

off the fence.

Auschwitz In 33 Objects

5x60 + 11x30

EPISODIC BREAKDOWN

1. Episode 001

The gate Arbeit Mach Frei - One of Auschwitz and Doom's symbols, which managed to survive in the original state despite many dramatic moments. We will tell you about how it was created and what lies behind its slogan. In 2009 it was tragically stolen, during which the inscription was cut into three parts.

The autopsy table - Located in block 10, which is closed to visitors. Who used the autopsy table and what for? What did the torturer's pseudomedical tools look like?

Edek and Mala's locks of hair Story of love and hope. They were helped to escape by a friend, who before their execution handed locks of hair wrapped in a handkerchief. Years after the liberation of the camp, Wiesław Kielar donated it to the Auschwitz-Birkenau Museum.

2. Episode 002

The door to the Gas Chamber Plans - The only one that has been preserved. It was found in 1945 in the ruins of the mined-out crematorium. We will be the first TV crew to enter the crematorium ruins and show the original preserved floor, on which millions of people were gassed. The door has been closed within a vacuum-sealed display case since 2012.

Plans for the Expansion of the City and Camp - We will trace the original preserved plans and a mock-up created by prisoners on behalf of the SS. By showing the present area of Auschwitz, we want to build original expansion plans on top of it, to illustrate the morbid efficiency and madness the expansion would have started if the Germans had not lost the war.

License plates of SS cars - Allowed the daring escape of Kazimierz Piechowski, camp number 918. After two years in the camp, he and three other prisoners broke into a warehouse of uniforms and weapons, robbed a Steyr 220 SS car, and drove through the campsite checkpoint

3. Episode 003

Baby doll - Hides the stories of the fates of the children and juvenile prisoners. We will talk in particular of block 16a, which is distinguished by one detail - a fairy-tale mural made by an unknown prisoner. We will tell its story from the memories of a surviving prisoner who spent her childhood there.

Elsa Ury's Suitcase - The only trace of a children's writer in the camp. In the Collections of the Auschwitz Museum is her suitcase. Because of her Jewish roots, she was transported to the camp with her and her bag in tow. How do preservationists read the personal details from such valuable and only remaining items? In the Conservatory Studio, we will go through a series of in-depth analyses behind the doors of a modern laboratory.

Camp Children's Tales - Mainly created by fathers with longing for their children. Fairy tales were illegal, so the prisoners put their lives at risk, trying to bring a smile to the faces of children, if only for a moment. We will highlight the traces of leftover pictures from "A Tale of a Bunny, a Fox and a Rooster" in the Laboratory on a special table.

4. Episode 004

Ramp - From May 1944 carried the largest transports of Hungarian Jews, had been planned for years by the SS command. What its extension looked like and why the previous ramp - Alte Judenrampe was not enough, will be told by two specialists who have been working on the latest documents stored in Moscow for several years.

Auschwitz Album - Also known as Lili Jacob Album, who found it after the liberation in Mittelbau-Dora. In the photos, she recognized both her relatives and herself during one of the largest transports of Hungarian Jews to Auschwitz on May 26, 1944. In 1980, Lili Jacob donated the Album to Yad Vashem.

Wedding - The only one in the history of the Auschwitz camp, was concluded at the registry office on March 18, 1944. One document has survived that confirms this event. Prisoner Rudolf Friemel married his beloved Margarita Ferrer, and after the ceremony, they had a wedding photo taken.

5. Episode 005

Little White House - Located outside the Birkenau camp, it is identified unambiguously with the beginnings of the extermination of Jews in Auschwitz. For the purposes of mass murders, the Germans converted a private house into a gas chamber. It was plastered and painted white, hence it was called "the little white house" in the camp dialect. Up to a thousand victims could be killed in it at one time.

Rudolf Höss' Gallows - Rudolf was sentenced to death in 1947, situated between the Commandant building and his house. The massive Armchair on which Höss made many critical decisions about the continuous expansion of the death camp units is still intact today. After work, he used to rest in his Villa, which is located just behind the wires of the camp, and the garden manicured by the criminal blooms every year.

Stolen Objects - Often returned to the Auschwitz-Birkenau Museum by visitors after many years. Often feeling remorseful, the packages contain letters apologizing for the theft of an item located in one of the largest cemeteries in the world. Cutlery from the former Canadian stretch, a piece of railroad tracks from a ramp, barbed wire and much more are collected.

6. Episode 006

A Thermos bottle - And inside the notes of one of the Sonderkommando prisoners. It was found in the Birkenau camp. What do the records say? To read their content, you need advanced technology and extreme precision. Therefore, a special camera was created for this task, the operation of which we will demonstrate.

Karl Höcker's Album Found years later and went to the Auschwitz-Birkenau museum. In his photos, we will see smiling SS men relaxing after work. Solahütte and the Canteen are places regularly visited by the SS staff. Prisoners played performances, concerts, and boxing fights there. To this day, a fragment of a painting from The Canteen depicting an exemplary Nazi family has been preserved.

Double Portrait - Connected with a remarkable story of the man who volunteered to enter Auschwitz and try to tell the world about it. The portrait was made directly after Witold Pilecki's escape in the summer of 1943 in Nowy Wiśnicz. It presents Witold Pilecki and Tomasz Serafiński - a person whose identity was assumed by Pilecki as an Auschwitz prisoner. It is currently kept in the Collections of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Museum.

7. Episode 007

Penal Company - Place where prisoners were sent for camp crimes. They were isolated from the rest of the prisoners and performed the most backbreaking physical work, mainly running. As one of the few, August Kowalczyk made a successful attempt to escape from the criminal company. After the war, he began playing SS characters in films. We will show excerpts of these films.

Instructions for the SS - The SS code of conduct towards prisoners. Prisoners created murals commissioned by the SS, which always showed indicated and forbidden behaviors.

Child's little shoe and Suitcase - Belonged to a 4-year-old boy, Amos Steinberg, who came with his parents to the Birkenau camp in 1942. A shoe with a signed name and surname was found during the conservation work of the exhibition of children's shoes. There was also a transport number that could be linked to the boy's suitcase, thanks to the latest multispectral camera technology developed by prof. Tomasz Łojewski.

8. Episode 008

Sauna - Established at the end of 1943 and was the place of registration of prisoners, mainly Jews brought from all over Europe. The prisoners were assigned numbers and clothes. It was here that disinfecting baths were carried out and people's hair was shaved all over the body.

Roma portraits - Painted by prisoner Dina Gottlieb on the orders of Dr. Joseph Mengele. Seven portraits have survived, which are an important and rare testimony of the murdered Roma in the camps.

Zyklon B - A gas that has killed more than a million people in the gas chambers. Rudolf Höss started using it in 1941. However, before that, this measure was a cheap and simple insecticide to prevent epidemics among prisoners. We have documented the only traces of Zyklon B residue left on plaster on the walls in rooms intended as laundromats.

9. Episode 009

The Camp Kitchens - Auschwitz main camp premises and Birkenau camp are inaccessible to the public. Such a kitchen reveals hunger among the prisoners. It was divided into units so that the Sonderkommandos could not meet each other: bread magazine, potato cellars, potato peeling, and cooking kitchen.

Tadeusz Pietrzykowski's Boxing glove - Connected with a remarkable story of the man who volunteered to enter Auschwitz and try to tell the world about it. The portrait was made directly after Witold Pilecki's escape in the summer of 1943 in Nowy Wiśnicz. It presents Witold Pilecki and Tomasz Serafiński - a person whose identity was assumed by Pilecki as an Auschwitz prisoner. It is currently kept in the Collections of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Museum.

Sketchbook - Has become one of the most important and indisputable evidence of the Holocaust. It was found in 1947 in the Birkenau camp by a former prisoner. The author of the sketchbook is unknown, but according to the presented scenes of the camp's functioning, the sketchbook must have been created in 1943. The camp life was drawn with great accuracy, you can see the numbers on the SS uniforms up close.

10. Episode 010

Frame of the crematorium furnace - In crematorium V has survived to this day, even the explosion of the entire crematorium was not able to destroy it. It was in the same place that the door to the gas chamber was found.

The snuffbox of Bronisław Czech - Made from a camp tree. He was a talented ski jumper and artist. Due to this, at the beginning of his stay in the camp, he stayed in a block for artists. He gave the snuffbox to a friend. It turns out that this inconspicuous item saved a person's life during the famous Battle of Monte Cassino. We will tell this story.

Archeology - The only one in the history of the Auschwitz camp, was concluded at the registry office on March 18, 1944. One document has survived that confirms this event. Prisoner Rudolf Friemel married his beloved Margarita Ferrer, and after the ceremony, they had a wedding photo taken.

Frame of the crematorium furnace

11. Episode 011

Sonderkommando Revolt - Planned by the members of the Sonderkommando special group, which was forcibly sent to work on the crematoria. How it was planned, how many people were left and how many escaped, and what the escape route looked like, will be told by historians who have access to undisputed documents.

Totenbuch - A document kept in the Archives of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Museum. It is a book of deceased Soviet prisoners of war. approximately 9,000 prisoners were killed in five months. Entered deaths were recorded regularly, every 5-10 minutes. This document was drawn up by the prisoner Kazimierz Hałgas, who was a nurse and writer in the hospital for Soviet prisoners of war.

Camp Orchestra - Established as a new commando, which was to play music for prisoners while they were working. They greeted and said goodbye to prisoners at the gate of Arbeit Macht Frei with a melody. New DNA research was carried out on the baton that was in the possession of the commando conductor. There were traces of blood on it.

1. Episode 001

Baby doll hides the stories of the fates of the children and juvenile prisoners. We will focus on block 16a, distinguished by one detail - a fairy-tale mural made by an unknown prisoner. We will tell its story from the memories of a surviving prisoner who spent her childhood there.

Elsa Ury's suitcase is the only trace of a children's writer in the camp. In the collections of the Auschwitz Museum is her suitcase. Because of her Jewish roots, she was transported to the camp with her bag in tow. How do preservationists read the personal details from such valuable and only remaining items? In the conservatory studio, we will go through a series of in-depth analyses behind the doors of a modern laboratory.

Camp children's tales were mainly created by fathers longing for their children. Fairy tales were illegal, so the prisoners put their lives at risk, trying to bring a smile to the faces of children, if only for a moment.

The gas chamber door is the only one preserved. It was found in 1945 in the ruins of the mined-out crematorium. We will be the first TV crew to enter the crematorium ruins and show the original preserved floor on which millions of people were gassed. The door has been closed within a vacuum-sealed display case since 2012.

Karl Höcker's album was found years later and went to the Auschwitz-Birkenau museum. In his photos, we will see smiling SS men relaxing after work. Solahütte and the Canteen are the places that were regularly visited by the SS staff. Prisoners played performances, concerts, and boxing fights there.

Cracked thermos flask and inside the notes of one of the Sonderkommando prisoners. It was found in the Birkenau camp. What do the records say? To read their content, one needs advanced technology and extreme precision. Therefore, a special camera was created for this task, the operation of which we will demonstrate.

SS license plate allowed the daring escape of Kazimierz Piechowski, camp number 918. After two years in the camp, he and three other prisoners broke into a warehouse of uniforms and weapons, robbed a Steyr 220 SS car, and drove through the campsite checkpoint.

2. Episode 002

The lovers' locks is a story of love and hope. Edek and Mala were helped to escape by a friend, who, before their execution, kept locks of hair wrapped in a handkerchief. Years after the camp's liberation, Wiesław Kielar donated it to the Auschwitz-Birkenau Museum.

The gate "Arbeit Mach Frei" is one of Auschwitz and doom's symbols, which managed to survive in its original state despite many dramatic moments. We will tell how it was created and what meaning lies behind its slogan. In 2009 it was tragically stolen and dispassionately cut into three parts.

The autopsy table is located in block 10, which is closed to visitors. Who used the autopsy table, and what for? What did the torturer's pseudo-medical tools look like?

Lili Jacob's Album, also known as Auschwitz's Album, was found after the liberation in Mittelbau-Dora. In the photos, she recognized her relatives and herself during one of the largest transports of Hungarian Jews to Auschwitz on May 26, 1944. In 1980, Lili Jacob donated the Album to Yad Vashem.

The ramp, which from May 1944 carried the largest transports of Hungarian Jews, had been planned for years by the SS command. What did its extension look like, and why was the previous ramp - Alte Judenrampe - not enough? We will listen to two specialists working on the latest documents stored in Moscow for several years.

The wedding photography, symbolizing the only wedding in the history of the Auschwitz camp, was concluded at the registry office on March 18, 1944. One document has survived that confirms this event. Prisoner Rudolf Friemel married his beloved Margarita Ferrer, and they had a wedding photo taken after the ceremony.

The boxing gloves are a unique item after the famous boxer Teddy Pietrzykowski. Thanks to them, he fought many fights, knocking out the SS man.

3. Episode 003

The sketchbook has become one of the most essential and indisputable pieces of evidence of the Holocaust. It was found in 1947 in the Birkenau camp by a former prisoner. The author of the sketchbook is unknown, but according to the presented scenes of the camp's functioning, the sketchbook must have been created in 1943. The camp life was drawn with great accuracy. One can see the numbers on the SS uniforms up close.

Stolen objects are often returned to the Auschwitz-Birkenau Museum after many years. Often feeling remorseful, the packages contain letters apologizing for the theft of an item located in one of the largest cemeteries in the world. Cutlery from the former Canadian stretch, a piece of railroad tracks from a ramp, barbed wire, and much more are collected.

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Höss's gallows. Rudolf was sentenced to death in 1947, situated between the Commandant building and his house. The massive Armchair on which Höss made many critical decisions about the continuous expansion of the death camp units is still intact today. After work, he used to rest in his villa, which is located just behind the wires of the camp, and the garden, manicured by the criminal, blooms every year.

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4. Episode 004

The little shoe and suitcase belonged to a 4-year-old boy, Amos Steinberg, who came with his parents to the Birkenau camp in 1942. The shoe with a signed name and surname was found during the children's shoe conservation work exhibition. There was also a transport number that could be linked to the boy's suitcase, discovered thanks to the latest multispectral camera technology developed by prof. Tomasz Łojewski.

The central sauna was established at the end of 1943 and was the place for the registration of prisoners. Mainly Jews were brought from all over Europe. The prisoners were assigned numbers and clothes. Here, disinfecting baths were carried out, and people's hair was shaved all over their bodies.

Collar tabs for someone mean freedom, but not for the penal company. That is the place where prisoners were sent for camp crimes. They were isolated from the rest of the prisoners and performed the most backbreaking physical work, mainly running. As one of the few, August Kowalczyk made a successful attempt to escape from the criminal company. After the war, he began playing SS characters in films with the same collar tabs. We will show excerpts of these films.

Bilderbuch is the instructions for the SS, that is, the SS code of conduct towards prisoners. Prisoners created murals commissioned by the SS, which always showed indicated and forbidden behaviors.

Sonderkommando photos were taken by one brave man - Alex Herrera. How did he get a camera, and what is in the photos? The Sonderkommando special group members, who were forcibly sent to work on the crematoria, also got a plan. To create a Sonderkommando rebellion. The story will be told by historians who have access to undisputed documents.

5. Episode 005

Soup kettles were found in the camp kitchens on the Auschwitz main camp premises, and Birkenau camp are inaccessible to the public. Such a kitchen reveals famine among the prisoners. We will see unique soup kettles that remember each hungry prisoner's account.

The masters' snuff box was made from a camp tree by Bronislaw Czech. He was a talented ski jumper and artist. Thanks to this, he stayed in a block for artists at the beginning of his camp. He gave the snuffbox to a friend. It turns out that this inconspicuous item saved a person's life during the famous Battle of Monte Cassino. We will tell this story.

The crematorium furnace in crematorium V has survived to this day, even the explosion of the entire crematorium was not able to destroy it. It was in the same place where the gas chamber door was found.

The traces of life can still be found in the Auschwitz campground. Archeology is an inseparable element of ongoing research at the Auschwitz-Birkenau museum. Each newly discovered item is subjected to research and conservation. What can you learn from new excavations?

The camp model is a mock-up created by prisoners on behalf of the SS. By showing the plans and models, we want to illustrate the morbid efficiency and madness the expansion would have started if the Germans had not lost the war.

The totenbuch is a document kept in the Archives of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Museum. It is a book of deceased Soviet prisoners of war. Approximately 9,000 prisoners were killed in five months. The deaths were recorded regularly, every 5-10 minutes.

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