

Flight

50" x 36", 2004, Acrylic on canvas, collage.

David Feinberg. Drawing and painting contributions from Lucy Smith, survivor, Sabina Zimering, survivor, and the following artists: Laura Krueger, Katie Novak, Taylor Costello, and Diane Grace Goodman. Photograph by Aviel Goodman.

Flight is based on the concept of being alienated from one's home, city, and country during the formative years of one's life. With no preparation, no plans for the future, and no home to return to, these young survivors had to hide for years. Their only chance for a future was if the Allies could win the war before they were exposed.

To revive their memories, Sabina and Lucy participated in an exercise with the art team that included directions such as "Draw the thing that you most regret leaving behind" and "Draw an incident that occurred during a winter when you were in hiding". In one of the variations, the directions were: "Make with your hands a shape that represents your feelings. Play with your hands until you find a position that feels right. Then hold that position, so it can be photographed". (Everybody in the room, including the art team, performed this exercise.) In this painting, David chose the hands of Sabina as they crossed each other. Through Photoshop, he stretched the image for emotional effect and enlarged it as the starting point for the artwork. He saw the hands as representing the vital crossroads that force life-or-death decisions on a daily basis. Lucy added the green lines that cross each other on the lower left side of the painting, under-lapping one of the cathedrals.