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found Bettina Goering
Greatniece of Hermann Goering, second in command to Adolf Hitler
in each of us...

the ghosts of the third reich

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Bernd Wollschlaeger
Son of Arthur Wollschlaeger, highly decorated, 2nd World War II tank commander as my father's
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Granddaughter of Wilhem Boger, torturer in Auschwitz:
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Samson Munn
Founder of the Austrian Encounters, meetings that bring together second
and third generation of Holocaust victims and second and third generation of Nazis

a project by

 sd cinematografica

"GHOSTS OF THE THIRD REICH" IS A DOCUMENTARY THAT REVEALS THE POIGNANT AND ANGUISHED STORIES OF THE SECOND AND THIRD GENERATION OF THE NAZIS, WHO AGAINST ALL ODDS CONFRONT THEIR FAMILY'S PAST.

I used to think that the Holocaust perpetrators were "other people," some monsters out there. It was very abstract and therefore very far away. And suddenly I had to realize that my own grandfather was one of them. Even though I know that I am not guilty myself, and I am not my grandfather, I feel shame; and in my heart is deep sadness and an ocean of tears.

Ursula Boger, the granddaughter of Wilhem Boger, torturer in Auschwitz

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"I am a Jew by choice, a German by birth and have a father whose background I am deeply ashamed of. Going to Auschwitz together with my daughter, walking around the crematorium and the gas chambers not only troubled me, but deeply shocked me... I am responsible as my father's son for what has happened..."

Bernd Wollschlaeger, the son of Arthur Wollschlaeger, highly decorated, 2nd World War II tank commander

"Sometimes the children of Holocaust perpetrators feel they have poisoned roots, damaged roots, maybe some of them might be reluctant to have children because they might pass poison through these roots..."

Samson Munn, Founder of the Austrian Encounters, meetings that bring together second and third generation of Holocaust victims and second and third generation of Nazis

"GHOSTS OF THE THIRD REICH" PRESENTS DIVERSE STORIES OF THOSE WHO SHARE THE MOST PROFOUND FEELINGS OF GUILT, SHAME AND PAIN. FROM INDIVIDUALS WHOSE FAMILY MEMBERS WERE SUPPORTERS OF THE NAZI PARTY TO THOSE RELATED TO THE SECOND IN COMMAND TO HITLER; THEY SHARE THE COMMON DESIRE TO DISTANCE THEMSELVES FROM THE NAZI IDEOLOGY AND THE ACTIONS OF THEIR ANCESTORS, AND TO LIBERATE THEMSELVES FROM GUILT AND SHAME FOR SOMETHING THEY DID NOT DO.

"I looked into the darkest darkness that can be found in each of us. The difference is that today we can decide not to look for it. But it can manifest itself in each of us. You don't have to be a German. It is a long story that hasn't finished yet. I hope that our stories serve as an example for others to reflect about the past, in particular to the Germans of the next generation."

Bettina Goering, greatniece of Hermann Goering, second in command to Adolf Hitler

ALTHOUGH THE STORIES PORTRAYED IN THIS REVEALING DOCUMENTARY FOCUS ON A SPECIFIC TIME IN HISTORY, THEY ARE NOT TIED TO THE PAST. "GHOSTS" IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPOSE STORIES OF COURAGE AND STRENGTH FROM INDIVIDUALS WHO FACE THEIR PAST, IN ORDER TO TRANSFORM THEIR FUTURE.

TITLE: The ghosts of the Third Reich
From a project by Claudia Ehrlich Sobral

DURATION: 52 minutes
FORMAT: High Definition

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