

THE DANISH JEWISH MUSEUM GAINS STATE APPROVAL

The Heritage Agency of Denmark and The Ministry of Culture approve The Danish Jewish Museum to receive state subsidies from January 1st, 2011. Hereby Denmark is secured a museum about its oldest minority – the Danish Jews. Furthermore, The Danish Jewish Museum becomes the first state approved museum in Denmark on integration and minority history.

Director Janne Laursen is very pleased with the important recognition of the work done in the museum and she stresses the importance for the present: *The Danish Jewish Museum is needed in Denmark to do important research and to communicate the unique history of many years of experience with integrating those who are different. Identity and sense of belonging are essential topics in public debate and in education today,* says Janne Laursen.

The State Approval confirms the widespread support of the museum's focus on cultural history and this pleases the board of The Danish Jewish Museum: *The Danish Jewish Museum is a pioneer museum with its focus on integration and peaceful coexistence. It is very important that the museum's work now is secured for the future,* says Chairman Ivar Samrén.

About The Danish Jewish Museum

The Danish Jewish Museum is an independent institution, addressing a wide audience and working with Danish Jewish culture, art and history from the seventeenth century until today. The growing collection forms the basis of the museum's research and communication. The Danish Jewish Museum opened in 2004 in the presence of Her Majesty Queen Margrethe. Since then, the museum has had more than 150,000 guests who have enjoyed the exhibition and the spectacular interior by world renowned architect Daniel Libeskind. 42% of the visitors are tourists from at least 43 different nations. The museum has a broad international scope and good cooperation with other museums in Denmark and abroad.

Research rewriting history

In October 2010 the Danish Jewish Museum published the book *Ikke noget at tale om. Danske jøders krigsoplevelser 1943-45* (literally: Nothing to talk about. Danish Jewish War Time Experiences 1943-1945) which is based on several years of research. The book rewrites Danish History with its focus on the people who were forced to leave Denmark in 1943 due to the Nazi persecution of the Jews, either being deported to KZ-Theresienstadt or escaping to exile in Sweden. The book is the first result of an ongoing research project and the museum plans an exhibition based on all the new material collected during the project.

For further information and press photos, please contact The Danish Jewish Museum: info@jewmus.dk, +45 3311 2218.