

**MEDIA RELEASE: 17 OCTOBER 2018**

***The Fate of Things: Memory Objects and Art***

**Contemporary art exhibition that explores inherited memory, second-generational trauma and self-discovery**

**2<sup>nd</sup> November 2018 – 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

**[sydneyjewishmuseum.com.au/exhibition/fate-of-things](http://sydneyjewishmuseum.com.au/exhibition/fate-of-things)**

The Sydney Jewish Museum is pleased to launch its new temporary exhibition *The Fate of Things: Memory Objects and Art*. Developed by Australian artists Anne Zahalka and Sylvia Griffin, second generation Holocaust survivors, they address loss and family trauma in their works, attempting to make sense of their fragmented histories.

Through video, photography, assemblage, sculpture and textiles, the artists attempt to connect with lost family members and those never met, particularly female predecessors, to trace who they are today and how their characters have been formed over generations. Out of this process, the artists present an alternative experience of family heirlooms and archives through the frame of contemporary art.

**Anne Zahalka** is one of Australia's most highly-regarded photo-media artists, with an extensive career of exhibitions both in Australia and overseas. Her works are held in private collections and major cultural institutions. Anne's Austrian mother was sent to London on the *Kindertransport* before eventually arriving in Australia.

**Sylvia Griffin** is an installation artist whose work has been exhibited nationally and internationally. She has been a finalist in several of Australia's major art awards and prizes and holds a PhD from Sydney College of the Arts, University of Sydney. Sylvia's parents, Hungarian Holocaust survivors, migrated with her siblings to Australia after the war.

**Media note: The official opening of *The Fate of Things: Memory Objects and Art* is by invitation only and not to members of the general public. The exhibition will open to the general public from Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2018.**

**Media please RSVP for the launch to Kate Efrat or Ilana Heller on 9360 7999, 0410 522 339 or [marketing@sjm.com.au](mailto:marketing@sjm.com.au)**

**For images and interviews please contact Kate Efrat or Ilana Heller on 9360 7999, 0410 522 339 or email [marketing@sjm.com.au](mailto:marketing@sjm.com.au)**

**Please see over...**

## Exhibition Summary

**Exhibition:** *The Fate of Things: Memory Objects and Art*

**When:** 2 November 2018 – 28 February 2019

**Where:** Sydney Jewish Museum

**Address:** 148 Darlinghurst Road, Darlinghurst.

**What:** A person's memories are comprised of recollections of their own experiences, and those that they have inherited through photographs, home videos and family storytelling. Descendants of survivors of trauma often live with both the burden and the duty of remembering experiences that were not their own, from a time when they were not alive. For this exhibition, Australian artists Anne Zahalka and Sylvia Griffin, both Holocaust survivor descendants, interpret remnants and stories of their families' pasts through contemporary art practice to trace who they are today and how their characters have been formed over generations.

**Museum Opening Hours:** Monday to Thursday 10am-4.30pm. Friday 10am-3pm.  
Sunday 10am - 4pm. Closed Saturdays and Jewish holidays.

**Cost:** Museum entrance fee includes entry to exhibition.

Admission:

- Adult \$15
- Seniors \$12
- Children \$9 (under 10 enter free)
- Family \$32 (2 adults and 2 students)

**Website:** For further exhibition and museum information visit: [sydneyjewishmuseum.com.au](http://sydneyjewishmuseum.com.au)

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