

**New York Public Library  
Displays Rare Illustrated  
Haggadah — Only 50 Exist**



NEW YORK — A rare handmade Haggadah by famed Israeli artist Ya'akov Boussidan, of which there are only 50 copies, will be presented to the New York Public Library (Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street). It will be displayed in the Stokes Gallery for Passover, April 5 to May 4. The gift was arranged by Hadassah to mark the 50th Anniversary of Youth Aliyah, pioneer youth rescue movement where Mr. Boussidan received his first art training.

NEW YORK — The New York Public Library, at Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street, will exhibit for the

Passover season a rare illustrated Haggadah by Israeli artist Ya'akov Boussidan. There are only 50 copies of this hand-made book, which will be displayed in the Stokes Gallery on the second floor, from April 5 to May 4.

The pages have been specially mounted so that the 30 illustrations and the English and Hebrew texts of the entire work are on display. The artist has incorporated into the Passover story of the Jews' freedom flight from Egypt the story of Genesis. He spent six years at this work.

Because there are about three words for every one of the Hebrew, the artist hand set the type so that the English text balances the Hebrew.

Benjamin Tammuz, Israeli author and critic, has written of this Haggadah:

"Haggadah, as Boussidan sees it, is the narrative of the birth of a people, and it is therefore feasible to introduce into it an account of the birth of the world: likewise, the "Covenant between the pieces" (Genesis XV'17) in which the Exodus is mentioned for the first time in our annals. The first eight etchings relate to the six days of Creation and to the Covenant. In addition, all the etchings in the Haggadah, numbering thirty, are related to various aspects of the development of the Creation, in which the likenesses of people, landscapes and animals are captured, so to speak, in their primeval state. Death is the first Death: the more so the Kid, the Fish and the Fowl. In the etching of the plaque of Darkness, the darkness is taken to be a kind of blindness, not outer but inner. Jerusalem, to which we promise to come 'next year,' is a Jerusalem which has never yet existed, though she is also the ancient, eternal Jerusalem."

The gift of the Haggadah to the New York Public Library was arranged by Hadassah in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Youth Aliyah. The donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, is giving this rare book in memory of Anne Frank who unlike the Jewish children rescued from the Holocaust, was one of its victims — killed by the Nazis in the Netherlands. The artist, Ya'akov Boussidan, who created this Haggadah, was one of the children from Arab countries who was helped and educated

by Youth Aliyah which arranged for his art education.

Ya'akov Boussidan was born on May 17th, 1939 at Port Said. When he was ten the entire family went to Israel. Since it was not possible to go to Israel from Port Said they went via Marseilles. At this time Israel was still in the process of organizing itself, and the family lived rather miserably in a tent.

Ya'akov fared badly in school. In 1952 he escaped to a kibbutz where he looked after the ducks and the fruit trees, took an intense dislike to the tractors, and attended evening classes in painting. He had known from the age of three that he would be an artist.

One day in 1957 he walked out of the kibbutz with the intention of studying art in Tel Aviv, supporting himself by a grant from Youth Aliyah, working as a photographer-retoucher in a newspaper office and by teaching retarded children.

In 1966 he obtained a Rothschild Scholarship and went to England to study at Goldsmith's College in London, where he graduated with distinction. He now has a studio in a working-class area in South East London where he often works for seventy-two hours at a stretch.

Boussidan has said that, "I owe my life to Israel, to Youth Aliyah and to Dr. Reuven Feuerstein," who was his mentor in the youth movement.

TEL AVIV (WNS) — Sando Giorgio of Rumania won the 42.1 kilometer main event in the fourth annual Tel Aviv marathon, a Purim contest sponsored by the Hapoel Sports Club here. There were 320 entrants, including visitors from 15 countries competing in the race.

Congregation

**Happy Passover Shaarei Tefilla**  
1331 So. Maryland Parkway  
**ORTHODOX**  
7:30 AM DAILY — 8:30 AM SAT. — 9:00 AM SUN.  
384-3565 Member Of Union Orthodox Synagogues

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