



A Documentary Film  
Directed by Artemis Joukowsky III  
Produced by  
Artemis Joukowsky III and Mathew Justus  
A Journey to Freedom, LLC Production

**St. Croix Reformed Church  
Estate La Reine, St. Croix, USVI  
6:00 PM Sunday, April 14, 2013**

**Sponsors:  
The Edouard Foundation  
St. Croix Foundation**

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## **APRIL 2013 PREMIER**

Two Who Dared: The Sharps' War will premiere in April to commemorate Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day. The film will be launched through a grassroots, community-based effort, at churches, synagogues, theaters, and schools, in cities worldwide. On St. Croix, USVI, the film premieres at the St. Croix Reformed Church, Estate La Reine, St. Croix, USVI at 6:00 PM Sunday, April 14, 2013.

### **LOGLINE**

*Two Who Dared* is the never-before-told story of Waitstill and Martha Sharp, an American minister and his wife who boldly committed to a life-threatening mission in Europe to help save imperiled Jews and refugees at the onset of World War II.

### **SYNOPSIS**

After seventeen ministers declined the Unitarian Association's request for relief volunteers in Europe, Waitstill and Martha were the eighteenth call. When they committed to the dangerous undertaking, they left their two young children in Wellesley, Massachusetts and traveled to Czechoslovakia at the onset of WWII. In order to enable the clandestine transportation of refugees, they combated political and social blockades, broke laws to get imperiled individuals exit visas and laundered money on the black market. Over the course of two missions; in Prague (1939), and in Southern France (1940), the Sharps, and their underground confederates played a vital role in saving thousands from persecution.

In 2006, the Sharps were recognized by the State of Israel as "Righteous Among the Nations" at Yad Vashem for risking their lives to save Jews and dissidents during the Holocaust. They are two of only three Americans to ever be so honored.

Through the inspiring true story of Waitstill and Martha Sharp, *Two Who Dared* reveals a timeless lesson of human sacrifice and courage to be shared with future generations.

### **A CATALYST FOR DISCUSSIONS ON PERSONAL SACRIFICE AND COURAGE**

The premier of *Two Who Dared* provides an opportunity for school students and the St. Croix community to explore examples of personal sacrifice and courage in people of our past and present. Tragically, genocide is not limited to the World War II story documented in *Two Who Dared*. Our own island history offers examples of cultural heroes who took a stand at great personal peril from our historic past to modern time. And, today's world is not genocide free (<http://www.genocidewatch.org/>). Students introduced to Martha and Waitstill Sharp are invited to investigate their

choices and impacts; and compare/contrast these to individuals in the students' own history and culture. Key themes and questions related to the Sharps' story may be found at: <http://twowhodared.facinghistory.org/content/two-who-dared-classroom>.

## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

As a 9th grader, I was given a homework assignment to interview someone of moral courage. When I asked my mother if she had any suggestions for a subject, to my shock she said, "talk to your grandmother." What I discovered in doing that assignment, and in many years to come, is that my grandmother and grandfather had a dramatic history that I had never heard before. This included underground espionage, working to rescue refugees and opposing the Nazi regime, in the service work that they had performed during World War II in Europe in 1939 and 1940.

Their stories changed my life and since that time I have devoted myself to service for others in the form of education and activism. I have worked with Facing History and Ourselves, in developing an educational curriculum for middle and high school students. This includes producing a thirty-minute educational version of the film that is featured on their website: <http://twowhodared.facinghistory.org/>

Through the collaboration of film experts, family members and actual refugees, this film project was born. The Sharps themselves narrate the film in their own words, based on interviews and transcripts, instead of relying on expert interviews or an omnipotent narrator. Through years of research, the film team was also able to collect first-hand accounts both of individuals rescued by the Sharps and of the family members who were affected by their extraordinary convictions. We hope that these voices weave an intimate viewing experience and put the viewer directly in the action. This story is an important reminder that we can truly live out our personal convictions and that our potential impact is limitless

## LINKS

The educational version <http://twowhodared.facinghistory.org/> is now going out to over two million students worldwide through our partnership with Facing History and Ourselves.

The website is now public on the US Holocaust Memorial Museum to some of the millions of visitors a day that visit their site.

<http://www.ushmm.org/remembrance/dor/years/2012/poster/posters-2012-theme.pdf>

Sadly, genocide is not a human condition of the past. For links to genocide in the world today, we recommend: <http://www.genocidewatch.org/>, <http://www.amnesty.org/>, <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Genocide>, [http://www.ppu.org.uk/genocide/g\\_genocide\\_intro.html](http://www.ppu.org.uk/genocide/g_genocide_intro.html).

## FILMMAKER BIOGRAPHIES



### Artemis Joukowsky III

Artemis Joukowsky III is a non-profit activist, film producer, and venture capitalist. He has formed ten for-profit and eight non-profit institutions and has been a founding partner in two venture capital funds. His for-profit entities are socially conscious, with a focus on renewable energy. From 1997-2006, he was Vice-Chairman and Senior Advisor of Econergy International, a diversified international energy services company, focused on clean energy markets, publicly traded company in the AIM market on the London Stock Market.

In 2001 he co-founded No Limits Media LLC, a non-profit whose mission is both to create, support, and disseminate media programs and information products that promote the full participation of people with disabilities in the world community and to collaborate with major international corporations in order to support the UN Convention on Human Rights. Joukowsky co-authored *Raising the Bar*, (Umbrage Press, 2002) a celebration of the achievements of athletes in disability sports, and in 2005 No Limits Media showcased the *Raising the Bar* photo exhibit for over 80,000 visitors at the United Nations Convention in New York City.

Since 2000, he has overseen and managed all aspects of the Two Who Dared Film Project and the Sharp Education Project. This includes the documentary film *Two Who Dared* (2012), the Sharp Archives at the United States Holocaust Museum and Brown University, and the educational curriculum developed by Facing History and Ourselves. He is currently writing a book about the Sharps, entitled *Dangerous Courage*, which he hopes to publish in the spring of 2013.

### Matthew Justus



Matthew Justus is an Emmy nominated documentary filmmaker. Over the past decade he has been on productions for HBO, PBS, the BBC, ZDF, The History Channel, and IFC. His work has screened at film festivals around the world.

Most recently he produced the 2012 Emmy nominated feature documentary *Bobby Fischer Against the World* (Sundance, HBO, 2011). Previously he was an associate producer on Liz Garbus' *Shouting Fire: Stories from the Edge of Free Speech* (Sundance, HBO, 2009).

He was also an associate producer on *Coma* (HBO) and Rory Kennedy's *Thank You Mr. President* (HBO). He was also on the production team of Kennedy's *Ghosts of Abu Ghraib* (Sundance, HBO, Emmy Winner), Rosie Perez's *Yo Soy Boricua* (IFC), Nannette Burstein's docu-series *Film School* (IFC), *Addiction* (HBO) and *The Charlie Rose Show* (PBS).

## Who Were Martha and Waitstill Sharp?

In January of 1939, Waitstill and Martha Sharp were living with their two small children in the prosperous Boston suburb of Wellesley, Massachusetts, where their busy lives were defined by the demands of family, church, and community. One Sunday evening, after returning home from a church service, the Sharps received a phone call that would change their lives. That call led Martha and Waitstill from their home in Wellesley to Europe on the verge of war, where they would take great risks to rescue vulnerable men, women, and children from the Nazis.

Little in the Sharps' settled, secure lives would have predicted this upheaval. Waitstill, who came from a prominent family and had shunned a law career in favor of the ministry, led the Wellesley Hills Unitarian Society and was a rising star in the national Unitarian Church. Born to working-class immigrants from England, Martha was raised by an aunt and became a social worker after college; she worked at Hull House and other Chicago settlement houses that helped immigrants establish new lives in the United States. After they were introduced by mutual friends, Martha and Waitstill married in 1928 and moved to Wellesley. Martha cared for the couple's two children—Hastings, then seven years old, and Martha Content, two years old—and worked on social and political issues related to the church.

That night in January 1939, Unitarian Church leader Everett Baker called the Sharps to ask them to undertake a dangerous new project. The American Unitarian Association wanted them to travel to Czechoslovakia, where there was a large Unitarian community, to lead an emergency relief mission that church leaders described as “the first intervention against evil undertaken by the denomination.” This work included assessing the refugee crisis in Czechoslovakia; providing food, shelter, and support to refugees; and ultimately helping hundreds to flee the country. Everett Baker had approached 17 other couples prior to the Sharps, and all had refused this post.

As the Nazis rose to power, their regime had transformed Germany from the nascent, struggling democracy of the Weimar years to a fascist, anti-Semitic state. Germany was threatening its neighbors, annexing first Austria and then part of Czechoslovakia in 1938. These actions created a tide of refugees in the rest of Czechoslovakia, and the crisis only deepened when the Nazis conquered the capital, Prague, and the rest of the country just a few weeks after the Sharps' arrival in February 1939. In an atmosphere fraught with danger and violence, the couple spent seven months aiding refugees. They gave individuals and families money that allowed them to survive in a country where they had no work, no family, and few assets. The Sharps also assisted refugees in their escape from the country by helping them connect with employers and sponsors abroad, by compiling the elaborate files of documents necessary for emigration, and even by accompanying refugees as they fled Czechoslovakia.

The Sharps were consistently followed by Nazi police and had to learn how to evade Gestapo patrols. Their offices were ransacked, and they faced arrest when the Nazis ordered all refugee aid and assistance to cease. Despite these mounting dangers, the Sharps remained in Prague until August of 1939, when they heard a rumor that they

were to be arrested the very next day. Arrest would certainly mean indefinite detention within a brutal system that allowed foreigners no rights; it could also mean brutality, violence, or even death. The Sharps decided to leave Prague. After a brief return to their home in Wellesley, they accepted another mission from the newly formed Unitarian Service Committee and spent most of 1940 working in war-torn France, where they helped intellectuals, Jews, and other at-risk individuals flee the country and provided aid to desperate refugees.

Waitstill had been preaching against the evils of Nazism to his congregants for years, a brave stance at a time when the majority of Americans did not share his passion or his politics. The United States had not yet entered the war, and memories of World War I and the ongoing struggles of the Great Depression contributed to a strong feeling of isolationism across the country. Widespread antisemitism also played a part in many Americans' indifference to the plight of European Jews. With the support of their church and their community, Martha and Waitstill made a different choice. Because of their actions to save Jews, the Sharps were named "Righteous Among the Nations" by Yad Vashem, Israel's Holocaust memorial and museum. They are two of only three Americans to be so honored.

## FILM CREDITS

Director	Artemis Joukowsky III
Co-Producers	Artemis Joukowsky III and Mathew Justus
Executive Producers	Artemis Joukowsky II and Charlie Clements
Associate Producers	Emma Blaxter Davinia Pardo Cheryl Van Grunsven
Composer	Sheldon Mirowitz
Director of Photography	Michael Julian Berz
Interviews	Deborah Shaffer
Editor	Erik Angra Steve Wechsler
Narration	Peter Berkrot Marina Goldman
Original Concept and Research	Tom Durnford Larry Benaquist Bill Sullivan
Production Coordinator	Sandri Valente Nancy Emrick

Additional Camera	Erik Angra Slawomir Grunberg Eddie Martinez Stephen McCarthy John Sharaf
Assistant Editor	Donna Donato Craig Shannon Jessica Winkler
Production Managers	Tom Durnford (France) Randi Johnson (California) Gili Rozenfeld (Israel) Eva Perusic (Prague) Emmanuelle Stauble (France)
Project Advisors	Alan Adelson Jeff Diefendorf Deborah Dwork Mordecai Paldiel James Wald David Wyman

## **Interviews with Renowned Scholars and Eye Witnesses**

Yehuda Bacon, Yehuda Bauer, Rev. Joseph Ben-David, Robert Kim Bingham, Peter Braunfeld, Clement Brown, Mercedes Brown, Margaret Carroll, Catherine Vakar Chvany, Charlie Clements, Ghanda DiFiglia, Deborah Dwork, Mary Deutsch Edsall, Rosemarie Feigl, Haim Genizi, Amelie Diamant Holmstrum, Mary Ella Holst, Artemis A. W. Joukowsky, Martha Sharp Joukowsky, Michael W. Joukowsky, Alain Le Roux, Gerda Stein Mayer, Rev. Jack Mendelson, Marnie Mettee, Stephen Michaud, Paul Mirat, Michel Mirat, Nora Newhard, Mordechai Paldiel, Hanna Papanek, Ruth Rogoff, Justus Rosenberg, Eric Saul, Marianne Sheckler-Feder, William Schulz, Hastings Sharp, Sylva Simsova, Kit Killian Staley, Nicole Standish, Evelyn Strange, Alex Strasser, Joe Strasser, Susan Subak, Priscilla Aiken Sweet, Laura Bothfeld Tracy, Henry J. Walsh, Jeanne Whitaker, David Wyman, Bat Ami Zucker