Press Contact:

Lindsey Horvitz, The WNET Group, 212.560.6609, [horvitzl@wnet.org](mailto:horvitzl@wnet.org)

Press materials: [pbs.org/pressroom](https://pressroom.pbs.org/) or [thirteen.org/pressroom](http://thirteen.org/pressroom)

**The WNET Group, Retro Report and HiddenLight Present the U.S. Broadcast Premiere of *How Saba Kept Singing* April 18 on PBS in Honor of Holocaust Remembrance Day**

David “Saba” Wisnia never told his wife, children or grandchildren the whole truth about how he survived the Nazi concentration and extermination camp Auschwitz-Birkenau. The family knew his singing voice had entertained the guards, and that his musical gift had changed his fate, but David’s grandson Avi Wisnia suspects there is more to his Saba’s story. ***How Saba Kept Singing*** traces a remarkable journey revealing a touching firsthand account of how David, a Polish Jewish teenager, survived nearly three years in the camp. ***How Saba Kept Singing*** premieres nationwide on Tuesday, April 18 on PBS (check local listings), pbs.org and the PBS App in honor of Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom Hashoah).

"The pain and horror of the Holocaust must never be forgotten. HiddenLight Productions is proud to partner with director Sara Taksler and producers Retro Report to bring David Wisnia's remarkable story to the screen," said Hillary Rodham Clinton, executive producer and former U.S. Secretary of State.

***How Saba Kept Singing*** illuminates David’s past as he travels with his grandson to Poland to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the camp’s liberation. The story is also brought to life through dynamic animation and David and Avi Wisnia’s music. The film had its world premiere at Hot Docs festival in April 2022.

Music was part of David’s life from an early age when he was a soloist in his synagogue’s choir as a child. He believes his singing voice earned him a more privileged existence in the camp. Music, Avi learns, is also what brings together David and fellow prisoner Helen “Zippi” Spitzer, a musician and artist tasked with creating a scale model of the camp. Zippi’s role allowed her to move freely between the women’s and the men’s camps and enabled her to orchestrate their encounters. David and Zippi promised to find each other if they survived but they lost contact. ***How Saba Kept Singing*** reunites David and Zippi 70 years later, sharing their account of their unimaginable memories.

“David Wisnia's remarkable story of love in ***How Saba Kept Singing*** is inspiring and I hope you will find it as uplifting as I do," said Chelsea Clinton, executive producer for HiddenLight Productions.

“I met the Wisnia family when I was three-years-old, said director, producer and writer Sara Taksler. “Learning more about David and Zippi showed me that, even in the most dire of circumstances, art, music and human connection can spark the will to keep going. Seeing the examples of good people standing up in times of injustice was incredibly uplifting.”

“At a time when antisemitic incidents are on the rise, it is more important than ever to document stories from survivors of the Holocaust,” said Kyra Darnton, executive producer of Retro Report.  “We’re honored to play a role in sharing David Wisnia’s powerful story.”

"***How Saba Kept Singing*** proves that love can blossom in the darkest of places. We’re thrilled to have worked with Sara Taksler and Retro Report on this tender-hearted film," said Johnny Webb, executive producer and CEO of HiddenLight Productions.

“While the Holocaust has been covered extensively, there is urgency and poignancy in the firsthand accounts of survivors,” said Lesley Norman, executive producer for The WNET Group. “We are honored to partner with Retro Report and PBS to bring David and Zippi’s testimony to audiences nationwide.”

***How Saba Kept Singing*** is a production of Retro Report and HiddenLight Productions in association with Burnt Umber Productions. It is presented on PBS by The WNET Group. Sara Taksler is director, writer and producer. Jackie Soriano is editor and co-producer. Executive producers are Hillary Rodham Clinton, Chelsea Clinton, Christopher Buck, Kyra Darnton, Johnny Webb and Siobhan Sinnerton. Co-executive producers are Bill Gerber & Judi Krupp. For The WNET Group: Lesley Norman is executive producer. Stephen Segaller is executive in charge.

Original production funding for ***How Saba Kept Singing*** is provided, in part, by the Barbara and Gary Brandt Family Foundation. Support for the PBS presentation is provided by The WNET Group’s *Exploring Hate* initiative, reporting on the roots and rise of hate in the U.S. and around the world. (For a complete list of funders, visit pbs.org/exploringhate.)

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**About Retro Report**

Retro Report is an Emmy award-winning, nonprofit news organization that produces trustworthy journalism, steeped in historical context. Retro Report has produced more than 250 documentaries in partnership with The New York Times, PBS, Frontline, NewsHour, American Experience, The New Yorker, Vox, and many others. We have received honors including 14 Edward R. Murrow Awards, a finalist for nine Emmy awards, three Mirror Award nominations, 11 Webby awards, and others. In 2019, we produced an eight-episode, prime-time television series combining history and current events for PBS called *Retro Report on PBS*. Feature-length documentaries include the Emmy-nominated *Enemies of the People* for VICE-TV and *American Reckoning, Facing Eviction,* and *The Massacre in El Salvador* with PBS Frontline. In 2020, we launched Retro Report in the Classroom to revitalize history and civics education and help high school social studies teachers bring history to life at a time when an understanding of American history and civic literacy is diminished. Our free resources bring a greater understanding of current events, fight misinformation and encourage inquiry. Educational resources for *How Saba Kept Singing* will be available at retroreport.org/education.

**About HiddenLight Productions**:

Founded in December 2020, HiddenLight Productions is a global studio creating premium, unscripted and scripted entertainment for TV, film and digital, that celebrates the best of the human spirit and helps audiences see the world in new ways.  As co-producer of the award-winning*In Her Hands*for Netflix, HiddenLight told the story of one of Afghanistan’s first female mayors and the youngest to ever hold the position. It has also recently co-produced *Lyra*, a feature doc about the killing of the celebrated investigative journalist Lyra McKee, which will soon be broadcast on Channel 4. The company’s first project was the YouTube Originals series *If I Could Tell You Just One Thing*, followed by *Gutsy*, a straight-to-series order for Apple TV+ inspired by the best-selling book, *The Book of Gutsy Women: Favorite Stories of Courage and Resilience* by Hillary Clinton and Chelsea Clinton. Led by Chair Roma Khanna, CEO Johnny Webb, and joint Creative Directors & SVPs Unscripted, Siobhan Sinnerton and Amy Flanagan, HiddenLight is based in London, New York and LA.

**About The WNET Group**

[The WNET Group](http://wnet.org/) creates inspiring media content and meaningful experiences for diverse audiences nationwide. It is the community-supported home of New York’s [THIRTEEN](http://thirteen.org/) – America’s flagship PBS station – [WLIW21](http://wliw.org/), THIRTEEN PBSKids, WLIW World and Create; [NJ PBS](https://www.mynjpbs.org/), New Jersey’s statewide public television network; Long Island’s only NPR station WLIW-FM; [ALL ARTS](http://allarts.org/), the arts and culture media provider; newsroom [NJ Spotlight News;](https://www.njspotlightnews.org/) and FAST channels Arts TWG+ and PBS Nature. Through these channels and streaming platforms, The WNET Group brings arts, culture, education, news, documentary, entertainment and DIY programming to more than five million viewers each month. The WNET Group’s award-winning productions include signature PBS series ***Nature***, ***Great Performances***, ***American Masters*** and ***Amanpour and Company*** and trusted local news programs ***MetroFocus*** and ***NJ Spotlight News******with Briana Vannozzi***. Inspiring curiosity and nurturing dreams, The WNET Group’s award-winning Kids’ Media and Education team produces the PBS KIDS series ***Cyberchase***, interactive ***Mission US*** history games, and resources for families, teachers and caregivers. A leading nonprofit public media producer for more than 60 years, The WNET Group presents and distributes content that fosters lifelong learning, including multiplatform initiatives addressing poverty, jobs, economic opportunity, social justice, understanding and the environment. Through Passport, station members can stream new and archival programming anytime, anywhere. The WNET Group represents the best in public media. Join us.

**About PBS**

[PBS](http://www.pbs.org/), with more than 330 member stations, offers all Americans the opportunity to explore new ideas and new worlds through television and digital content. Each month, PBS reaches over 120 million people through television and 26 million people online, inviting them to experience the worlds of science, history, nature, and public affairs; to hear diverse viewpoints; and to take front row seats to world-class drama and performances. PBS’s broad array of programs has been consistently honored by the industry’s most coveted award competitions. Teachers of children from pre-K through 12th grade turn to PBS for digital content and services that help bring classroom lessons to life. Decades of research confirms that PBS’s premier children’s media service, PBS KIDS, helps children build critical literacy, math, and social-emotional skills, enabling them to find success in school and life. Delivered through member stations, PBS KIDS offers high-quality educational content on TV — including a 24/7 channel — online at [pbskids.org](http://pbskids.org/), via an array of mobile apps, and in communities across America. More information about PBS is available at [PBS.org](http://pbs.org), one of the leading dot-org websites on the internet, or by following [PBS on Twitter](https://twitter.com/pbs), [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/pbs) or through our [apps for mobile and connected devices](http://www.pbs.org/anywhere/home/). Specific program information and updates for press are available at [pbs.org/pressroom](http://pressroom.pbs.org/) or by following[PBS Communications on Twitter](https://twitter.com/PBS_PR).