“They Called Me Mayer July”:
Painted Memories of a Jewish Childhood in Poland before the Holocaust

Mayer Kirshenblatt and Barbara Kirshenblatt-Gimblett

Porte du Palais Ballroom, Quebec Hilton, 9-10 pm, Friday October 19.

At 73 Mayer Kirshenblatt began to paint the scenes and the stories of his Jewish childhood in the town of Apt in pre-war Poland. He was born in 1916 and left for Canada in 1934 at the age of 17. More than 250 paintings later, Mayer, who is now 91 years old, has created a joyful, vivid, poetic record of that lost time, lest, he says, future generations will know more about how Jews died than how they lived.

Celebrating the publication of their new book, Mayer Kirshenblatt and his daughter Barbara will present a multimedia event for the annual Crowley Memorial Concert. As Mayer shows his paintings, he will tell the stories they embody. A book-signing with Mayer and Barbara will follow the event.

Dan Crowley Memorial Storytelling Concert, sponsored by the AFS Storytelling Section suggested donation (for student prize fund) $5