Amsterdam

Conclusion

"As long as you speak about the Holocaust victims, they are still alive."

Baroness Regina Suchowolski-Sluszny

Hugo Daniel and Elisabeth Andriesses' dedication to philanthropy, civic and cultural engagement exemplifies the enduring contributions made by many Holocaust victims to European cultural heritage.

To reconstruct the story of the Andriesses' lives and looted art and textile collection, JDCRP contacted archives worldwide for archival evidence. While some documents are available online, others remain difficult to locate or hidden from public access in archives or libraries. Many of the necessary documents could only be located with the assistance of the numerous experts and archivists who helped make this exhibition possible.

Both of the Andriesses were born in the Netherlands, lived in Belgium, and fled via France and Portugal to the United States. The arc of their journey across Europe illustrates the pan-European dimensions of the cultural plunder by the Nazis, their allies, and collaborators. After the Andriesses fled Europe, the objects from their looted collection were scattered across Europe and ended up in locations worldwide. Some of the paintings and objects remain missing.

This exhibition seeks to recover the nearly forgotten legacy of Hugo Daniel and Elisabeth Andriesse and demonstrate the major gaps in European culture left behind by the antisemitic policies of National Socialism.

JDCRP is currently developing a digital platform to link documentation in archival repositories on the cultural property theft of Jewish victims of the Holocaust. As the platform grows, it will accelerate opportunities to uncover archival evidence such as the documentation used in this exhibition, lending long overdue recognition to the role of European Jews in shaping late-nineteenth and early twentieth-century cultural history.

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