

Ceija STOJKA // BIOGRAPHY

Born on May 23, 1933 in Kraubath, Styrie (AT)
 Died on January 28, 2013 in Vienna (AT)

1933
 Birth of Ceija Stojka at Kraubath, Austria

1939
 Decree assigning Tziganes in residence. Her father and her sisters work in a factory, the younger children go to school.

1941
 Her father is arrested and deported to Dachau, Neuengamme and Sachsenhausen concentration camps.

1942
 Her father dies in Hartheim Castel Death Camp in High Austria.

1943
 The rest of the family is arrested and locked in Rossauer Lände Prison. Then they are deported to Auschwitz-Birkenau where each member of the family gets a matricule tattoo. The family is held among 23 000 other Roms in the section called "Tzigane Camp". Her brother dies from typhus inoculated by the nazis during medical experiments.

1944
 Her sister Mitzi is deported to Ravensbrück, and then transferred to Buchenwald. Once the "Tzigane Camp" is dismantled, Ceija with her mother and sister Kathi are deported to Ravensbrück while their brothers, Karli and Hansi, go to Buchenwald.

1945
 Kathi is then deported to the forced labor camp of Rechlin/Retzau. Ceija and her mother are sent to Bergen-Belsen. They are released by the British troops on April 15. It takes them four months to walk back to Vienna through Germany. They miraculously find there Kathi, Hans and Karl who also survived.

1946
 The family gets back to normal life and horse trading.

1949
 She gives birth to her son, Hodja.

1951
 She gives birth to her daughter, Silvia, in Vienna.

1955
 She gives birth to her son, Jano, in Vienna. Ceija works as a cloth

merchant

1959
 She obtains a license to sell carpets on markets, a job she's been doing until 1984.

1979
 Death of her son, Jano, on October 11.

1986
 She meets Karin Berger, a film maker

1988
 Publication of *Wir leben im Verborgenen – Erinnerungen einer Rom-Zigeunerin*. Ceija starts to draw and paint.

1992
 Publication of *Reisende auf dieser Welt. Aus dem Leben einer Rom-Zigeunerin* by Ceija.

1993
 Bruno Kreisky Political Book Prize for *Wir leben im Verborgenen*

1999
 Karin Berger releases her movie *Ceija Stojka*.

2000
 She is awarded the Joseph Felder Prize by the Bavarian State Council.
 Ceija releases her music album *Me Dikhlem Suno [I made a Dream]*.

2001
 Gold Medal of Merit by the Federal State of Vienna.
 She gives talks in Japan, England and Germany

2003
 Publication of *Meine Wahl zu schreiben - ich kann es nicht*.
 Poems in Romani and German.

2005
 Humanitarian Medal of the city of Linz
 Gold Medal of Merit awarded by the Federal State of Upper Austria.
 Sortie du film de Karin Berger, *Unter den Brettern hellgrünes Gras* et du livre *Träume ich, dass ich lebe? Befreit aus Bergen-Belsen*.

2006
 Ceija Stojka and Karin Berger receive the Austrian Television Documentary Award for *Unter den Brettern hellgrünes Gras*.

2008
 Order of Merit awarded by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture.
 Catalogue publication: *Ceija Stojka, Auschwitz ist mein Mantel*.

2013
 On January 28, Ceija Stojka dies after a long illness.

2014
 New square on Lerchenfelder Straße in Vienna is named *Ceija-Stojka-Platz*.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2026

[Coming soon]

The Drawing Center, New York City (US)

Musée des Beaux-Arts et d'archéologie, Musée de la résistance et de la déportation de Besançon, Besançon (FR)

2024

Une oeuvre entre lumière et ombre, Galerie Christophe Gaillard, Brussels (BE)

Hope: That was what strengthened us, Museum.Ebensee, Ebensee (AT)

Sush a long journey, Galerie Christophe Gaillard, Paris (FR)

Ceija Stojka : We lived in Secrecy (a Roma Memory),

Galerie Georges-Philippe & Nathalie Vallois, New-York (US)

Ceija Stojka (1933-2013) - I can't forget, Museum of the City of Lodz, Łódź (PL)

2023

Ceija Stojka: We Were Ashamed, ERIAC, Berlin (DE)

What should I be afraid of, Austrian Cultural Forum, curators : Lorely French, Carina Kurta, Stephanie Buhmann, New York (US)

2021

Ceija Stojka, MU.SA – Sintra Museum of Arts within the LEFFEST Film Festival, Sintra (PT)

Galerie Christophe Gaillard, Paris (FR)

Ceija Stojka, Malmo Kunsthalle, Malmo (SE)

2020

This has happened, Ceija Stojka, curators: Paula Aisemberg, Noëlig Le Roux, Xavier Marchand, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid (ES)

2019

Ceija Stojka - War memories of a Roma, curators: Paula Aisemberg, Noëlig Le Roux, Xavier Marchand, Het Valkhof Museum, Nijmegen (NL)

2018

Ceija Stojka, une artiste Rom dans le siècle, curators:

Antoine de Galbert, Xavier Marchand, La Maison rouge, Paris (FR)

Et même les mots ne suffisaient pas, Galerie Christophe Gaillard, Paris (FR)

2017

Ceija Stojka, une artiste Rom dans le siècle, curators:

Antoine de Galbert, Xavier Marchand, La Friche Belle de Mai, Marseille (FR)

2015

Wir leben im Verborgenen, Heidelberger Kunstverein, Heidelberg (DE)

2014

Ceija Stojka: ich habe dir 1000 Bilder gemalt..., Bezirksmuseum Neubau, Vienna (AT)

Ceija Stojka, die Hellen Bilder, Ceija Stojka, Kai Dikhas Gallery, Berlin (DE)

Ceija Stojka, We were ashamed, Gallery 8, Budapest (HU)

Ceija Stojka, Sogar der Tod hat Angst vor Auschwitz (Even Death Is Terrified of Auschwitz, Vi o merino oral katar o Auschwitz), multilocation exhibition, curators: Matthias Reichelt and Lith Bahlmann, Kunstverein Tiergarten, Berlin; Galerie Schwartzsche Villa, Kulturamt Steglitz-Zehlendorf, Berlin; Ravensbrück Women's Concentration Camp, Fürstenberg/Havel (DE)

2012

Ceija Stojka, Wind Erinnerungen, Kai Dikhas Gallery, Berlin (DE)

2009-2010

LIVE-DANCE-PAINT, travelling exhibition, curators: Lorely French and Michaela Grobbel, Cawein gallery, Pacific University; Sonoma State University Library Art Gallery, Rohnert Park, California; West Branch Gallery, Stowe Vermont (US)

Ceija Stojka : Living, Museum of Romani Culture, Brno (CZ)

2006

Ceija Stojka : ich bin eine Wurzel aus Österreich, Altes Rathaus, Linz (AT)

2004

Ceija Stojka, a Life, curators: Gerhard Milchram Jewish Museum, Vienna (AT)

2001

Ceija Stojka, Ich habe Angst, Auschwitz könnte nur schlafen, Stadtgalerie, Kiel (DE)

1991

Pictures from the life of a Romni, curators: Christa Stippinge, Amerlinghaus, Vienna (AT)

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2026

[Coming soon]

University of Passau, Passau (DE)

2025

Fabular paisajes, Palacio Victòria Eugènia, Palacio Muja, Barcelona (ES)

The Permanent Collection, Museum Ludwig, Köln (DE)

Flowers, 13th Berlin Biennale, Berlin (DE)

Apocalypse: Hier et demain, BNF François-Mitterrand, Paris (FR)

Festival du dessin : Collection d'Antoine de Galbert, Arles (FR)

A Deeper Shade of Soul, h3h Biennale, Oosterhout (NL)

Chaque vie est une histoire, Palais de la Porte Dorée, Paris (FR)

2023

Barvalo, MUCEM, Marseille (FR)

Mein Bild. Dein Bild. Valéry Leray, Ceija Stojka, Otto Pankok, Pankok Museum, Hünxe-Drevenack (DE)

Choreographies of the impossible, 35th Bienal de São Paulo, commissaires : Diane Lima, Grada Kilomba, Hélio Menezes and Manuel Borja-Villel, Sao Paulo (BZ)

Roma Life, Wende Museum, Culver City (US)

2022

Kriege, die nie enden, Erste Stiftung, Vienna (AT)

Manifesta Prishtina 2022, collective exhibition ALL

THAT WE HAVE IN COMMON, curators Mira Gakina and Jovanka Popova, Museum of Contemporary Art Skopje (MKD)

Biennale Matter of Art, collective exhibition, curators: Aziza Harmel, Rado Ištók, Renan Laruan, Piotr Sikora and the tranzit.cz collective, Prague (CZ)

Documenta 15 Kassel, group exhibition One Day We Shall Celebrate Again: RomaMoMa, ERIAC, Kassel (DE)

Train Zug Treno Train, destins croisés, Photo Elysée, Lausanne (CH)

Ceija Stojka solo show, Art Basel/feature, Basel, (SW)

La Memoria Invicta, Factoria Cultural Sevilla, Sevilla (ES)

Traverser la nuit, MAAT (Museum of Art, Architecture and Technology), Lisbonne (PT)

Swim the Mountain Climb the Sea, Tim Van Laere Gallery,

Antwerp (BE)

2020

Galerie Christophe Gaillard, ARCO Madrid (ES)

2019

Actually, the Dead Are Not Dead, Bergen Assembly, Bergen (NO)
Not the End. Artists interpret the Holocaust, curators: Sandra Weil & Bertil Bäckström, Levande Historia, Stockholm (SE)
Collection Marin Karmitz, MUNTREF Hotel de Inmigrantes, Buenos Aires (AR)
For a Single Body, ERSTE STIFTUNG, Vienna (AT)

2016

Retour sur l'abîme, l'art à l'épreuve du génocide, curators: Philippe Cyroulnik and Nicolas Surlapierre, 19 Crac and Musée de Belfort (FR)

2015

Romane Thana. Orte der Roma und Sinti, Wien Museum, Vienna (AT)

2011

Reconsidering Roma, Aspects of Roma and Sinti Art in contemporary life, Kunstquartier Bethanien, Berlin (DE)

1993

Reisende auf dieser Welt Amerlinghaus, Vienna (AT)

COLLECTIONS

Collection Florence et Daniel Guerlain (FR)
Collection Marin Karmitz (FR)
Collection DBRM (FR)
Collection Volot (FR)
Moderna Museet, (Stockholm, SE)
Museum of Romani Culture, Brno (CZ)
Wien Museum, Vienna (AT)
Erste Collection, Vienna (AT)
Memorial Site CC Ravensbrück (DE)
Bergen-Belsen Memorial/Gedenkstätte Bergen-Belsen (DE)
Ludwig Museum, Köln (DE)
MUCEM, Marseille (FR)
Collection Antoine de Galbert, Paris (FR)
Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid (SP)
FRAC Auvergne (FR)
House of European History, Brussels (BE)
Musée national de l'Histoire de l'Immigration, Paris (FR)
Pinault Collection, Paris (FR)
Warsaw Ghetto Museum, Warsaw (PL)

PUBLICATIONS

2025

Le jour lui n'a qu'un jour : Sept textes sur Ceija Stojka, Elora Weill-Engerer, Galerie Christophe Gaillard, Editions Sombres torrents, coll. Mémoires vives
I have Freedom : Ceija Stojka, Monika Weychert, Noël Le Roux and Mirjam-Angela, edited by Taras Gembik, Joanna Talewicz and Małgorzata Kołaczek

2023

Roma artist Ceija Stojka, what should I be afraid of, Hirmer Editions, Munchen (DE)

2022

The Memoirs of Ceija Stojka, Child Survivor of the Romani Holocaust, Lorely French, Women and Gender in German Studies, Editions Camden House

2021

Catalogue d'exposition: *Ceija Stojka, The paper is patient*, (Allemand, Suédois, Français et Anglais), Éditions Paraguay, Paris (FR)

2019

Exhibition catalogue: *Ceija Stojka. Esto ha pasado* (Spanish), Editions Museo Reina Sofia, Madrid (ES)

2018

Exhibition catalogue: *Ceija Stojka, une artiste rom dans le siècle* (French & English) Éditions Fage, Lyon (FR)
Ceija Stojka, Auschwitz est mon manteau et autres chants tsiganes, (French), Éditions Bruno Doucey, Paris (FR)
Ceija Stojka, Nous vivons cachés, souvenirs d'une Romni entre les mondes, (French), Éditions Isabelle Sauvage, Plounéour-Ménez (FR)

2017

Ceija Stojka, T.O.T. Éditions Le Dernier Cri, Marseille (FR)
Ceija Stojka, Paroles d'artiste, (French), Éditions Fage, Lyon (FR)

2016

Ceija Stojka, Je rêve que je vis, Libérée de Bergen-Belsen, (French) Éditions Isabelle Sauvage, Plounéour-Ménez (FR)

2015

Romane Thana: Orte der Roma und Sinti, (German) Czernin Verlag, Vienna (AT)

2014

Exhibition catalogue: *Ceija Stojka : Sogar der Tod hat Angst vor Auschwitz*, (German, English & Romanian) Verlag für moderne kunst, Vienna (AT)

2013

Ceija Stojka: Wir leben im Verborgenen. Aufzeichnungen einer Romni zwischen den Welten. Hrsg. and with an essay by Karin Berger. Ed. Picus Verlag, Vienna (AT)

2009

Live-Dance-Paint: Ceija Stojka's Life & Art. Introduction by Lorely French, (English) Stowe, Vt: West Branch Gallery and Sculpture Park (AT)

2008

Ceija Stojka, Auschwitz ist mein Mantel, Images et textes. Ed. Christa Stippinger, (German) Exil Verlag, Frankfurt (DE)

1995

Ceija Stojka, images et textes, 1989 - 1995, Patricia Meier-Rogan. Eigenverlag, (German) Vienna (AT)

PRESS REVIEW (SELECTION)

2025

Le Point : *Demain, la fin du monde ?*, by Élise Lépine, 18/02/2025 (FR)

Oregon ArtsWatch, *Seeking Warmth: A Romani artist who survived the Holocaust paints memories gentle and harsh*, by Friderike Heue, 17/03/2025 (US)

El Pais, *Borja-Villel materializa su andanada contra los museos tradicionales con la exposición 'Fabular paisajes'*,

by Jacinto Antón, 26/06/2025 (ES)

2024

Télérama Sortir N°3874 : *Ceija Stojka - Such a long journey*, by Laurent Boudier, 10/04/2024 (FR)
Voyageurs du monde : *Ceija Stojka, La vie avant tout*, 19/03/2024 (FR)

2023

Frieze : 'All That We Have in Common' Addresses the Absence of Roma Visual Culture, by Erëmirë Krasniqi dans EU Reviews, 11/01/2023 (GB)
The Brooklyn Rail : *Ceija Stojka: What Should I be Afraid of?*, by Rebecca Schiffman, 09/2023 (US)

2022

Artsy news / Art market : *The 10 Best Booths at Art Basel in Basel*, by Brian P. Kelly, 15/06/2022 (US)

2021

Libération : *Ceija Stojka du paradis rom perdu à l'enfer des camps*, by Elisabeth Franck-Dumas, 14/09/2021 (FR)

2020

Konbini News: *Rescapée de trois camps de concentration, Ceija Stojka peint ses traumatismes*, by Pauline Allione, 12/03/2020 (FR)
Kunstforum International N°266: *Esto ha pasado [Das ist geschehen]*, by Matthias Reichelt, 23/02/2020 (ES)
El Pais: *La niña entre los muertos*, by Elvira Lindo 09/02/2020 (ES)
The New York Times: *The Survivor of Auschwitz Who Painted a Forgotten Genocide*, by Jason Farago, 27/01/2020 (US)
Die Zeit: *Irgendwie geht es doch weiter*, by Maren Häußermann, 27/01/2020 (DE)
Contrainformacion.es: *Ceija Stojka, la artista romaní que sobrevivió al Holocausto nazi para pintarlo*, 24/01/2020 (ES)
Artsy: *The Artist Who Survived Three Concentration Camps and Captured Her Trauma in Art*, by Lauren Moya Ford, 17/01/2020 (US)

2019

The Guardian: 'She worked against forgetting': Holocaust survivor's art goes on display, by Sam Jones, 02/12/2019, (GB)
El Pais: *El arte marginal se coloca en el centro de los grandes museos*, by Silvia Hernando, 21/11/2019 (ES)
El Pais : *Ceija Stojka: memoria del genocidio nazi*, by Angela Molina, 26/11/2019 (ES)
Neues Deutschland: *Von der Seele gemalt*, by Matthias Reichelt, 04/12/2019 (DE)

2018

Télérama: *Ceija Stojka, Et même les mots ne suffisaient pas*, by Laurent Boudier, 06/06/2018 (FR)
le Temps: *Le travail de mémoire de Ceija Stojka*, by Eric Tariant, 25/05/2018, FR
Le Quotidien de l'Art: *Ceija Stojka, le making of de l'exposition de la Maison rouge*, by Emmanuelle Lequeux, 16/02/2018 (FR)
Beaux-Arts magazine: *Ceija Stojka La voix et le pinceau d'un peuple*, by Emmanuelle Lequeux, Mars 2018 (FR)
La Vie: *Ceija Stojka, la vie malgré tout*, by Isabelle Francq, 15/03/2018 (FR)
L'Humanité: *Une œuvre puissante entre le goût de la vie et la mort*, by Maurice Ulrich, 27/03/2018 (FR)
Mediapart: *Nous vivons cachés, récits d'une Romni à travers le siècle: Ceija Stojka*, by Jean-Claude Leroy, 06/03/2018 (FR)
Dulmener Zeitung: *Das Grauen zeigen*, by Sabine Glaubitz, , 01/03/2018 (DE)
La peinture à l'épreuve de l'histoire, Tageblatt, Luxembourg,

19/03/2018 (FR)

Le Figaro: *Ceija Stojka : une artiste rom entre art brut et art naïf*, by Valérie Duponchelle, 23/03/2018 (FR)
L'œil: *Ceija Stojka, Enfer et beauté*, by Colin Cyvoct, avril 2018 (FR)
Télérama: *Ceija Stojka, une artiste rom dans le siècle*, by Lorraine Rossignol, 07/04/2018 (FR)
Le Journal des Arts: *Le travail de mémoire de Ceija Stojka*, by Colin Cyvoct, 30/03/2018 (FR)
La Quinzaine littéraire: *La dimension universelle d'une œuvre*, by Johanna Lasry, 16/04/2019 (FR)
Avec force, Michel Verlinden, Focus vif, 19/04/2018, FR
Elle magazine: *Mémoire vive*, by Soline Delos, 27/04/2018 (FR)
H Art: *Ceija Stojka in La maison rouge*, par Nanda Janssen, 22/03/2018 (FR)
Art press: *Ceija Stojka, une artiste rom dans le siècle*, by Claire Margat, 05/2018 (FR)
La libre Belgique: *Les peintures tragiques de Ceija Stojka*, by Roger Pierre Turine, 09/05/2018 (BE)

2017

M, le magazine du monde: *Ceija Stojka, A la découverte d'une artiste majeure*, by Florence Aubenas, 24/02/2017 (FR)
Télérama: *L'artiste rom réchappée des camps*, by Lorraine Rossignol, 18/03/2017 (FR)

2016

Augsburger Allgemeine: *Ihre Angst ist in Auschwitz geblieben*, 27/01/2016 (DE)

2014

Kunstforum International: *Sogar der Tod hat Angst vor Auschwitz*, by Vera Tollmann, 08/2014 (FR)
Konkret N°8: *Es gelang mir nie, das zu vergessen*, by Sabine Lueken, 08/2014 (DE)
Gießener Anzeiger: *Sogar der Tod hat Angst vor Auschwitz*, by Heidrun Helwig, 02/08/2014 (DE)
Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, 31/07/2014 (DE)
Die Tageszeitung: *Die vielen Augenpaare im Gebüsch*, by Katrin Bettina Muller, 02/07/2014 (DE)
Der Tagesspiegel: *Ausstellung Ceija Stojka*, by Kreise der Hölle, 07/07/2014 (DE)

2013

Der Tagesspiegel: *Die Galerie Kai Dikhas zeigt Kunst von Sinti und Roma*, 26/01/2013 (DE)
Die Tageszeitung: *Erinnerungen der Roma-Autorin Ceija Stojka*, by Babette Schröder, 27/09/1993 (DE)