

Art Spirituality
and the Aftermath of the Holocaust
a documentary

“TO REMEMBER TO RETURN”

by

Carola de Vries Robles, born on the
ruins of the Holocaust in 1946, in
Amsterdam, the Netherlands .

the art

of turning one’s life story into prayer.



It is a narrative inquiry, showing how
Jewish spiritual practices and
transformative artmaking are
powerful sources for self-
transformation and healing.

It is about learning to face and bless
what is.

Carola’s drawings and monoprints/
etchings, made during her search for
traces of her mother’s mother family
in Germany, and of her innerwork , are
shown in a flow. Inviting to move
through, move on. Turning pain and
strife into beauty and soulstrength.

It is not about trauma and recovery.
It is about existential sorrow.
and the fundamental quest “what
does it mean to be a Human Being.”
Questioning:

How to respond to the aftermath of
the Holocaust, within. ?

How to respond to the Post Holocaust
Remembrance Culture.?

Can we soften our fate?

The documentary follows the
soul longing in coming home. By
returning to the root of the soul, by
delving deep and surfacing , one can
learn to purify negative emotions and
to deconstruct stories Opening the
Gates of the Heart.

Finding wholeness in brokenness,
bringing light in dark matters and
uncovering the truth of one’s life.

The documentary (1 hour) is meant to
be used as learning material, in
combination with deep listening,
reflection and dialogue, for holocaust
education, and spiritual growth.

Freeing the impulse to love and create
beauty.

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