

## Czeslawa Tikitin



I don't know who took this photograph. It shows my mother, Czeslawa Tikitin, nee Drutkowska. It was taken in the 1910s. My mother was born in 1897. She went to a girls' gymnasium in Lodz. She wanted to enroll in a university but Grandpa wouldn't allow it. I know Mom was musically gifted, she used to sing and play the piano back before her marriage. My mom loved traveling. She went to Palestine with my father in 1930-something, I'm sure she went to Venice as well. She led quite an active life. Mom told me an anecdote once: apparently I told a teacher I had to be independent, because if I waited for Mom to get home and help me do my homework, I'd never do anything. She had her favorite café - on the corner of Piotrkowska and Moniuszki streets - which she used to go to almost everyday. She'd meet her friends there, but unfortunately I don't remember any of them. Father met my mother thanks to Frania Pikielna, his cousin, whom Mother went to school with and was close to. The young couple lived in Lodz on 8 Nawrot Street. That's the fourth house counting

from Piotrkowska Street, Lodz's main street.