[**The film project "Survival – Three Jewish Generations"**](http://tornachzion.de/index.php/de/31-home-de/2-home-de)

In the past ten to fifteen years we met in Israel families of Holocaust survivors. Between 2013 to 2016 we made short interviews with the survivors, their children and grandchildren. The detailed interviews made by Anna Neuhaus show the painful memories of the Holocaust and how the following generations are handling this dark part of family history as well. It is amazing to see, that these people didn’t despair because of their history, but have built for themselves and their families a new and good life in Israel. For us it has been and is a great privilege to be friends with these people and to be a part of their lives.

Anna Neuhaus is developing and producing documentary movies, reports, image- and art movies. You can find out more about the director under [www.schmidt-film.com](http://www.schmidt-film.com/)

**Biographies:**

Josef Aaron:

* Born on 5.5.1935 in Frankfurt am Main in a family of eleven children
* In 1939 his mother sends him and two other siblings to France. There they are hidden in different places.
* In 1942 the SS finds them and they were brought to Bergen-Belsen.
* After his liberation and lengthy rehabilitation he immigrates to Israel. He works as a waiter.
* Josef Aaron lives in Jerusalem today.

***„I am going on telling my story. It is hard and it hurts. But I am happy that I can tell my story and share it with others.”***

Karla Pilpel:

* Born on 12.12.1931 in Berlin as Karla Rothstein
* In 1939 she is sent on a Kindertransport to England together with her sister; she sees her parents for the last time.
* In England she is sent to a Kinderheim in Manchester.
* Karla emigrates to Israel in 1951 and marries Abraham Pilpel. They have two sons.
* Karla works as a nurse. She lives in Jerusalem today.

***„I always say that you have to focus to the living and not to the dead.“***

Bella Katz:

* Bella (Zahava) Katz was born on 2.9.1924 in Leipzig as Beate Reichardt.
* At the age of 17 her parents send her first to Vienna and later on to Prague to study.
* Later she flees to Yugoslavia where she hides with other young Jews at farmers families from the Nazis.
* After the war she hitchhikes back to Germany and meets her husband Mandel Katz.
* Both flee to the western sector of Germany and help to smuggle Jews to Palestine that belonged at this time to the British Mandate.
* In 1949 she emigrates to Israel with her husband and her daughter Lea.
* Ron Stern is her grandson.

***„I have never spoken about my past. I wouldn’t be able to live if I would always think about my past.“***

Ron Stern (grandson of Bella Katz):

* Ron Stern was born 10.06.1977 in Tel Aviv-Jaffa.
* In 2002 he travels with his grandmother Bella Katz to Leipzig to hear more about her personal story. His grandmother hardly talks about the past. But he can understand why it is sometimes easier to be silent and not to talk.
* He marries German women. Together they have three sons.

***„70 years ago nobody would have thought that a Jew and a German can be together. We got married and have had three sons. The youngest son is called Amichai – that means „My people live“.***

Stefanie Bamberger-Segermann:

* Stefanie (Steffi) was born on 10.04.1928 in Leipzig.
* Her father is the owner of “Bamberger & Hertz” in Leipzig.
* Steffi is sent on the Kindertransport to England. A lovely family takes care of Steffi.
* Her father is murdered in Theresienstadt and her mother dies from tuberculosis.
* In 1949 she emigrates to Israel. There she goes to Kibbutz Kfar Blum, where she still lives happily with her large family today.

***„I never found it hard to talk about my life. That is life – good and bad. You need to deal with it.“***

Iftach Dahadi (grandson of Steffi):

* Born on 11.12.1975 in Israel
* Cook in the Hotel of Kibbutz Kfar Blum, just as before his grandmother Steffi.

***„I know that my grandmother has survived hard things. But I don’t judge people. I judge them by what they do and not by what they have done.”***

Nathan Friedman:

* Born 1933 in Warsaw, Poland.
* He comes to the Warsaw Ghetto with his family in 1940. His mother dies 1941 from Typhus. His father disappears one day.
* His aunt smuggles him out of the ghetto. During the Holocaust, Nathan is hiding at different Polish people.
* Nathan goes to Palestine with the Exodus in 1947. The Exodus is sent back to Hamburg. On the 14th of May 1948 Nathan finally arrives in Israel.
* He gets married and has a family of his own.
* Nathan died in October 2017.

***“At night I dream a lot. I always stuck in the same place and I don’t know how to get away from there. I try to walk in different directions but I can’t get out of there. I’ll keep dreaming after so many years. This isn’t easy. But I’ll keep on living! I have a good life!”***

Avishay Golz:

* Born on 9.9.1949 in Haifa.
* The mother of Avishay Golz was born as Edith Gutter in Leipzig.
* The grandfather sends Edith to Switzerland. Later she comes to Holland, is hidden by a farming family in rural Holland and survives the Holocaust.
* The parents of Edith are murdered in Sobibor.
* After the war she meets her husband. She follows him to Israel.
* Avishay today lives in Haifa.

***„If you don’t know your past, you don’t have any presence and your future is very vague.”***