



**Centre for Peace  
and Conflict Studies**



**The University of Sydney**



**BLACK GRASS**

Holocaust Stories

By: Bernard Otterman

## ***Bernard Otterman***

Holocaust survivor, author of *The Golem of Auschwitz*, will be discussing his background and reading from his new short story collection entitled *Black Grass: Holocaust Stories* (Jewish Heritage Press). *Black Grass* was recently translated and published in China and will be released in English later this year.

**April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2006 at 12.30 p.m.**  
**The University of Sydney**  
**Centre for Peace and**  
**Conflict Studies**  
**Room 107**  
**Mackie Building**  
**Arundel St, Glebe**

To explore the meaning of the Holocaust, Dr Otterman turned to creative writing. His first collection of short stories, *Golem of Auschwitz: Stories* (Slovo-Word Publishing House, New York, 2001), weave compelling tales that contain glimmers from his own experience. The stories are set in the correct historical context, but the characters are imaginary. And to also reach a Russian audience, the book was published in Russian on one side of the page, English on the other. Bernard Otterman locates some of his stories in the ghettos and the camps, others in the aftermath of WWII. This double narrative perspective greatly enriches his collection, whose stories are often chilling but always powerful and imaginative.

“From ‘The Golem of Auschwitz,’ where a golem is created from ashes and water, to ‘Lego Lager,’ where the son of a Nazi assumes the identity of a young Jewish Birkenau inmate, readers will be captivated by characters they will never forget.”

-Patrick G. Henry, author of *Banishing the Coercion of Despair: Le Chambon-sur-Lignon and The Holocaust Today*.

**Copies of *The Golem of Auschwitz* will be available for sale at a book signing after the seminar.**

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