

Czesław Miłosz: 'Campo di Fiori'

“Miłosz [...] wanted to say what the human condition is, look at the attitudes of Poles, how Poles looked at the burning ghetto”, says Dr. Wiesława Młynarczyk, chief specialist in the Education Department of the Warsaw Ghetto Museum and the creator of the film series ‘The Ghetto in Literature’. In its third part, devoted to the poem ‘Campo di Fiori’ by Czesław Miłosz (1943), attention is paid to the attitude of the Polish population towards the Extermination of Jews as passive observers.

‘The Ghetto in Literature’ brings closer four publications: ‘Shielding the Flame’ by Hanna Krall, ‘Conversations with an Executioner’ by Kazimierz Moczarski, ‘Campo di Fiori’ by Czesław Miłosz and ‘Memories. My version’ by Waclaw Izaak Kornblum. The aim of the project is to show the ghetto from three perspectives: victim, executioner and witness – engaged or indifferent. In each episode, those taking part get to know the place where the events occurred, confronting them alongside the Warsaw of today, and interpret literary texts.

The project was completed according to the idea and concept of Dr. Wiesława Młynarczyk from the Education Department of the WGM. It was attended by director Paweł Passini and young people from the theatre group ‘U Machulskich’.

The presentation of the series accompanies the commemoration of the 80th anniversary of the closure of the borders of the Warsaw Ghetto, organised by the Warsaw Ghetto Museum together with the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage and the TSKŻ-Social and Cultural Society of Jews in Poland. The main events took place on November 16, 2020.

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