initially consider himself an artist, he hailed from a lineage steeped in creativity; his mother was an artisan crafting artificial flowers. Despite lacking formal training, Lauber honed his skills through dedicated practice and focused determination.

Within Lauber's photography, one finds a poignant fusion of historical depth and personal narrative through the lens of his camera. Among his notable works stands the Jewish Cemetery in Worms, Germany, a testament to both the passage of time and the enduring legacy of a community. This sacred site, the oldest surviving Jewish graveyard in Europe, bears witness to centuries of history. Remarkably, it was Lauber's son who marked a poignant return to tradition, becoming the first to celebrate his Bar Mitzvah there in decades, breathing new life into a storied past.

(Information provided by Ellen Lauber)