

Jozsef Faludi's First Wife, Mazal Faludi



My first wife Mazal. She was a Yemenite Jew. She and her parents were born in Jerusalem. Her grandparents had immigrated to Palestine from Yemen. Her mother tongue was Hebrew but she also spoke Yemenite Arabic. We married in 1946. Mazal was not at all religious, but we were married by a Rabbi. Mazal's parents weren't present. We married completely independently of the family. We rented a flat in the basement of a house, where I also set up my workshop. We worked night and day. My wife helped me. There was no other employee. We worked on consignment making leather goods. But I was powerfully homesick, and when I married Mazal I told her that she should only marry me if she was willing to come home with me, because I was definitely coming home. In 1948 we sold everything and came home. Our first son, Emanuel, had already been born, in Tel Aviv in 1947. Mazal was pregnant with our second son when we came home, and Elek was born here in 1948. Our third boy, Tamas, was born in 1951.