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November 17, 2008

Vassar professor to give reading from memoir on childhood as the son of impoverished Holocaust survivors

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"Mama's is sobbing over a photograph... [Her] shoulders are rounded, as if something is broken somewhere in the middle of her body, her straight grey-brown hair falls over her face, covering it so I cannot see her well. I wait for one second, but she doesn't look up, so I leave feeling that I was intruding."

Accomplished author and associate professor of Hispanic studies at Vassar, Mihai Grünfeld will read from his critically acclaimed memoir of a post-Holocaust childhood, *Leaving – Memories of Romania*, on Saturday, December 6. The reading, to be followed by a reception, will begin at 4:00 pm in the Aula in Ely Hall. Both are free and open to the public. Books will be available for purchase at the reception.

Set in Cluj, the third largest city of Romania, where Grünfeld was born in 1951, *Leaving* recounts the author's childhood as the son of impoverished Holocaust survivors.

As he grows up the narrator becomes increasingly aware of his parents' isolation and untold histories. Gradually the story of an innocent child's loving relationship with his parents evolves into a powerful tale of complex family dynamics shaped by dreams of escaping the debilitating poverty and repression in Communist Romania.

"In his touching memoir, Mihai Grünfeld takes us by the hand on a remarkable pilgrimage of survival, love, sadness,

yearning, oppression and escape . . . It is a powerful narrative in its own right, but it is the sweet, unadorned, authentic voice of the writer that makes this book utterly unforgettable," said Steven Lewis, bestselling author of *Zen and the Art of Fatherhood*.

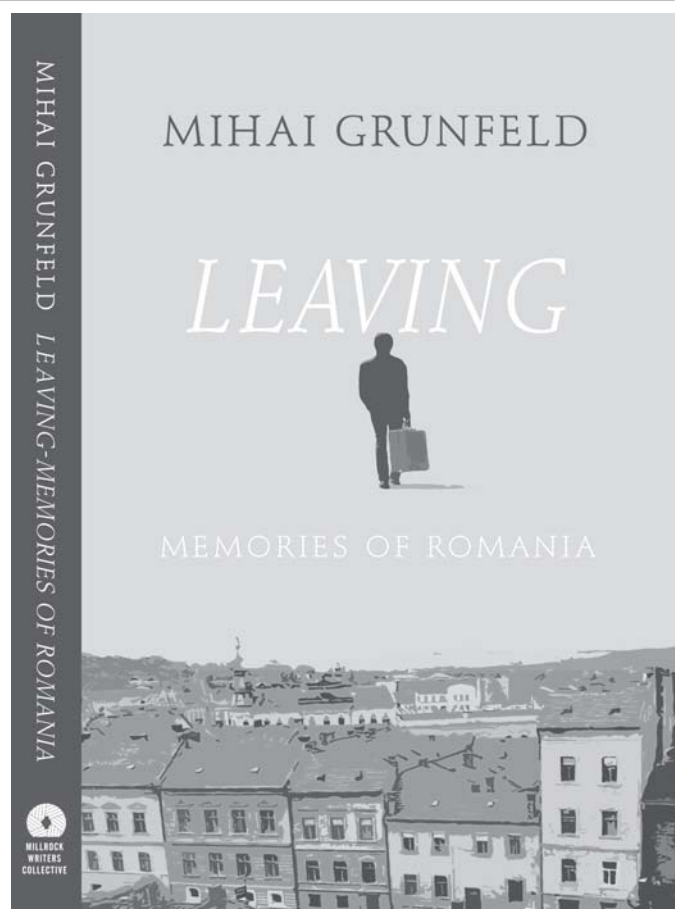
Gerald Sorin, Distinguished Teaching Professor and director of Jewish Studies at SUNY New Paltz, similarly praised the memoir as ". . . comparable in richness to the writings of Eva Hoffman, Art Spiegelman, and Melvin Jules Bukiet."

Grünfeld left Romania in January 1969 and began a search for a new home that took him to Czechoslovakia, Israel, Italy, Sweden, and Canada. While in Canada, he obtained a BA degree in Spanish and French at the University of Toronto.

The author eventually settled in the United States and obtained a doctorate in Latin American literature from the University of California at Berkeley.

At Vassar, Grünfeld researches modern Latin American poetry and the intersection between literature and the arts in between teaching in the Department of Hispanic Studies.

Additional information about *Leaving – Memories of Romania*, published by the Millrock Writers Collective, is available at www.millrockwriters.com or www.Leaving-MemoriesofRomania.com.



The 16th Annual Party for Children Adopted from Romania and their families

The Romanian Embassy to Washington D.C.
Dec 4, 2008



Final Judgement given in favour of U&L in recovering the money from past president Stefan Minovici

Helen Felean

Helen Felean, a 70 year member of the Union & League of Romanian Society's fell asleep in the Lord on Tuesday May 13, 2008. She was born in Akron, Ohio on September 25, 1921 to William & Margaret Goron, also life long members of the Union & League. She was preceded in death by husband Gregor in 1981, and is survived by sons Larry (Sarella) and William (Nancy) Felean and daughter Nancy Marie (Tim) Jordan; a brother Dino Goron and sister Millie (Ernie) Lorenzo and 8 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Helen served as a delegate to many National Conventions and as the lodge financial secretary for almost fifteen years until failing health required that she step down from an active roll in this position.

The service of the burial was held at The Presentation of Our Lord Orthodox Church in Fairlawn, Ohio by the V. Rev. Fr Dr.. Ian Pac-Urar on Friday May 16, 2008 with burial at Rose Hill Cemetery in Fairlawn, Ohio.

Raymond R. Tyulty

Raymond R. Tyulty, Sr., a 71 year member of the Union & League of Romanian Society's fell asleep in the Lord on July 3, 2008. Ray was born in Akron, Ohio on January 9, 1914 to Nicholas & Anna Tyulty, Romanian emigrants and staunch supporters of the Union & League. He served in the US Army during World War II in the intelligence section as an interpreter of both the Romanian and Hungarian language. Ray attended many of the National Conventions, served on the National Executive Committee under several U & L Presidents, and took great pride when discussing the benefits of taking membership and being involved, especially in his own lodge, Romania Libera a Neamului Romanesc. Ray served as President of the lodge, and for over thirty years was the Financial Secretary.

The service of the burial was held at The Presentation of Our Lord Orthodox Church in Fairlawn, Ohio by the V. Rev. Fr. Dr. Ian Pac-Urar on Tuesday July 8, 2008 with burial at Rose Hill Cemetery in Fairlawn, Ohio.

May God grant rest to the soul of His servants, and our long time friends and supporters of Romania Libera a Neamului Romanesc Soc.

JAN 2 8 2008

CIVIL COURT OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF NEW YORK

The Union League Of Romanian Societies
Stefan Minovici

AETNA
M&A No. 112920
Index No. 008726/07
Calendar No.

Plaintiff(s)
against
Defendant(s)

Judgment Rendered in Favor of
The Union League Of Romanian Societies

Residing at
7805 Brookpark Rd.
Parma, OH 44129
Plaintiff(s)

Amount awarded after Motion	\$	22300.00
Interest	\$	1990.50
Total	\$	24290.50

Costs by Statute	\$	50.00
Service of summons and complaint	\$	25.00
Filing of summons and complaint	\$.00
Prospective Marshal's Fee	\$	40.00
Filing of Notice of Trial	\$.00
Fee for Index Number	\$	45.00
Total	\$	160.00
Total	\$	24450.50

STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF NEW YORK

ATTORNEY'S AFFIRMATION

The undersigned, attorney at law of the State of New York, one of* the attorney(s) of record for the plaintiff(s) in the above entitled action, states that the disbursements above specified have been or will necessarily be made or incurred therein and are reasonable in amount.

That a decision has been rendered after a motion in favor of the Plaintiff and judgment is pursuant to the court's award.

The undersigned affirms this statement to be true under the penalties of perjury.

Dated: Jan 14, 2008

JAN 14 2008
JEFFREY A. MAIDENBAUM

JUDGMENT entered on 19 08 2008
The summons and complaint in this action having been served on

Stefan Minovici
the defendant(s) herein on 03/02/07 and the judgment rendered in favor of plaintiff(s) against said defendant(s) after arbitration on

NOW, ON MOTION OF MAIDENBAUM & ASSOCIATES P.L.L.C. One Broadcast Plaza Suite 218 Merrick, NY 11566 (516) 223-8553 attorney(s) for the plaintiff(s) it is,

ADJUDGED that The Union League Of Romanian Societies *plaintiff(s)*, residing at 7805 Brookpark Rd. Parma, OH 44129 recover(s) of Stefan Minovici *defendant(s)*, residing at 45 Broadway-Room 2230 New York, NY 10006 the sum of \$ 22300.00 with interest of \$ 1990.50 making a total of \$ 24290.50 together with \$ 160. costs and disbursements, amounting in all to the sum of \$ 24450.50 and that plaintiff(s) have execution therefor.

JACK BAER
Chief Clerk
Clerk

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