



MEMORY, REMEMBRANCE & STREET ART

INSPIRING MEMORY SESSION

Street Art **as** Public Memorial



A mural in **Tulsa, Oklahoma**, depicting a woman and child holding a man during the Tulsa massacre.



New York City, WK Interact, Project Brave, 2011. Massive posters-collage pasted onto the wall to commemorate the 10th anniversary of 9/11.

Street Art commemorating the Holocaust ?

- Street art is often seen as a form of rebellion or a form of self-expression. It is an independent artform, which was originated as defiant Graffiti, Guerilla Art, and even Vandalism. Can it be **serious enough, responsible enough** to make positive, **non-provocative** contribution to Holocaust remembrance?
- Would street artists, the majority of which still prefer to remain anonymous, be willing to go beyond their 'loner' ideology and use urban space to raise historical awareness and **inspire Holocaust related Artivism** against current manifestations of neo-Nazi, antisemitic, racist or anti-liberal ideology?



Street Art & Holocaust Remembrance

- Different countries
- Different personal and artistic backgrounds
- Different art media and technics
- Different cultural contexts

Ibo Omari
Vered Dror
AKUT

Iris Andraschek
Lacuna

Roc Blackblock
Nitzan Mintz & Dede
Eron

Nils Westergard
SKI

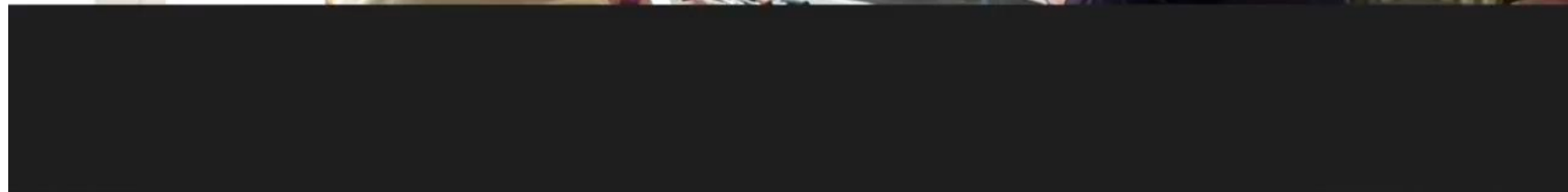
Ibo Omari



The paintback initiative

Germany: Berlin, Hamburg, Kiel, and Bremen, 2015 on

“It was important to spur young people into action and to encourage them to take responsibility, so they don’t just ignorantly walk past such symbols of hatred” (Ibo Omari)



Vered Dror



Hidden City, UrbanFestival, Braille graffiti
Croatia: Zagreb, 2008

*Have you seen the Swastika?
I haven't seen a thing. (Vered
Dror, in Serbo-Croatian Braille
Graffiti)*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
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AKUT



Lest we Forget

Germany: Manheim and Schmalkalden, 2020

A collaboration between Brooklyn artist Falk Lehmann, aka AKUT, and photographer/filmmaker, Luigi Toscano.

"By choosing a different medium like street art the aim is to reach out to a different and wider audience that might not have decided to deal with this important part of our history intentionally" (AKUT)





Lacuna

Deportation Mural, 40 Grad Urban Art Festival
Germany: Düsseldorf, 2019



"It is my intention that the images and the text are clear so that people could understand them" (Lacuna)



Leni Valk Mural, GhmS Festival
Germany: Goch, 2021

Leni Valk
1933 - 1943



VLAMING



Iris Andraschek



I'm Here (Ich bin Hier)

Austria: Krems, 2021

"The carpets strip these women of their anonymity, connect them to history and give them back their place, at least for a period of time." (Iris Andraschek)

Johanna Kreutzer, geboren 1896
1942 in das Ghetto Izbica deportiert,
ermordet



Roc Blackblock



EUROM project: Graffiti in remembrance of the victims of the Holocaust. Spain: Barcelona 2018

Director: Jordi Guixé, Commission, exhibition design and coordination: Núria Ricart

with Moisès Broggi High School Students. Supported by: Barcelona City Council and MUHBA (History Museum of Barcelona)

The creation is inspired by the graphic novel Maus, "a model reference in Arts as a way to take back the historical and collective memory" (Roc Blackblock)

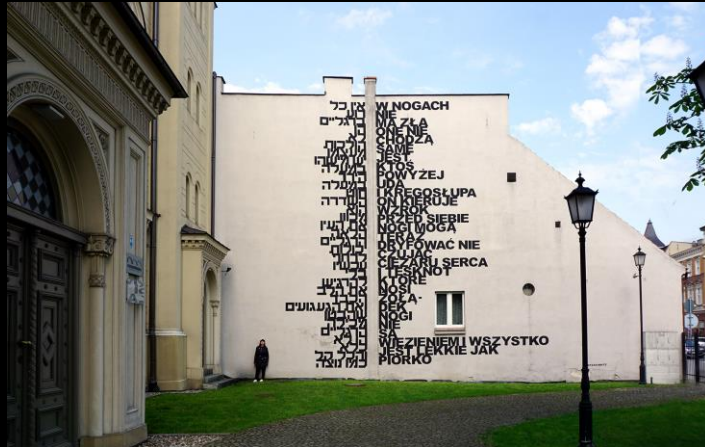


Diego Herranz

Antoni Forçat Dall

Antoni Barberà Pla

Nitzan Mintz



Dede

Poland: Jewish ghetto in Lodz, old Synagogue in Ostrow, 2016

Mintz: Poems about longing to a place you once lived in

Dede: "Safety" and "A young Stork"







גב'נו.
אנחנו
חדורי
מטרה.
מאמץ

הוא
שב
והוא
שבים
על

האספ
לש.
אנחנו
וכסא
וח

שם.
אנחנו
נמסים
על

עוד
כמה
צעדים
ואנחנו
כבר

הרכות
והגב
יים
המגוי
דים

הביתה
אנחנו
בעלי
העצמ
ות

המכר
קים
השבו
רים
חוזרים

ילדות
נו.
אנחנו
בעלי

אחא
למים
העכו
רים
של

אנחנו
הרכיכ
ת
חוזרים
על

The image shows a building facade with a vertical line separating two columns of text. The left column contains Hebrew text, and the right column contains Polish text. The Polish text is a parody of the Hebrew text. A small window is visible in the lower right.

Hebrew Text	Polish Text
אין כל	W NOGACH
ברגלי	NIE
בדגלים	MA ŻŁĄ
בנאמנים	ONE NIE
בנאמנים	CHODZĄ
בנאמנים	SAME
בנאמנים	JEST
בנאמנים	KTOŚ
בנאמנים	POWYZEJ
בנאמנים	UDA
בנאמנים	IKREGOSŁUPA
בנאמנים	ON KIERUJE
בנאמנים	WZROK
בנאמנים	PRZED SIEBIE
בנאמנים	NOGI MOGĄ
בנאמנים	TERAZ
בנאמנים	DRYFOWAĆ NIE
בנאמנים	CZUJĄC
בנאמנים	CIEŻARU SERCA
בנאמנים	I LESKNÓT
בנאמנים	KTORE
בנאמנים	NOSI
בנאמנים	ŻOŁĄ-
בנאמנים	DEK
בנאמנים	NOGI
בנאמנים	NIE
בנאמנים	SA
בנאמנים	WIEZIENIEM I WSZYSTKO
בנאמנים	JEST LEKKIE JAK
בנאמנים	PIORKO

UTZAH MINT

Eron



Soul of the Train, Poland: Auschwitz-Birkenau , 2016

Holocaust Memorial Days, spray paint on wall, Jewish ghetto, Forlì – Italy, 2018





SKI



Mural in honor Holocaust hero Tibor Baránski

New York, 2022

“Righteous Among the Nations” Global Mural Project, Artists 4 Israel

“We wanted to create heroes within countries and societies and communities ... and say, ‘This is what standing up to hate and fascism looks like’ (Alan Dershowitz, “Artists 4 israel”)



TIBOR BARANSKI

SAVED
3000
JEWISH
LIVES



is doing a good job in Street Art commemorating the Holocaust !

- Art in the streets is **accessible** to a much larger number of people and from various walks of life. No previous intention to visit or any kind of preparation is required – it's simply there for us to watch it.
- It invites us to **actively engage** with the artist while they are painting or stenciling.
- In most cases, Holocaust related Street Art is **straightforward**, easy to understand and to respond to. It does not necessitate a professional introduction or a guide, you don't have to be an art savvy to decipher the message of the artwork.
- Street Art can **relate directly** to the events it depicts by being placed in the historical location, thus having greater impact on the audience.
- An **unorthodox approach** that appeals also to the **younger generation**.



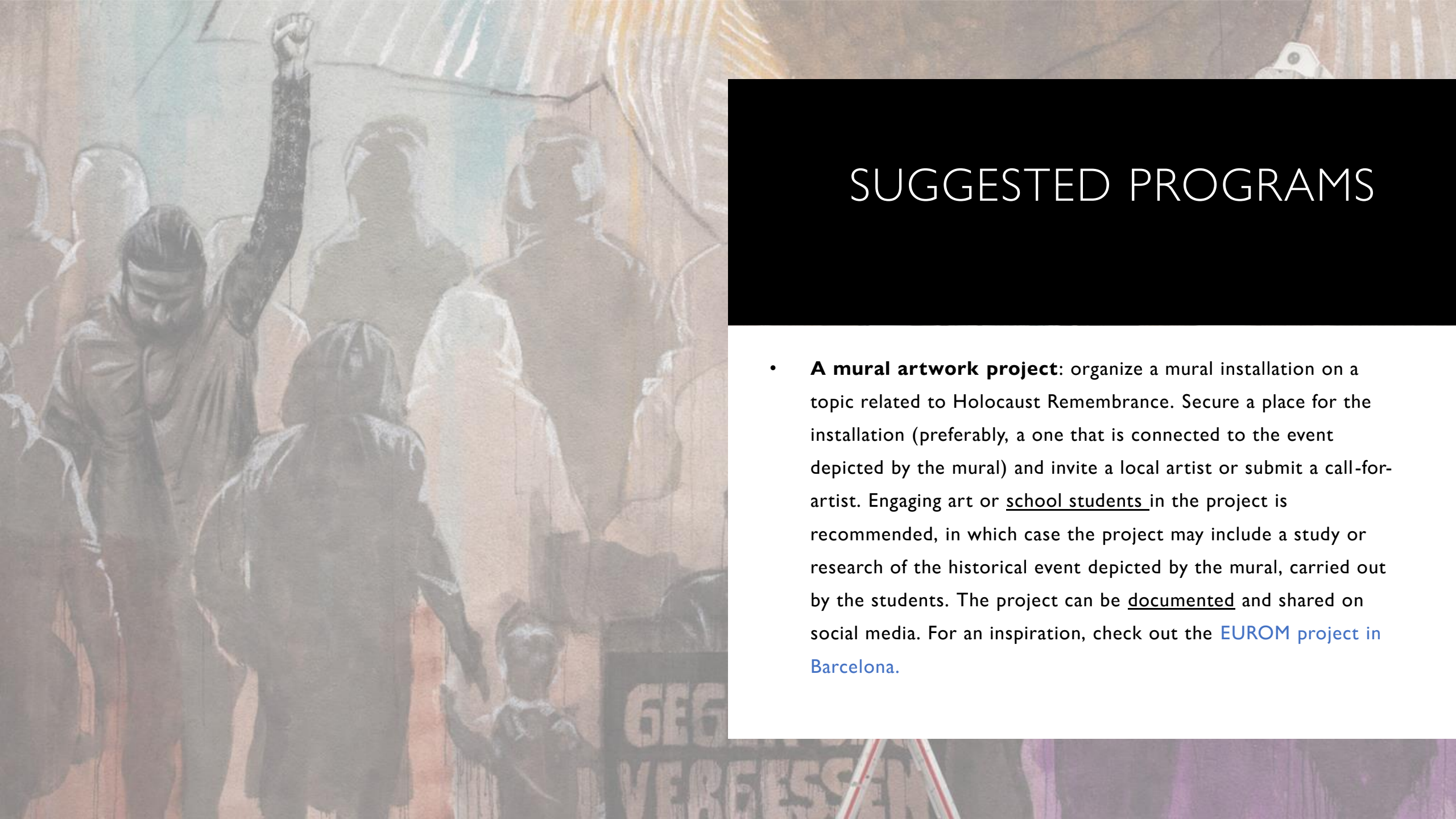
PALOMBO



“Track 21 The Simpsons deported to Auschwitz” The Shoah Memorial of Milan (Binario 21), Milan, 2023

Ridiculing Holocaust-imagery will only add to the overkill we’re already experiencing thanks to the Internet, and might result in exactly the opposite of what Palombo had envisioned, Showing terrifying images without filters will not lead to more awareness, but to people losing their filters. (Anna Goldberg, Forward, 2015)

*“We must educate the new generations and tell them what happened. We must do it **without filters, bluntly**, over and over again, through the memory of facts and terrifying images that reflect the horror of the Holocaust and the extermination of millions of human beings.”
(aleXsandro Palombo, multi-media artist)*



SUGGESTED PROGRAMS

- **A mural artwork project:** organize a mural installation on a topic related to Holocaust Remembrance. Secure a place for the installation (preferably, a one that is connected to the event depicted by the mural) and invite a local artist or submit a call-for-artist. Engaging art or school students in the project is recommended, in which case the project may include a study or research of the historical event depicted by the mural, carried out by the students. The project can be documented and shared on social media. For an inspiration, check out the [EUROM project in Barcelona](#).



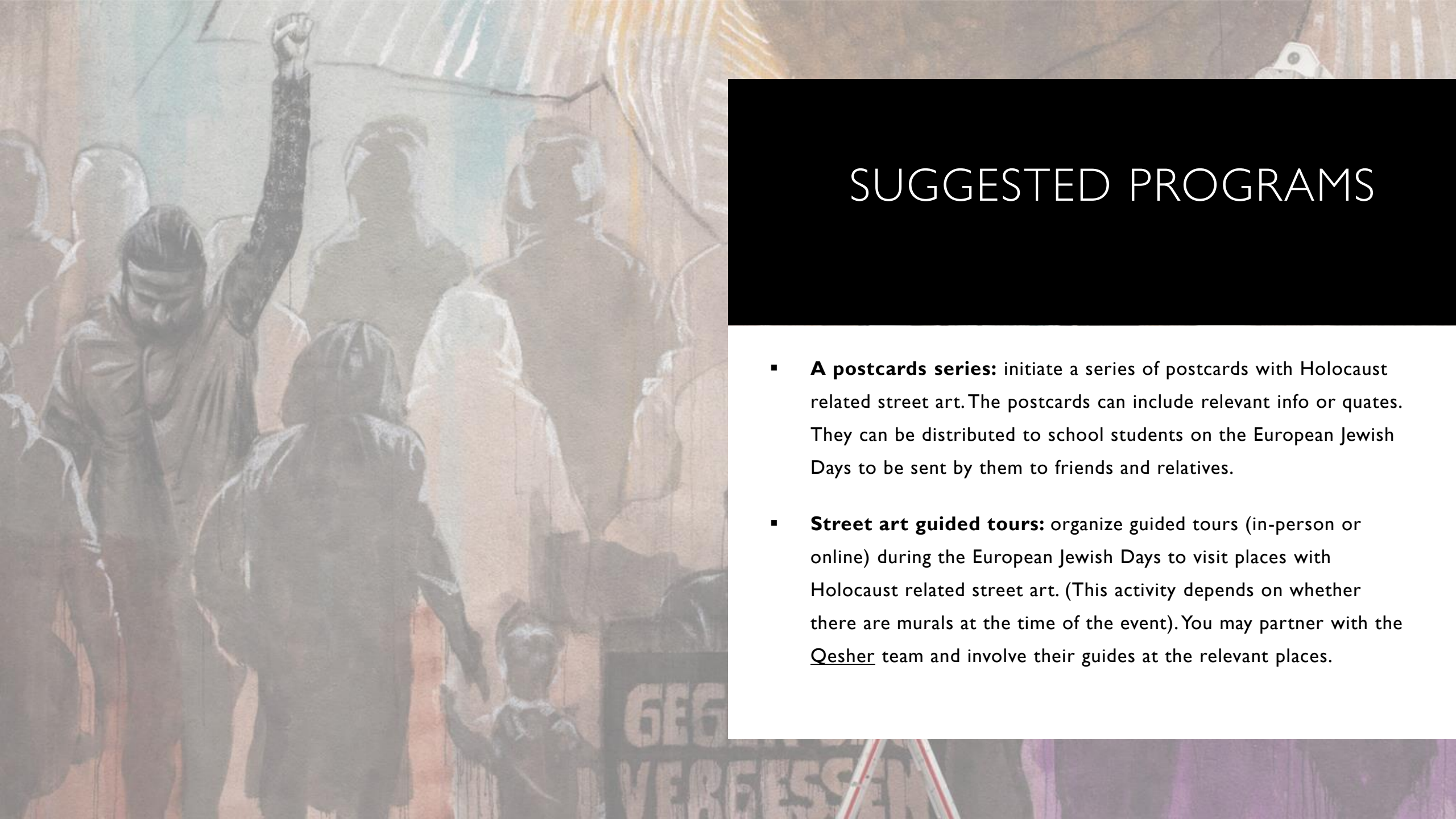
SUGGESTED PROGRAMS

- **Street art workshops:** organize a street art workshop on the topic of Holocaust remembrance, focusing on original ways to response to neo-Nazi graffiti. You can either invite or be inspired by artist such as [Ibo Omari](#) or [Vered Dror](#).
- **Graffiti stencils:** invite street artists or graphic designers to create graffiti stencils related to Holocaust remembrance. The stencils can be used by various groups different places in as part of the European Jewish days program.



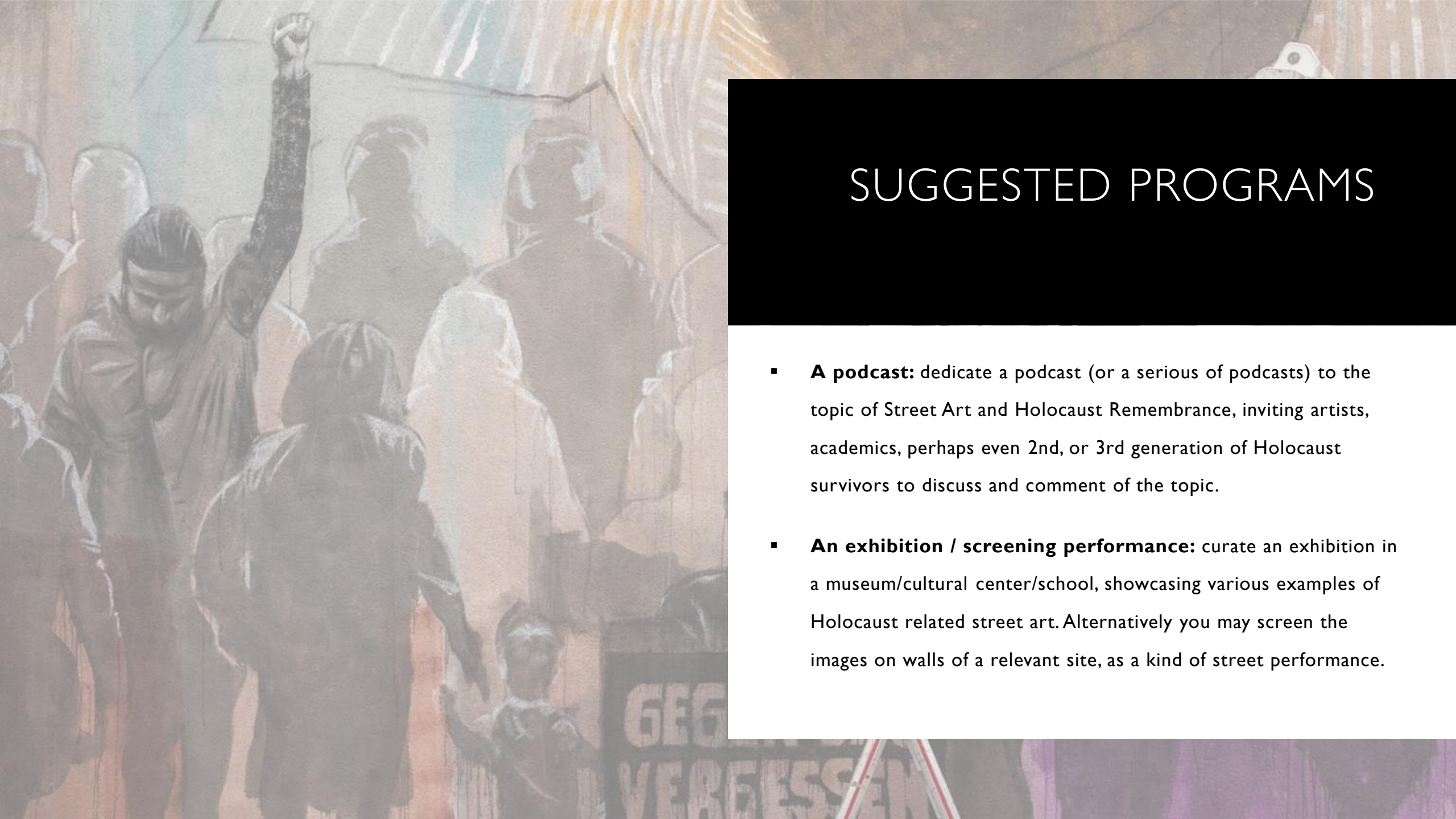
SUGGESTED PROGRAMS

- **Street infographics:** invite an artist specialized in infographics to create a street installation that provide information on a Holocaust related subject through infographics. For an inspiration, check the website of Roni Levit for "[Spatial Diagram Interventions in public space](#)" (2017)
- **A Map of Holocaust related Street Art:** create a map that points to all the various places where street artist painted Holocaust related street murals. The map should provide info about the artworks and the History they depict. It can be a printed or a virtual map.



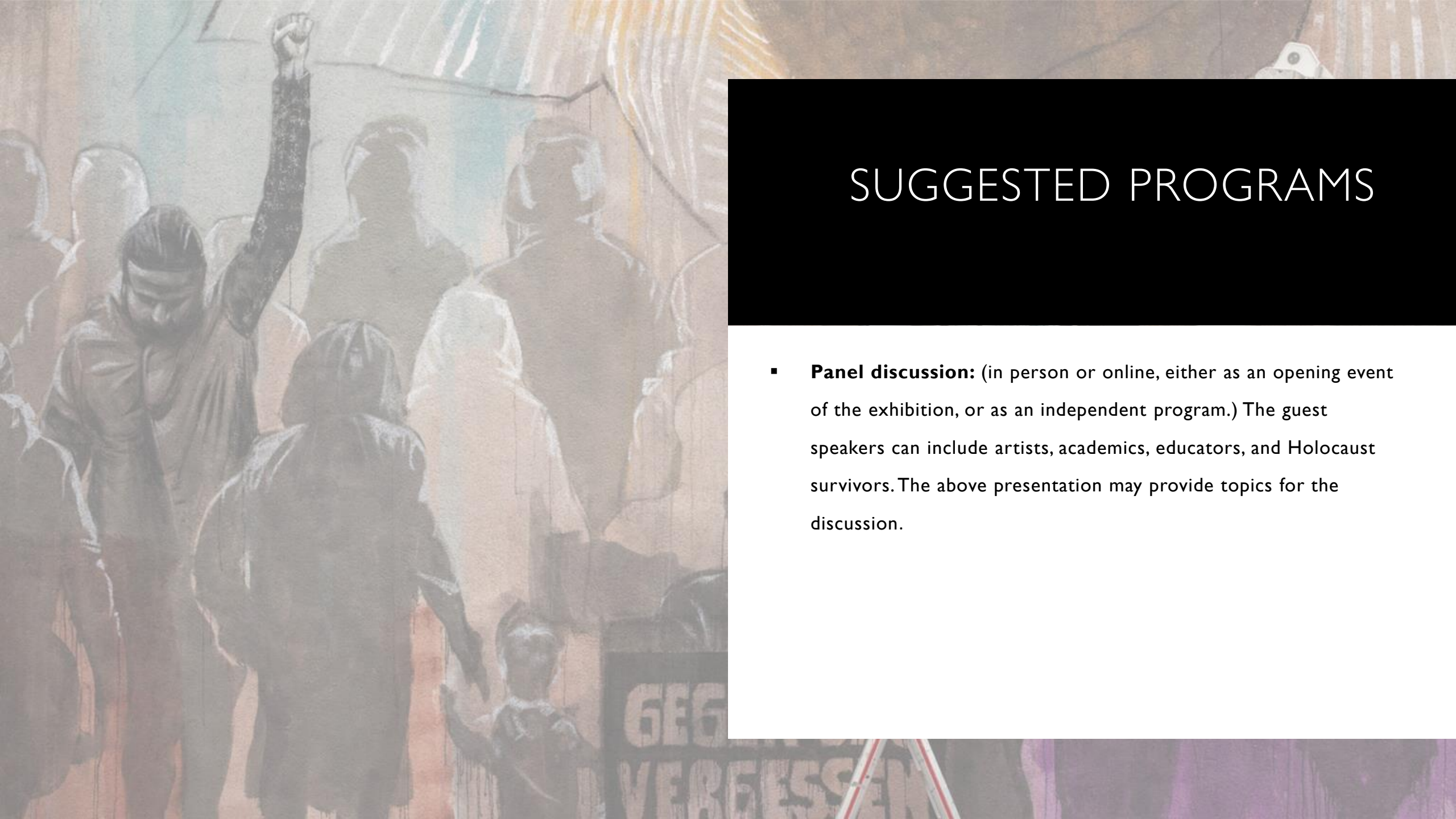
SUGGESTED PROGRAMS

- **A postcards series:** initiate a series of postcards with Holocaust related street art. The postcards can include relevant info or quotes. They can be distributed to school students on the European Jewish Days to be sent by them to friends and relatives.
- **Street art guided tours:** organize guided tours (in-person or online) during the European Jewish Days to visit places with Holocaust related street art. (This activity depends on whether there are murals at the time of the event). You may partner with the Qesher team and involve their guides at the relevant places.



SUGGESTED PROGRAMS

- **A podcast:** dedicate a podcast (or a series of podcasts) to the topic of Street Art and Holocaust Remembrance, inviting artists, academics, perhaps even 2nd, or 3rd generation of Holocaust survivors to discuss and comment of the topic.
- **An exhibition / screening performance:** curate an exhibition in a museum/cultural center/school, showcasing various examples of Holocaust related street art. Alternatively you may screen the images on walls of a relevant site, as a kind of street performance.



SUGGESTED PROGRAMS

- **Panel discussion:** (in person or online, either as an opening event of the exhibition, or as an independent program.) The guest speakers can include artists, academics, educators, and Holocaust survivors. The above presentation may provide topics for the discussion.



THANK YOU!

GEGEN DAS
VERGESSEN