

# MUZEUM

## KL PLASZOW

### **Accompanying events | Opening of the KL Plaszow Museum**

The KL Plaszow Museum in Kraków invites you to a series of events accompanying a new outdoor exhibition “KL Plaszow. A Site After, a Site Without”. The history of former camp will be described from the perspective of people whose lives are eternally connected with this place. The accounts given by Survivors, members of Kraków community until World War II, build links between the past and the present of the memorial site.

We encourage you to take part in educational tours, online meetings and cultural events that will be focused on both well-known and little-known facts about the history of KL Plaszow, and on current challenges faced in managing the memorial site. We hope that the proposed series of activities will enable their Participants not only to learn the history of KL Plaszow, but also to fully understand the phrase “KL Plaszow is part of Kraków’s history”.

### **Mapping the memorial site | An online meeting**

On the occasion of the International Holocaust Remembrance Day and the upcoming opening of a new outdoor exhibition at the KL Plaszow Museum, we invite you to an online meeting with Kamil Karski – an archaeologist and member of KL Plaszow Museum personnel. The meeting will be hosted by Paweł Chudzio.

What makes the memory of former camp resonate with us today, is human lives inseparably linked with this historic space. Kamil Karski will guide us through the KL Plaszow area, combining in his narrative preserved historical relics with biographies of Survivors.

### **KL Plaszow. A Site After, a Site Without | An online meeting**

We invite you to join us on Wednesday, 21 February, at 6 p.m. at an online meeting with Monika Bednarek, director of the KL Plaszow Museum, and Marta Śmietana, manager of the Museum Collection Department, about a new outdoor exhibition “KL Plaszow. A Site After, a Site Without”.

The meeting is aimed to discuss changes in the memorial site area which took place with the completion of phase 1 of the KL Plaszow Museum development project. Especially, we will talk about guidelines for the new outdoor exhibition, and the marking of historically important locations in the post-camp area. The Museum’s representatives will address historical topics and tell about practical aspects of managing the area. Our aim is to

answer to the question what steps have been taken to preserve the authenticity of the site while giving it a new meaning.

### **KL Plaszow is part of Kraków's history | A guided tour for our neighbours**

On Sunday, 3 March at 10.00 a.m., we invite all residents in XIII Podgórze district and districts adjacent to the area of former KL Plaszow to a guided tour of the new outdoor exhibition arranged by the Museum: "KL Plaszow. A Site After, a Site Without".

During the tour, we will also show you what changes recently took place in the post-camp area.

We encourage all participants to discuss with us, during the tour and thereafter, both practical aspects of the modifications we introduced and the current role of the KL Plaszow Memorial Museum. We will inform you about registration soon.

### **Film premiere: "The Holocaust History Recorded in Objects"**

On Tuesday, 12 March at 6.00 p.m., we invite you to the cinema room at Oskar Schindler's Enamel Factory where a meeting will be held about the film "The Holocaust History Recorded in Objects", dir. Marek Zając, 2023.

This Polsat TV production was created in cooperation with the KL Plaszow Museum that provided expert advice. Two episodes of the series that is dedicated to the history of death camps and concentration camps feature the history of KL Plaszow.

You are invited to attend a meeting with representatives of the KL Plaszow Museum after the film screening. The participants on our part: Monika Bednarek, Marta Śmietana and Kamil Karski. The discussion will be hosted by Marek Zając, the author of script and film producer, chairman of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Foundation Council. The meeting is intended to talk about challenges faced by those who wish to reliably tell about the Holocaust using pictures.

We will also present actions taken to commemorate KL Plaszow, with the resultant changes that took place in recent months at the memorial site. The meeting will be preceded by the opening of a new outdoor exhibition in the post-camp area scheduled for 15 March 2024.

Meeting point: Oskar Schindler's Enamel Factory, 4 Lipowa street. The meeting is open.

### **Opening of the KL Plaszow Museum | The outdoor exhibition**

We invite you to take part, on Friday, 15 March at 11:00 a.m. at the Nazi Victim Memorial, in the opening ceremony of the new outdoor exhibition "KL Plaszow. A Site After, a Site Without". The event will be combined with a guided tour.

A precise programme and details coming soon.

## **Guided tour of the outdoor exhibition “KL Plaszow. A Site After, a Site Without”**

On Saturday, 16 March at 10:00 a.m., we invite all Kraków residents to take part in a guided tour of the new outdoor exhibition named “KL Plaszow. A Site After, a Site Without”, displayed in the post-camp area.

A visit to the memorial site – a real testimony to historical events – will surely be an exceptional experience, both educational, and personal, of key importance to learning the past of this place. The tour is also intended to commemorate the victims and reflect on our shared responsibility for passing historical memory to future generations.

The guided tour is free, but the number of participants is limited. Register on the website of KLPM. A link to a registration page coming soon.

## **April 2024 | Meeting with a Witness to History - Bernard Offen**

In April, we invite you to a meeting with the director Bernard Offen, a former prisoner of the Plaszow Concentration Camp. The meeting will be an opportunity to get acquainted with his work, centred around reflections on trauma, survival and humanism. In the course of the conversation, the Guest will share the story of his life with the participants, telling not only about the events of the Second World War, but also about his work as a director. Together we will try to answer the question about the role of Holocaust witnesses in contemporary historiography. During the meeting, excerpts from the film My Hometown Concentration Camp will be screened.

Bernard Offen was born in 1929 in Krakow. During the war he was in the Krakow Ghetto and later imprisoned in the Plaszow, Auschwitz-Birkenau, Mauthausen and Dachau concentration camps. After the war, he and his brothers emigrated to the United States. Since the 1990s, he has been actively involved in educational activities concerning World War II and totalitarianism. He has documented his wartime fate in films titled. "The Work", "My Hometown Concentration Camp", "Process B-7815" and "Hawaii and the Holocaust". In 2008, he published a book entitled. "My Hometown Concentration Camp".

Admission to the meeting is free, registration coming soon.

## **May 2024 | A guided tour of the new outdoor exhibition “KL Plaszow. A Site After, a Site Without”**

In May, we invite you to participate in weekly free guided tours of the new outdoor exhibition “KL Plaszow. A Site After, a Site Without”. The tours will be focused on the history of the forced labour and concentration camp viewed from the perspective of lives of Witnesses, former prisoners of KL Plaszow. Our guides will also address such topics as resistance strategies worked out by prisoners, or different ways of perceiving the camp reality among various social groups. The narrative based on the contents presented by the new exhibition, complemented by an additional message, will surely enable participants to better understand the history and broad context of the memorial site.

Responding to the needs of our visitors, we will organize tours on weekdays and weekends.

Guided tours will be offered in Polish, English and Ukrainian.

The tours are free, but participants are requested to register in advance on the website of KLPM. Details with links to a registration page will be published in April 2024.

### **June 2024 | A meeting around the book “The Cemetery of the Living and the Dead”**

The KL Plaszow Museum and the KARTA Centre Foundation have jointly prepared a publication titled “The Cemetery of the Living and the Dead”.

The book contains a narrative of camp experience described from various perspectives – both those of prisoners and the families of victims, and Kraków residents. The publication is compiled using e.g. memoirs written in the camp, letters, accounts given after the war, and testimonies of former prisoners and witnesses, e.g. heard during the trials of KL Plaszow personnel. This compilation of accounts and reminiscences by Survivors creates a coherent and chronological narrative of the history of KL Plaszow, constituting both historical and emotional record of camp experience.

It is the first publication of this type from the KL Plaszow Museum.

The book will appear in June 2024. Details of promotion meetings coming soon.