



John Mandelberg, Naomi Ullman, Ede Horton.

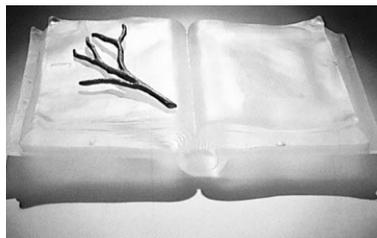
# Memory works

## Allon Lee

EXPRESSING the Holocaust through art is never easy. *Memory Works* is the first contemporary Holocaust art exhibit to be staged at the Sydney Jewish Museum, presenting works by Australian artists coming to terms with what the Holocaust means for them.

Naomi Ullman's series of paintings and engraved glass is based upon a collection of real Jewish European postcards from the early 1900s and depicts the beauty that can conceal horror. "These images were passed on to me, but not through words." Images of everyday life reflect fragments of a world that was destroyed.

Particularly moving is the recreation of a stamp from Thereisenstadt. An image entitled *Shame* depicts the refugee-carrying freighter *MV Tampa* was prompted



A work by Ede Horton.

by Ms Ullman's fears that Australians let themselves be fooled they were facing a flood of illegal immigrants.

Ede Horton's contributions to the exhibition explore ways of passing on culture. Her *Tales of Migration* comprises rows of dishes containing everyday objects that signify three generations: her parents', her own and her children's.

Her second piece shares a similar theme and consists of three

books cut in glass. The first, *People of the Book*, with a secret panel, conveys the secrets her parents never told her. The second, *Tree of Life*, has a bronze twig placed atop it and represents the artist's search for her family tree. The third book, *Open Book*, is the future yet to be told.

The final exhibit is Catherine Chauchat and John Mandelberg's film, *Landscapes of the Museum* featuring Holocaust survivors and volunteer museum guides Eddie Jaku, Severyn Pejsachowicz, Marika Weinberger and child of survivors Mary Ziegler talking about the museum's role as a source of comfort to them. As Ms Weinberger says in the film: "it provides me with a healing process on a daily basis. I owe this museum much, much more than it owes me."

The exhibition runs until May 28.