

# OUT OF THE SHADOWS

An exhibition accompanying the *Performing the Jewish Archive* project

**Performing the Jewish Archive** is a research project that studies lost and forgotten artworks and archives by Jewish artists of the twentieth century, from musicians to cabaret artists, writers and painters. We are an international team of eleven researchers, dozens of partners and audiences from Madison-Wisconsin to Cape Town, South Africa.

**Our research project asks these questions:**

- How can performance bring lost artworks and stories back to life?
- How can research and performance intertwine to create justice for artists who have been persecuted and artworks that were nearly destroyed?

*Performing the Jewish Archive* brings works of art by Jewish artists of the twentieth century out of the shadows of the archive. This exhibition tells some of these stories and shows some of these works of art.

The Holocaust, also known as the Shoah – the systematic, bureaucratic, state-sponsored persecution and murder of six million Jews by the Nazi regime and its collaborators – forms the shadow behind many of these stories, but often in unexpected as well as tragic ways.

Does performance bring these stories closer to us? Does performance raise new questions about the stories? We hope that by engaging with our performances or viewing our exhibition, you will have some answers to these questions.

