



Quelle: <https://steinedererinnerung.net/publikationen/broschueren-zu-den-stationen/stationen-favoriten/>



Martha Brandweiner (née Laufer)

Martha, née Laufer, was born on December 27, 1893, on Rotenhofgasse, to her parents David and Ernestine Laufer. She married Heinrich in 1918, at the Humboldtgasse synagogue. Martha had two brothers who had fled before the outbreak of the war, Oscar (fled to Palestine) and Ernest (fled to Switzerland).

Martha lived in this house - 147 Favoritenstraße - for many years, working alongside her husband in the management of the radio spare parts business. She left her mark being involved in the Jewish community activities, and in the WZO kindergartens. She was very fond of cultural life, plays and opera, and between 1910-1915 Martha documented the performances in a rare diary she was keeping.

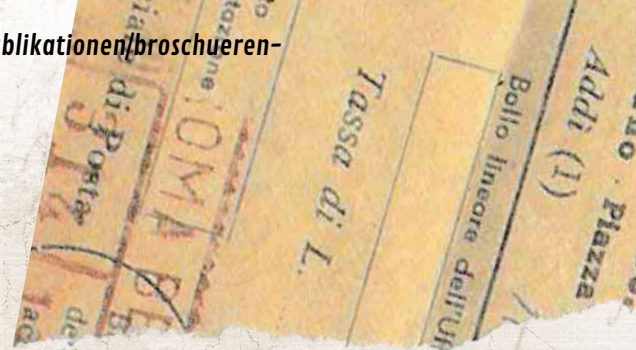
On "Kristallnacht" (November pogroms), rioters ransacked her apartment. After her apartment had been confiscated by the Nazi authorities, Martha fled to Brno, Czechoslovakia. She was left by herself, realizing that a grave danger was lurking. Although she still did not believe in the concept of extermination - the "final solution" - she tried to obtain an immigration certificate to Israel, or an exit permit in order to join her husband in England. Her husband, Heinrich, managed to obtain the long-awaited permit to leave Vienna on September 5, 1939.

But once the war broke out on September 1, 1939, Austria's borders were closed. Martha was deported to Theresienstadt, and from there in 1944, on the last transport leaving Theresienstadt, she was deported to Auschwitz extermination camp. Had the entry visa to England been obtained few days earlier - Martha could have left Austria in time, to reunite with her husband in England - and survive.





Quelle: <https://steinedererinnerung.net/publikationen/broschueren-zu-den-stationen/stationen-favoriten/>



Martha was a loving, caring woman, who tried to maintain a sense of humor even during difficult times. Her greatest love was her daughter, Trude, with whom she was forced to part with great sorrow in August 1938. From that moment on, she wrote loving letters to her daughter, which to this day are in the family's possession. It is a rare collection of intense outbursts of emotions and words of concern and love between mother and daughter. The last letter was written in mid-1939, then the letters were stopped due to censorship intervention.



Quelle:

<https://steinedererinnerung.net/publikationen/broschueren-zu-den-stationen/stationen-favoriten/>

The letters of the loving and caring mother which were sent to her daughter from August 1938 (the day they said good-bye) until mid-August 1939.





Quelle: <https://steinedererinnerung.net/publikationen/broschueren-zu-den-stationen/stationen-favoriten/>



Quelle:
<https://steinedererinnerung.net/publikationen/broschueren-zu-den-stationen/stationen-favoriten/>

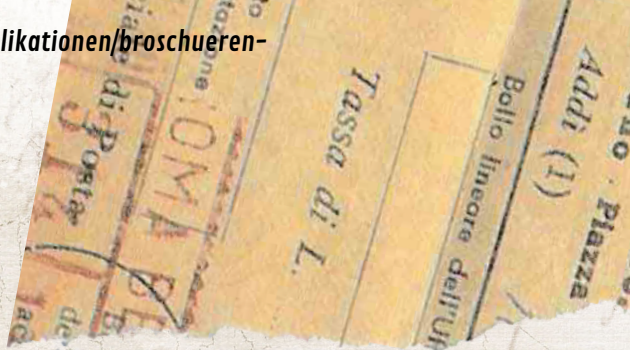
Martha and Trude, ca. 1930

It is said that Martha was one of the most beautiful women in Vienna.





Quelle: <https://steinedererinnerung.net/publikationen/broschueren-zu-den-stationen/stationen-favoriten/>



Trude Lang (née Brandweiner)

Trude Lang, née Brandweiner, was born at 147 Favoritenstraße on September 18, 1920. Trude had mixed feelings regarding this house before which we are standing, (and from which she was torn apart and separated from her family just before her 18th birthday). Her childhood here was wonderful, full of activity and experiences, and even the antisemitism she perceived all around did not prevent her from flourishing and blossoming and finding happiness in her childhood in Vienna.

Trude's parents were ardent Zionists. The young Trude was playful and athletic, full of energy and joie de vivre. She was a swimmer, fan of HaKoach Vienna soccer team, (the well-known Jewish sports association at that time), did not miss a day playing soccer herself, and skated on ice every winter. In addition, she attended every possible performance at the opera - on a standing ticket. During the summer, the family would go on a summer vacation to the Waldpension Hotel in the city of Gars - swimming in the stream with friends and family.

Trude's lifeline and luck was the fact that she was just short of 18 years of age when her parents managed to obtain for her a certificate to go to Palestine to study at the WZO girls' school in Tel Aviv - that's how Trude was saved - her parents had, as a matter of fact, sent her to life. It was a matter of timing - otherwise we would not be here today - the family she built in the Land of Israel.

Hoping to meet each other as early as possible, the parents said goodbye to Trude at the train station in Vienna (where the Haganah members gave her a dog trained to be a fighter in the Haganah Organization in Palestine). She travelled from the port of Venice to Jaffa port - where Uncle Oscar was waiting for her, helping her at the beginning of her new life in Palestine. Trude lived for a short time in a WZO residence until she vacated her room for other survivors who managed to leave Europe.

(Haganah: main Zionist paramilitary organization of the Jewish population ("Yishuv") in Mandatory Palestine between 1920 and its disestablishment in 1948)





Quelle: <https://steinedererinnerung.net/publikationen/broschueren-zu-den-stationen/stationen-favoriten/>



Trude and her friends at the WIZO School 1938-1939





Quelle: <https://steinedererinnerung.net/publikationen/broschueren-zu-den-stationen/stationen-favoriten/>



Quelle: <https://steinedererinnerung.net/publikationen/broschueren-zu-den-stationen/stationen-favoriten/>



Hans und Trude ca. 1942/43

The first period in Israel was difficult, Trude worked as a housekeeper and seamstress for an employer whom she regarded as her adoptive mother. She got to sew clothes for all the women of Tel Aviv in a well-known sewing salon. Later, at her home, she started to create and produce belts for large factories that provided her with work. Acquiring the profession her parents had outlined for her was a lifeline in her new life.

In 1943, Trude married Dr. Hans Lang, who was born in Graz, Austria, and began her life in the beloved Tel Aviv apartment on 3 Zvi Bruck Street. At that time 3 families lived in the apartment - each family in a room, sharing the kitchen and the bathroom. Only at a later stage the other tenants left the apartment.

Her son, Mickey (Michael David) was born in 1946 in Tel Aviv; and her daughter Miri Martha (Miriam Martha, named after her mother) was born in 1954 in Vienna, after Trude and Hans had returned to live in Vienna between 1952-1961.





Quelle: <https://steinedererinnerung.net/publikationen/broschueren-zu-den-stationen/stationen-favoriten/>



Trude's real home was 3 Zvi Bruck, Tel Aviv. For her, it was a symbol of security and survival, and so she held on to it until her last moments, where she died on June 23, 2019, at the age of 99, surrounded by her loving family.

This apartment was also a meeting place for friends, most of them from Austria, a place where every Friday they met for a modest Shabbat dinner, exchanging views on news, culture and friends, feeling like one new family in the new State of Israel, as most of them lost their families in the Holocaust. Trude loved her children very much and later her seven grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren.

She helped as much as she could, and in addition to her unlimited love, she strove to give us an added value of moral values, kindness and compassion that accompany us to this day. She was a personality that radiated on all of us. She wrote very little about her home in Vienna and about her lost family. Trude's legacy, a long-standing legacy of a chain of generations, her optimism, hope and joie de vivre - are an inalienable, iron-clad asset for all of us.

The extended family that Trude built - is the victory of us all.

Miri Iny
Sharon Gera
Ronit Lang



Quelle: <https://steinedererinnerung.net/publikationen/broschueren-zu-den-stationen/stationen-favoriten/>





Quelle: <https://steinedererinnerung.net/publikationen/broschueren-zu-den-stationen/stationen-favoriten/>



Family photo - 1923, grandparents David and Ernestine (née Bratmann) Laufer, daughter Martha Brandweiner (née Laufer) and Heinrich Brandweiner with the girl, Trude Brandweiner - later in Israel - Trude Lang (by marriage).

Quelle: <https://steinedererinnerung.net/publikationen/broschueren-zu-den-stationen/stationen-favoriten/>

