

<p style="text-align: center;">Warring Hearts trilogy</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>1940's - a decade of extreme violence and extraordinary courage...</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Long Strange Trip</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>tune in, turn on, drop out</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Exile European Artists</p> <p>Unedited excerpt from Fragments of Light. Copyright 2006, Vicki Gaia:</p> <p><i>"Everyone who was anybody was here. The French surrealists and the American artists, gathered in their familiar circle of friends, language a barrier except for a few, like Richard, who now conversed with Marc Chagall. Claire spoke with many of the French artists, her French not as polished, but passable. Richard appeared comfortable with Chagall, comfortable with foreigners. Claire sympathized with the French artists. Without their cafes, bars and meeting places for spontaneous gatherings, they felt alienated, and many suffered financial hardships. Claire understood Richard's empathy for these expatriates, experiencing his own alienation, belonging to neither the American nor European worlds."</i></p> <p>My second book of Warring Hearts - <i>Fragments of Light</i> - is set in New York during 1943. Claire O'Neill, an emerging artist, moves to New York to follow her dream of becoming a successful painter. This is her world:</p> <p>New York in the 1940's was home to many exiled European artists, especially the French Surrealist. European artists found exile in New York and a place of safety where they could resume their work. Their artwork was deemed "degenerative" by the Nazi regime, many of the paintings were destroyed, and others sold to foreigners to fund the Nazi war machine. The Jewish collectors found their paintings confiscated by the Nazis without compensation.</p> <p>The surrealists arrived: Dali, Max Ernst, Andre Masson, Yves Tanguy. The Jewish artists - Piet Mondrian, Fernand Leger, Marc Chagall and</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Timeline Leading up to Long Strange Trip</p> <p>1960</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ John F. Kennedy elected President of the United States ▪ Timothy Leary tries psilocybin mushrooms for the first time in Mexico ▪ Brian Epstein first sees the Beatles ▪ Birth Control pills go on sale in the U.S. <p>1961</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bay of Pigs - Castro defeats US plans to invade Cuba ▪ JFK initiates a nuclear missile program ▪ Bob Dylan performs at Gerde's Folk City ▪ Freedom Riders leave to the south to test integration in bus stations ▪ Amnesty International is founded ▪ Ban the Bomb protests start up worldwide <p>1962</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cuban missile crisis - Soviet missile bases in Cuba and Kennedy orders naval blockade ▪ First anti-nuclear march on Washington <p>1963</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Newport Folk Festival - Dylan, Baez, Seeger ▪ Martin Luther King - "I Have a Dream" ▪ JFK assassinated in Dallas, TX ▪ Aldous Huxley dies while tripping on acid <p>1964</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Beatles arrive in New York ▪ Ken Kesey's first Magic Bus Trip ▪ LBJ signs Civil Rights Act ▪ Race riot in Harlem, NY ▪ Three missing civil rights workers found dead in Mississippi

Lipchitz - benefited by the relationships among the dealers and museum curators in New York. Many of these artists returned to Europe after the war, but by then, Paris had lost its hold on the artistic avant-garde, replaced by New York as the center of the art world.

The Parisian artists didn't want to give up their identities. Many of them kept to themselves and didn't participate in the American art scene, distressed by the loss of the cafes and collective meeting places. Their language also hindered the interaction with American artists. Even so, this immigration of exiled artists influenced the American Abstract Expressionists of the post-war period.

What was their impression of America and how did it affect their art?

- Masson's dreamscapes became more expansive with a harsher palette.
- Leger was fascinated with the skyscrapers, the desert and the mechanized American factories, and thought New York garish.
- Mondrian's work took on the impressions of American fast city pace, music and diverse population.
- Chagall described America as vital and a place of freedom. The sheer enormous size and the novelty impressed him.

Regardless of these new impressions, the war was never far from their minds. Their paintings alluded to the ravages of war, the destruction and horrific violence caused by a world on fire.

Reference: *exiles + emigres: The Flight of European Artists from Hitler* - Stephanie Barron with Sabine Eckmann.

[Back To Research Page](#)

[Back to Home Page](#)

- Martin Luther King wins Nobel Peace Prize

1965

- U.S. starts bombing Vietnam
- Malcolm X shot and killed
- Protestors arrested in Alabama for picketing courthouse to end voting discrimination
- SDS organizes first Vietnam War teach-in and first anti-war march in Washington D.C.
- Burning draft cards becomes illegal
- The term 'hippie' is coined by SF writer - Michael Fallon.

1966

- The Psychedelic Shop - head shop opens on Haight Street in SF
- First light show - Grateful Dead concert in SF
- Jefferson Airplane and Janis Joplin and the Big Brother and the Holding Company perform at the Fillmore
- Red Guard begins to wipe out western influence in China
- George Harrison goes to India to study sitar with Ravi Shanker
- Walk for Love and Peace and Freedom in NY
- Cream's first album released: Eric Clapton, Ginger Baker and Jack Bruce

1967

- First Human Be-In in SF Golden Gate Park
- The Berkeley Barb starts the 'smoke a banana' rumor
- First U.S. air strike on Hanoi
- Summer of rioting in the U.S.
- Che Guevarra killed in Bolivia
- "Stop the Draft" movement organized

[Back To Research Page](#)

[Back to Home Page](#)