Obituaries: United States*

BELLOW, SAUL, writer; b. Lachine, Quebec, Canada, June 10, 1915; d. Brookline, Mass., Apr. 5, 2005; in U.S. since 1924. Educ.: U. Chicago; Northwestern U. (BS); U. Wis. Served U.S. Merchant Marine, WWII. Writer, WPA Writers’ Project, Encyclopaedia Britannica “Great Books” series, 1930s; teacher, Pestalozzi-Froebel Teachers Coll., 1938–42; English dept., U. Chicago, 1963–93, mem., Com. on Social Thought, 1963–93, chmn., 1970–76; English dept., Boston U., 1993—. Au.: Dangling Man (1944); The Victim (1947); The Adventures of Augie March (1953); Seize the Day (1956); Henderson the Rain King (1959); Herzog (1964); Mr. Sammler’s Planet (1969); Humboldt’s Gift (1975); To Jerusalem and Back (1976); The Dean’s December (1982); Him With His Foot in His Mouth (1984); More Die of Heartbreak (1986); A Theft (1989); The Bellarosa Connection (1989); The Actual (1997); Ravelstein (2000). Rec.: Nobel Prize for Literature (1976); Pulitzer Prize (1976); Natl. Book Award (1953, 1965, 1970, 1990); James L. Dow Award (1964); Internat’l Literary Prize (1965); Guggenheim Fellowship (1955–56).


*Including American Jews who died between January 1 and December 31, 2005.

Brooks, Donald (Donald Marc Blumberg), fashion and theater designer; b. New Haven, Conn., Jan. 10, 1928; d. Stony Brook, N.Y. Aug. 1, 2005. Educ.: Syracuse U. School of Fine Arts; Fashion Inst. of Technology; Parsons School of Design (AAS). Lord & Taylor, NYC, begining in advertising and moving on to designing, 1950—58; designer, Townley Frocks, 1958—65, while also custom designing for Henri Bendel; designed under his own label, generally four collections a year, 1965—; began designing for theater with Broadway musical No Strings (1962) and eventually designed 20 Broadway shows, also designing costumes for films (receiving three Acad. Award nominations) and for TV. Retrospective exhibit of his work, “Donald Brooks: Designer for All Seasons,” Parsons School of Design, 2003. Rec.: Coty Amer. Fashion Critics Award (1962); Emmy for TV film design (1982).


useum, Washington, D.C. (1993); Los Angeles Convention Center (1993); Jacob K. Javits Convention Center, NYC (1986); University Plaza Towers, NYC (1967); Kips Bay Housing Project, NYC (1963).


LUX (LUKASHEFSKY), LILLIAN, actress; b. Brooklyn, N.Y., June 20, 1918; d. NYC, June 11, 2005. Educ.: Yiddish Art Theater, NYC. Acted in Yiddish theater beginning 1925 at age seven, also performing on Yiddish radio; hired as chorus girl, Second Avenue Theater, 1932, also performing in Catskill resorts; acted in South Amer. and Eastern Europe with husband Pesach Burstein, 1938—39, escaping on last ship from Poland before WWII; continued career in NYC as well as touring around the world, best known for playing the bride in A Khasene in Shtetl (A Village Wedding); eventually appeared with husband and twin children as The Four Bursteins; appeared on Broadway in The Megilla of Itzik Manger (1968); narrated documentary film about


Neuberger, Herman (Naftali), rabbi, educator; b. Hassfurt, Germany, June 26, 1918; d. Baltimore, Md., Oct. 21, 2005; in U.S. since 1938. Educ.: Jewish Teachers Coll., Wurzburg, Germany; Mir Yeshiva, Baltimore, Md. (ordination). Exec. dir., Mir Yeshiva Coll., 1943--; building the school from a tiny yeshiva in rented space into one of the major Orthodox educational centers in U.S., with almost 1,000 students ranging from high school through postgraduate, situated on a 90-acre suburban campus; maintained deep involvement with local and natl. Jewish communities, political figures, Christian leaders; largely responsible for bringing hundreds of young Iranian Jews to U.S. in 1979. Founder and active leader, Assn. for Talmudic and Rabbinical Schools, 1973--.


Rossner, Judith, novelist; b. NYC, Mar. 31, 1935; d. NYC, Aug. 9, 2005. Educ.: CCNY. Au.: To the Precipice (1966); Nine Months in the Life of an Old Maid (1969); Any Minute I Can Split (1972); Looking for Mr. Goodbar (1975); Attachments (1977); Emmeline (1980); August (1983); His Little Women (1990); Olivia (1994); Perfidia (1997). Waiting for Mr. Goodbar, based on an actual murder of a NYC schoolteacher who cruised singles bars, sold four million copies and was made into a film starring Diane Keaton, 1977.

Sarachek, Bernard (“Red”), basketball coach; b. NYC, Oct. 19, 1912; d. Deerfield Beach, Fla., Nov. 14, 2005. Educ.: CCNY. Asst. basketball coach, Stuyvesant High School, NYC, mid-1930s; coach, Workmen’s Circle, where one of his players was future N.Y. Knick coach “Red” Holzman; owner, Circle Athletics sporting goods, Brooklyn, N.Y., late 1940s--; coach for WWII army teams, AAU teams, Scranton Miners of the Amer. Basketball Assn., 1940s, advocating for higher player salaries and for racial integration in the sport; coach, athletic dir., Yeshiva U., early 1940s—1969, innovating strategies adopted by many college and professional coaches and bringing Orthodox Jews into the mainstream of the Amer. sports scene.


