

Gabriele Gutkind was born on 25.04.1917 in Berlin as the second child of Dr. Erwin Anton Gutkind and Margarete Gutkind. She grew up in Berlin with her parents and little brother, Peter. Gabriele Gutkind wanted to start her career as a photographer at a time when the National Socialists came to power in Germany, and her career opportunities in Germany were limited for Jews. Nevertheless, she managed to get some commercial orders. In an article on Gabriele Gutkind, Sheer Ganor explained the circumstances of her decision to leave Germany:

“Moreover, in March 1938, the Jüdischer Kulturbund (Cultural Federation of German Jews) even put on a solo exhibition of her works that received positive reviews in the German-Jewish press. As she prepared to emigrate to England, she remained set on pursuing photography professionally and applied for special permission from Nazi authorities to take her recently purchased photography equipment with her. This was necessary because in 1938, when Gutkind was planning her departure, Jews were prohibited from emigrating with items purchased before 1933 without a special permit. Her request was granted, most likely because she explained that the equipment was a professional necessity.”

In England, she joined her father, who had emigrated a few years earlier, and remained at his side for the remainder of his life as his assistant. Gabriele Gutkind was able to publish photographic observations in a magazine in London as early as 1939 (*“A German Girl Came to London,” Picture Post, August 26, 1939*).

After the war in 1946, they emigrated to the USA, where Gabriele supervised her Father's book projects. From 1957 to 1962 she also worked as a secretary for Eleanor Roosevelt, widow of the late President, Franklin D. Roosevelt. Gabriele Gutkind died on 15.04.1986 in Philadelphia, USA.

(Sheer Ganor, see <https://migrantknowledge.org/2021/05/14/displacement-in-stills/#ffn6>)