

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910967936303321
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Titolo	Life should be Transparent : Conversations about Lithuania and Europe in the Twentieth Century and Today / / Aurima Svedas, Irena Veisaite ; translated from the Lithuanian by Karla Gruodis
Pubbl/distr/stampa	New York : , : Central European University Press, , 2020 Baltimore, Md. : , : Project MUSE, , 2020 ©2020
ISBN	1-003-72051-X 963-386-359-7
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource
Disciplina	891/.928303
Soggetti	Holocaust survivors - Lithuania Jews - Lithuania College teachers - Lithuania Theater critics - Lithuania
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Includes index.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- CONTENTS -- Introduction. Engaging Memory and History -- Acknowledgements -- Conversation I. Life Should Be Transparent -- Conversation II. We Could All See That Lithuania Was Trapped -- Conversation III. What Had Happened to the World? -- Conversation IV. To Forgive and Build the Future—These Are the Duties of the Living -- Conversation V. I Was Surrounded by Very Good People -- Conversation VI. I Needed a Change -- Conversation VII. I Saw My Work as a Kind of Mission -- Conversation VIII. The Theatre Suits My Interests and Temperament Perfectly -- Conversation IX. People Developed Close Relationships within “Islands” -- Conversation X. Why Was Faust Redeemed, Even After Making a Pact with the Devil? -- Conversation XI. I Felt a Powerful Connection with My Spiritual Brothers -- Conversation XII. I Regret Nothing, But I Continue to Pay Dearly for My Decisions -- Conversation XIII. It Is Probably Only Possible to Feel a Part of History Once in One’s Lifetime -- In Lieu of an Epilogue. More and More Questions, But Fewer and Fewer Answers -- Appendices.

Sommario/riassunto

"This book of thirteen conversations introduces us to the life of an exceptional person-theatre critic, Germanist, and long-time chair of the Open Lithuania Fund board Irena Veisaite. The dialogue between Lithuanian historian Aurimas Svedas and a woman who reflects deeply on her experiences reveals both one individual's historically dramatic life and the fate of Europe and Lithuania in the twentieth century. Through the complementary lenses of history and memory, we confront with Veisaite the horrific events of the Holocaust, which brought about the end of the Lithuanian Jewish world. We also meet an array of world-class cultural figures, see fragments of legendary theatre performances, and hear meaningful words that were spoken or heard decades ago. This book's interlocutors do not so much seek to answer the question "What was it like?" but instead repeatedly ask each other: "What, how, and why do we remember? What is the meaning of our experiences? How can history help us to live in the present and create the future? How do we learn to understand and forgive?" A series of Veisaite's texts, statements, and letters, presented at the end of the book suggest further ways of answering these questions"---
