## Preserving Legacy, Inspiring Generations Joseph Bau House Museum: 2024 Year in Review





## www.josephbau.org

As the end of the calendar year approaches, we are honored to present to all supporters of the Friends of the Joseph Bau House the following report on Joseph Bau House Museum activities in 2024:

- 1. This year, the Joseph Bau House Museum was honored once again with Trip Advisor's prestigious Travelers' Choice "Best of the Best" Award. This recognition places us in the top tier of tourist attractions worldwide, based on outstanding visitor reviews. In Israel, we are proudly ranked #1 out of 295 things to do in Tel Aviv and first among museums. This remarkable achievement underscores the impact of Joseph Bau's story and legacy on visitors from around the globe.
- 2. This year saw a drastic decline in foreign visitors due to the war, which also impacted our entrance fee revenues. However, more and more Israelis are visiting the Joseph Bau House. Volunteers from around the world who came to Israel to assist in various ways, also visited the museum as well as several displaced Israeli evacuee groups from across the country. Evangelical Christians from the U.S. visited. A group of volunteers from China who visited said they came to encourage the Israelis, and while they were with us, they mentioned that we actually uplifted their spirits and encouraged them.
- 3. People celebrate birthdays at the museum, and everyone celebrating receives one of Joseph Bau's books.
- 4. In the spirit of Joseph Bau's vision, we successfully translated our father's book, "*Dear God, Have You Ever Gone Hungry?*" detailing his memories of the Holocaust, into Arabic and Russian a few years ago. This year, we published these books through the publishing house our father established, "Ha'Me'na'a'ne'a' Publishing." The book is available for purchase in four languages at our museum (Hebrew, English, Arabic, and Russian).
- 5. In February 2024, the **Joseph Bau Certificate of Recognition** for contributions to society and culture was awarded to four authors and poets: Emanuel Ben Savo, Esther Dagan Kaniel, Asher Weinstein, and Simcha Siani.
- 6. Republic Pictures/Paramount has completed production of the feature film *Bau, Artist at War*, directed by Sean McNamara. The film, a tribute to the extraordinary lives of our parents, has already received numerous awards at U.S. film festivals and is set to premiere in the U.S. in early 2025 with a release in Israel a few months later. It is an incredibly moving film, and we recommend that all our friends watch it. Check out the trailer.
- 7. Joseph Bau's memoir will be re-released as *Bau, Artist at War* by <u>Blackstone Publishing</u> on February 11, 2025. Includes a foreword by Clila Bau-Cohen and Hadasa Bau and an introduction by Sean McNamara, director of the major motion picture of the same name and an introduction by Inbar Lavie, the actress who plays Rebecca Bau.
- 8. This year, the <u>Joseph Bau Traveling Exhibition</u> was listed on the Council of American Jewish Museums (CAJM) website. The exhibition of Joseph Bau's paintings was well-received in Boca Raton, Florida and in Davie, Florida.
- 9. We had many opportunities to personally share our parents' incredible story, including:
  - a. We performed in front of groups in Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and at the exhibition in Davie, sharing the incredible story of our parents' lives through a presentation, along with paintings we brought with us.
  - b. We appeared twice at the Hostages' Square on Holocaust Remembrance Day and once more on a different occasion.
  - c. We presented to students at Katzenelson School in Givatayim about Joseph Bau's research on the Hebrew language.

- d. We participated in a podcast with Kobi Finkler from Kol Chai Radio.
- e. We were interviewed by several media outlets, including Kol Chai Radio and "Russian Background" radio for Russian speakers.
- f. We participated in several webinars: The Incredible Story of Joseph and Rebecca Bau, B'nai B'rith webinar, July 2, 2024; Rebecca and Joseph Bau The art of love the Joseph Bau House Museum program, 4-25-24, Volunteers for Israel, April 25, 2024.
- g. On Joseph Bau's birthday, June 18, 2024, we held an event at the museum in honor of Ambassador Veronika Kuchynova Smigolova, the Czech ambassador. All staff from the Czech Embassy and representatives from several embassies attended.
- 10. Students from the University of Haifa studied Joseph Bau's typography and created postcards inspired by his work. Clila and Hadasa Bau attended a very exciting seminar at the university and spoke about Joseph Bau's art and told the story of their parents.
- 11. We recorded a video featuring Hadasa's song "It Will Be Good."
- 12. Several articles about Joseph Bau House published:
  - a. Schindler's Right-Hand Man became Israel's Walt Disney, <a href="https://aish.com/schindlers-right-hand-man-became-israels-walt-disney/">https://aish.com/schindlers-right-hand-man-became-israels-walt-disney/</a>, *Aish*, February 26, 2024.
  - b. An article about us was published in Nofshim.
- 13. This year, we reached approximately 4,100 followers of our growing <u>Joseph Bau House Facebook page</u>, providing important public support for us. We would appreciate sharing our group's message among your friends.
- 14. This year, we have moved the <u>Joseph Bau House website</u> to an updated platform and work to keep all the news current. We added a virtual tour to the website.
- 15. This year, we have added videos to the Joseph Bau House YouTube channel.
- 16. This year, we set up an <u>email list</u> to keep supporters of the Joseph Bau House Museum informed about upcoming exhibitions, events, educational programs, and other exciting news.
- 17. We have been renting Joseph Bau's studio at 9 Berdichevsky since 1997. Unfortunately, the Joseph Bau House Museum now faces an uncertain future, as the building is scheduled for demolition. We must secure a new permanent location to continue sharing our parents' legacy.

As a first step in assuring a seamless transition, preserving this unique institution, and establishing a sustainable future, we are partnering with <u>Gallagher and Associates (G&A)</u>, a globally recognized museum planning and design firm. They will conduct a feasibility study to assess new potential locations, develop a comprehensive business plan, and outline development costs for the relocated museum. This essential study requires \$100,000 in funding. We have launched a <u>fundraising campaign</u> to support these efforts. Learn more in the news release: <u>Holocaust Hero's Legacy at Risk: Joseph Bau House Museum Needs Support</u>.

## Clíla and Hadasa Bau

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