SELECTED ANECDOTES

which illustrate that Susan May Tell's exhibition
A Requiem: Tribute to the Spiritual Space at Auschwitz
touches a respondent chord in a diverse and wide range of
nationalities, religions, cultures, and ages

- A middle-aged Japanese-American woman was viewing the photographs inside the
gallery while I was talking to the Director of the Griffin Museum of Photography, near
the entranceway. When the woman left the gallery, the Director said "Here's the artist"
and the woman burst into tears. All I could do was hug her. Later she approached me and
in broken, accented, English, said "very beautiful."

- A woman, a Muslim born in Iran, emailed: "I simply wanted to let you know how I felt
about your very poignant exhibition ... As I stood in the middle of it...the images took me
there and I could hear the yelling, the screaming, the feeling of hopelessness of the
victims ... and I could not stop the tears ... For this very reason your exhibit reminds the
viewer of the prejudice, injustice and the fact that it is still happening to many all over
this world."

- A Latina high school student pointed to what looks like smudged eyes in one of the
photographs and said that in her Puerto Rican culture, the smudges symbolize “ghost.”

- An architect attended a gallery talk where the discussion included what should be done
with places of this kind and later emailed: "I will continue to puzzle over the issues
related to preservation of tragic sites and how to ensure that we do not forget for
sometime to come."

- A 14-year old pointed to the photograph with the valises and noted the date of birth,
1935, written on the one belonging to Gertrude Neubauer. “She must have been just a
child."

- A Scottish woman emailed: “The images are overwhelming & so sad, so strong, so
important. I had a strong physical reaction, feeling weak and stomach turning. I found the
cutlery shot so moving having read Primo Levi recently, and so knowing how important
these mundane items became to the prisoners. I’m in awe of your ability to convey the
horror so brilliantly, and the world of course needs to have all this kept in
consciousness.”

- An administrator at a Holocaust museum emailed “Susan, your creativity and sensitivity
make the photographs unique among holocaust-related artwork, as the images are sparse,
stark, and intricate. The exhibit has the potential to greatly contribute to dialogue about
genocide, while thoughtfully and powerfully commemorating the memory of all those
who died in Auschwitz.”

- A seven-year-old, looking at the photographs in the catalog said to her mom, a poet
whose grandfather came from Armenia: "these are sad."