



VISUAL ARTS



DANCE



MUSIC

# Israel @ 75

A JEWISH FEDERATION OF CLEVELAND INITIATIVE



DANCE



LITERATURE

Roe Green, Honorary Producer

SPRING & SUMMER  
**2024**  
SEASON



CLEVELAND-ISRAEL  
**ARTS** CONNECTION

a program of the Jewish Federation of Cleveland



dance 4



theater 5



ciac presents 9



visual arts 10



music 15

## Spring & Summer 2024 Season

### FEBRUARY

- 20 – Mar 10 “Funny Girl”\* **7**
- 25 & 27 “SEE ME” Open House & Curator Talk **10-11**

### MARCH

- 3 – 11 Reflecting on October 7, 2023 **12**
- 5 CIAC Presents: The Relevance of Music to Israeli Society **8**
- 7 – 9 “Aurora” **14**
- 12 Dare to Lead Like a Girl\* **16**
- 14 – Apr 6 Hanoch Levin’s “Requiem” **5**
- 15 “One Life”\* opens nationwide **13**
- 20 “SEE ME” Open House & Curator Talk **10-11**

### APRIL

- 3 – 13 48th Cleveland International Film Festival **13**
- 7 & 9 “SEE ME” Open House & Curator Talk **10-11**
- 7 HaZamir Gala Concert **14**
- 11 CIAC Presents: Current Insights into Israeli Dance **9**
- 14 – 15 “How to Remain a Humanist after a Massacre in 17 Steps” and “O God” **6**
- 14 – 21 ClIFF48 Streams **13**
- 15 “Irena’s Vow”\* opens nationwide **13**
- 18 Vertigo Dance Company **4**
- 26 – 28 Lahav Shani conducts The Cleveland Orchestra **15**
- 28 “The Girl in the Diary” closes\* **12**

### MAY

- 2 – 23 Envisioning Women from the Torah: The Art of Midrash\* **17**
- 8 Where Harry Met Sally: The Delectable History of the Jewish Deli\* **17**
- 9 “SEE ME” Meet the Artist **10-11**
- 9 Movin’ On Up: Jews and Upward Mobility in Popular Entertainment\* **17**

- 14 Yom Ha’atzmaut **2**
- 16 Israeli Story Presents Wartime Diaries **16**
- 20 Mah Jongg: How a Chinese Game Became a Jewish Tradition\* **17**
- 21 Mah Jongg: A Window into China\* **17**
- 24 – Jun 9 “The Prospect of Equality”\* **7**

### JUNE

- 1 From Israel. Now. closes **11**
- 2 & 4 “SEE ME” Open House & Curator Talk **10-11**
- 12 – 29 Sacred and Profane: ChamberFest Cleveland Season 12 **15**
- 20 “The Rite of Spring” **15**
- 26 Porgy and Bess Fantasy for Two Pianos **15**
- 27 CIAC Presents: Managing Diversity in Israeli Theater **9**

### JULY

- 12 – Aug 11 “Beautiful – The Carole King Musical”\* **7**
- 14 & 16 “SEE ME” Open House & Curator Talk **10-11**
- 24 – 27 BorderLight Theatre Festival **6**
- 28 – Aug 10 Cleveland International Piano Competition **14**

### AUGUST

- 4 & 6 “SEE ME” Open House & Curator Talk **10-11**

\* **JETC.** Jewish-themed cultural events

*The artistic viewpoints reflected in these programs do not necessarily represent the positions or opinions of the Jewish Federation of Cleveland.*



Erica Hartman-Horvitz and Roe Green

Dear Friends:

The world has changed since the last Cleveland Israel Arts Connection season brochure, and nowhere more than in Israel. The horrific events of October 7 have left us all reeling. Our hearts go out to all the families, and also the myriad artists we have met over the past several years.

We feel it is vital to support the Israeli arts community during these challenging times. And so the Cleveland Israel Arts Connection has created **CIAC Presents** (p. 8 - 9) CIAC Presents is an initiative that will support Israeli artists during this time of limited opportunities. It will allow artists to discuss and share their work; strengthening the connection between Israeli artists and the Cleveland community during times of crisis.

The first three installments of CIAC Presents will offer intimate conversations about music, dance, and theater. Composer **Oded Zehavi** will discuss how music has impacted Israeli society, choreographer **Zohar Karny** will explore current insights into Israeli dance, and actors/directors **Sinai and Amir Peter** will delve into the challenges of maintaining diversity in theater.

InterPlay Jewish Theatre will present a staged reading of **Maya Arad Yasur’s** newest composition, “How to Remain a Humanist after a Massacre in 17 Steps.” The play, along with **Anat Gov’s** “O God,” will be read on April 14 & 15 (p. 6.)

This season also brings to fruition two major opportunities that have been in the works for years. Cleveland Public Theatre will present **“Requiem”** from March 14 – April 6 (p. 5.) The U.S. Premiere of Hanoch Levin’s final work resets the play in an American landscape. **Vertigo Dance Company** will make a return appearance, thanks to DANCECleveland, on April 18 with their production of “Makom” (p. 4.)

Not to be missed is the newest exhibition in the Federation’s Roe Green Galley, “SEE ME” photographs by **Michal Chelbin** (p. 10 – 11.)

Please join us in supporting Israeli artists when they need it most.

Stay safe and be well.

Warm regards,

*Roe Green*

Roe Green

*Erica Hartman-Horvitz*

Erica Hartman-Horvitz

## YOM HA’ATZMAUT 2024

**Community-Wide Program**  
Presented by Jewish Federation of Cleveland

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

- Details coming soon!
- For more information visit [www.jewishcleveland.org](http://www.jewishcleveland.org).



# VERTIGO DANCE COMPANY "MAKOM"

Presented by DANCECleveland

Thursday, April 18, 2024 @ 7:30 pm

Mimi Ohio Theatre/Playhouse Square  
1511 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland



Grounded and organic yet driven and unyielding, **Vertigo's** dancers attack contemporary movement with an honesty that engages audience members to feel the vulnerability of emotions being unpacked onstage. One of Israel's most highly regarded contemporary dance companies, Vertigo takes the viewer on an exciting and challenging journey into unfamiliar territories with every performance.

This performance will feature their new work, "Makom," created by Artistic Director **Noa Wertheim**. The evening-length work brings audience members on an almost meditative journey that explores the tension between the center and the extremities, between form and content, between inside and outside, and

between construction and destruction, and beautifully dramatizes the striving for unity and wholeness that speaks profoundly to the human condition. The movement style of Vertigo's dancers will awe audiences as Wertheim challenges the limits of the body through dance.

While in Cleveland, Artistic Director **Noa Wertheim** and **Vertigo** dancers will conduct master classes, workshops, and participate in a half-day residency at the Kent State University School of Theatre & Dance.

- For tickets, please visit [www.DANCECleveland.org](http://www.DANCECleveland.org) or call 216-241-6000.
- Use code "JFED" for ticket discounts.



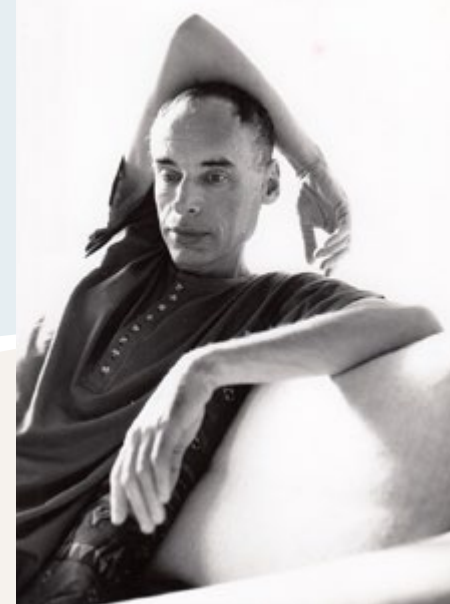
Sponsored with support from the Jewish Federation's Cleveland Israel Arts Connection.

# HANOCH LEVIN'S "REQUIEM"

United States Premiere  
**Raymond Bobgan, director**  
Presented by Cleveland Public Theatre

March 14 – April 6, 2024

Gordon Square Theatre, Cleveland Public Theatre  
6415 Detroit Avenue, Cleveland



Hanoach Levin



*Beautiful and majestic, Requiem is about finding a way to live in the moment getting out of our own internal experience and engaging with others and the beauty of life.*

~Raymond Bobgan



Written by Israel's most beloved playwright after a terminal diagnosis, "Requiem" dares to tackle the big questions "life and death" with poetry, frankness, a lot of humor. One old man embarks on a series of journeys to ward off death failing to see all the life all around him amidst the colorful characters he encounters along the way—an old medic, two drunks, three cherubs, and two prostitutes who dream of moving to Paris.



This ground-breaking United States premiere production resets the play in an American landscape and stars Cleveland's renowned actor and activist **Peter Lawson Jones** in the central role.

- For tickets visit [cptonline.org](http://cptonline.org) or call 216-631-2727 ext. 501.



Sponsored with support from



The Jewish Federation's Cleveland Israel Arts Connection



Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Foundation

## INTERPLAY JEWISH THEATRE PRESENTS

Staged Readings of thematically linked plays written by two prominent Israeli playwrights:  
Presented in partnership with the Mandel Jewish Community Center

Sunday, April 14, 2024 @ 3 pm

Monday, April 15, 2024 @ 7 pm

Mandel JCC, Stonehill Auditorium, 26001 South Woodland Rd., Beachwood



### HOW TO REMAIN A HUMANIST AFTER A MASSACRE IN 17 STEPS

by Maya Arad Yasur  
Directed by George Roth,  
performed by Derdriu Ring\*

In this powerful monologue, an Israeli mother no longer recognizes the woman she was before extremists shattered her world. Penned in the days following the October 7th Hamas invasion, it is a reminder of a grim, but under-reported statistic: the toll on our humanism and empathy.



### O GOD

by Anat Gov  
Directed by George Roth, performed by  
Laura Perrotta\* and Tom Fulton\*


A therapist in Tel Aviv is stunned to discover that her newest client is the Almighty Himself, fighting through his own crisis of self-doubt and regret. During his hour of no-holds-barred therapy, it will become clear that he, too, suffers from a familiar diagnosis: human frailty. **Anat Gov** (1953-2013) was one of Israel's most beloved playwrights. Perrotta and Fulton reprise their roles from their 2016 Interplay reading of the play.

\*Member, Actors Equity Association



- Both staged readings will be presented each day
- For reservations visit [interplayjewishtheatre.eventive.org/welcome](http://interplayjewishtheatre.eventive.org/welcome)

 Sponsored with support from the Jewish Federation's Cleveland Israel Arts Connection.

 The Mandel JCC is a proud beneficiary agency of the Jewish Federation of Cleveland.



Amir Peter performs "Oasis" at 2022 BorderLight Festival



Davai Group of Tel Aviv in "Under Construction" at 2019 BorderLight Festival

## BORDERLIGHT THEATRE FESTIVAL


July 24 – 27, 2024

Playhouse Square, Cleveland

BorderLight's mission is to present innovative theater that inspires, builds cross-cultural understanding and celebrates the diversity of the human experience. The festival brings thousands of audience members to downtown Cleveland to experience affordable, surprising performances from across the theatrical spectrum. Some performances are outside and free, while others are staged in novel spaces.

Stay tuned for the announcement of the Israeli entry into BorderLight.

- Visit [www.borderlightcle.org](http://www.borderlightcle.org) for information.

 Sponsored with support from the Jewish Federation's Cleveland Israel Arts Connection.



### FUNNY GIRL

Presented by Playhouse Square

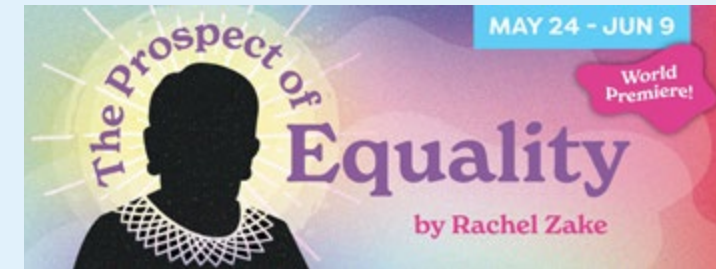
February 20 – March 10, 2024

Connor Palace

1615 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland

This sensational Broadway revival dazzles with celebrated classic songs, including "Don't Rain On My Parade," "I'm the Greatest Star," and "People." This bittersweet comedy is the story of the indomitable Fanny Brice, a girl from the Lower East Side who dreamed of a life on the stage. Everyone told her she'd never be a star, but then something funny happened—she became one of the most beloved performers in history, shining brighter than the brightest lights of Broadway.

- Visit [www.playhousesquare.org](http://www.playhousesquare.org) for information.
- Use code "JFED" for ticket discounts.



### THE PROSPECT OF EQUALITY

by Rachel Zake, directed by Celeste Cosentino  
Presented by Ensemble Theatre

May 24 – June 9, 2024

Notre Dame College Performing Arts Center  
4545 College Road, South Euclid

A young girl loses her mother as she stands on the precipice of adulthood. A visitor arrives who brings hope and, all at once, an event that should shatter her stands to make her stronger. Young Ruth takes advice from an older version of herself, helping to guide her as she changes the world.

"The Prospect of Equality" presents **Ruth Bader Ginsburg's** story as we would often wish to see our own, with advice from our older selves, telling us that the fight ahead will truly one day be worth the struggle. \* World Premiere NEW Play!

- Visit [www.ensembletheatrecl.org](http://www.ensembletheatrecl.org) for information.



### BEAUTIFUL – THE CAROLE KING MUSICAL

Presented by Beck Center for the Arts

July 12 – August 11, 2024

Beck Center for the Arts

17801 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood

A Tony and Grammy Award Winner, this nostalgic yet fresh musical tells the story of the early life and career of Carole King, using songs that she wrote, often together with Gerry Goffin, and other contemporary hit songs by Barry Mann, Cynthia Weil, Phil Spector and others. **Beautiful** features a song list including such timeless hits as, "So Far Away," "Will You Love Me Tomorrow," "You've Lost That Lovin' Feeling," "You've Got a Friend," "I Feel the Earth Move," "(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman" and many more.

- Visit [www.beckcenter.org](http://www.beckcenter.org) for information.
- Use code JFED for ticket discount on Adult and Senior tickets. Valid until July 11.



# CIAC\* Presents

\*Cleveland Israel Arts Connection

In the wake of the October 7, 2023 terror attacks in Israel the entire country has been reeling from direct and unintended consequences. One such is the reduction of opportunities for individuals and institutions in the creative arts community.

**CIAC Presents** is an initiative that will support Israeli artists during this time of limited opportunities. It will allow artists to discuss and share their work; strengthening the connection between Israeli artists and the Cleveland community during times of crisis.

- Free and open to the public.
- Light lunch will be served.
- **For more information and to register visit [jewishcleveland.org/israelarts](http://jewishcleveland.org/israelarts).**

## THE RELEVANCE OF MUSIC TO ISRAELI SOCIETY

with **Oded Zehavi**, composer

Tuesday, March 5, 2024 @ 12:00 – 1:30 pm

Jewish Federation of Cleveland  
Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Building  
25701 Science Park Drive, Beachwood

Join composer **Oded Zehavi** as he discusses how music has affected the Israeli psyche and how its relevance has changed since October 7.

**Linda Sandhaus**, CIAC advisory committee member, will moderate the conversation.

**Oded Zehavi** is Department Head and Professor of Music at Haifa University, where he founded the Department of Music in 1995. He resides in Tel Aviv with his wife and two children. The Cleveland Orchestra commissioned Zehavi to write a concerto for piccolo. The world premiere of his composition, "Aurora," will be March 7-10, 2024. See page 14.



## CURRENT INSIGHTS INTO ISRAELI DANCE

with **Zohar Karny**, choreographer

Thursday, April 11, 2024 @ 12:00 – 1:30 pm

Jewish Federation of Cleveland  
Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Building  
25701 Science Park Drive, Beachwood

Please join us for a conversation with Israeli choreographer, **Zohar Karny**. CIAC advisory committee member **Sara Hurand** will lead a conversation with Zohar Karny about her experience as a choreographer in Israel's contemporary dance community. Karny will also share her artistic process and show examples of her current work.

**Zohar Karny** is an independent artist, dancer, choreographer, and performance director based in Tel Aviv. She received the first prize of the Gertrud Krause Foundation for Choreography. Karny holds a master's degree in dance from The Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance. During 2019-2021, she created works for the Jerusalem Academy Dance Ensemble. Karny's works have been showcased at numerous dance festivals and notable venues.

## MANAGING DIVERSITY IN ISRAELI THEATER

With **Sinai Peter** and **Amir Peter**

Thursday, June 27, 2024

@ 12:00 – 1:30 pm

Jewish Federation of Cleveland  
Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Building  
25701 Science Park Drive, Beachwood

**Hedy Milgrom**, CIAC advisory committee member, will interview **Sinai and Amir Peter** about the challenges they are facing post-October 7 in a diverse theater community.

Father and son **Sinai Peter** and **Amir Peter** are each acclaimed theater professionals, with many accolades to their credit. Together they form an indomitable team with their work at the Jaffa Theatre. Located in the heart of the old city of Jaffa, the Jaffa Theatre is a dynamic, creative partnership between people, cultures, and languages. Inspired by both tradition and modernity, Arab and Hebrew artists write, direct, and act. It shares its premises with the Arab Al Saraya Theatre company. The two companies work independently and jointly to put on shows.

**Sinai Peter** is an actor, playwright, and director. He has directed traditional and fringe productions throughout Israel and the United States. A theater educator and artistic director with over 40 years of experience, Sinai is a highly sought-after lecturer in Israel and internationally. Like father, like son.



**Amir Peter** is also an actor, playwright, director, and dramaturg. He has won several awards and scholarships, including competitions for dramatic writing, directing, and performing original monologues. Amir brought his award-winning monodrama, "Oasis" to Cleveland's BorderLight Festival in 2022.





# SEE ME

## Photographs by Michal Chelbin

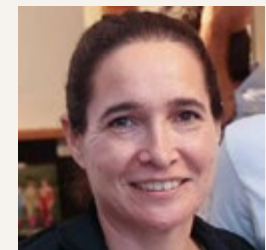
**Matthew Garson, Curator**

*Presented by the Jewish Federation's Cleveland Israel Arts Connection*

Roe Green Gallery  
Jewish Federation of Cleveland  
Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Building  
25701 Science Park Drive, Beachwood

"SEE ME" explores identity. **Michal Chelbin's** photographs attempt to capture human stories in everyday life; the identities of people not in the mainstream, many of them belonging to the edge of society and existing in the space between the odd and the ordinary. Her main themes are not social or topical, but collective and mythical; she searches for people who have a legendary quality in them.

Chelbin's images are vehicles to address universal themes of family, ideas of normality, puberty, and the desire for fame. She creates an informal scene in which her subjects directly confront the viewers, urging them to "See Me!" Her aim is to record a scene where there is a mixture of direct information and enigma, in which there are visual contrasts between young and old, large and small, normal and abnormal.



**Michal Chelbin** was born in Haifa in 1974 and began making pictures in a high school for the arts. During her service in the Israeli military she worked as a photographer. She graduated in 2001 from the WIZO Academy of Design & Education in Haifa.

Her work has been widely shown in numerous solo and group exhibitions and can be found in many public and private collections, such as The Metropolitan Museum, New York City; LACMA, Los Angeles; The Getty Center, Los Angeles; Jewish Museum, New York City; Cleveland Museum of Art; Tel Aviv Museum; SFMOMA, San Francisco and more.

Cleveland native **Matthew Garson** has made a career in Art and Design. Mentoring under Toby Devan Lewis, he became a curator of The Progressive Insurance Corporate Art Collection. He went on to establish M%, a consulting firm and has owned and operated multiple galleries in both Cleveland and New York, exhibiting artists from all over the world.

Matthew has participated in myriad art fairs from coast to coast, as well as producing his own Art Fair, Flow, a satellite of Art Basel, Miami. An original member of the Cleveland Israel Arts Connection, most recently Matt was the site coordinator for the hugely successful Culture Fix CLE, a city-wide visual art installation with Israeli artists Dede Banaid and Nitzan Mintz. The Michal Chelbin exhibition "SEE ME" is the culmination of his love of the arts and the Jewish Federation of Cleveland.



Swallow Bird, 2020

For Chelbin, the image is just the beginning; it's the gateway to a story waiting to be told, about a life full of contradictions on the battleground between fantasy and reality.

- To schedule group tours or individual visits, email [israelarts@jewishcleveland.org](mailto:israelarts@jewishcleveland.org) or call 216-593-2890.



Joanjo and Borja, 2018



Jonathan Polin, left, and Rachel Goldberg in Jerusalem on Oct. 15. Their son Hersch Goldberg-Polin, 23, is missing.

**Michal Chelbin** is a regular contributor to the world's leading publications, such as *The New York Times Magazine*, *The New Yorker*, *BusinessWeek*, *GQ*, *The Guardian*, *The Sunday Times*, *The Financial Times*, *Le Monde* and many others.

Chelbin was humbled when *Time* magazine approached her to photograph the families of the Israeli hostages taken on October 7, 2023. The cover story was the most heartbreaking story she ever worked on. She went into the homes and photographed families whose loved ones had been kidnapped by Hamas. Their raw pain is evident in her images. She thanks *Time* for giving these families a voice and also Oded Plotnizki for producing this project.

Having Chelbin exhibit her work in the Roe Green Gallery gives strong credence that the Cleveland Israel Arts Connection selection of artists to exhibit is not only relevant to current times, but also shows our continued search for only the best artists to showcase in Cleveland.

The series has since been recognized by *TIME* as among the top photographs of 2023.

### Meet the Artist

**Photographer Michal Chelbin**

Thursday, May 9 @ 7-8:30 pm

**Michal Chelbin** is coming to Cleveland! Please join us as she discusses her work and tells the stories behind the images.

### Gallery Open Houses & Curator Talks – 2024

Sun, Feb 25 @ 1-3pm	Sun, Apr 7 @ 1-3pm	Sun, Jul 14 @ 1-3pm
Tue, Feb 27 @ 6-8 pm	Tue, Apr 9 @ 6-8 pm	Tue, Jul 16 @ 6-8 pm
Wed, Mar 20 @ 6-8 pm	Sun, Jun 2 @ 1-3pm	Sun, Aug 4 @ 1-3pm
	Tue, Jun 4 @ 6-8 pm	Tue, Aug 6 @ 6-8 pm



Sponsored with support from Cuyahoga Arts & Culture

## FROM ISRAEL. NOW.

Presented by The Temple Museum of Jewish Art, Religion and Culture

Through June 1, 2024

The Temple-Tifereth Israel  
26000 Shaker Blvd, Beachwood

The terrible events of October 7 2023, and their aftermath continue to be an omnipresent element of our life, even if we do not live in Israel. "From Israel. Now" is a series of changing exhibits of artworks produced by leading and emerging Israeli creatives in direct response to the unfolding events.

- Contact Kayta Oicherman, museum director, [koicherman@tmti.org](mailto:koicherman@tmti.org) to schedule a visit.



Photo: Itzik Rennert "Festival" 2023



## REFLECTING ON OCTOBER 7, 2023

with **Elinoy Kisslove, Artist-in-Residence**  
Presented by @Akiva

March 3 – 11, 2024

**Elinoy Kisslove** is a graffiti artist and activist, the owner of “Grafitiyul,” and lives in Tel Aviv. In her art, Kisslove focuses on social and political messages as a response to issues in Israeli daily life that many times are forgotten. Following the attacks of October 7, Kisslove created a series of images in south Tel Aviv, “Heroes of the War.” While in Cleveland, she will discuss “The Visual Language of Street Art in Times of Crisis.”

- Email [info@akivacleveland.org](mailto:info@akivacleveland.org) for information.



 Sponsored with support from the Jewish Federation’s Cleveland Israel Arts Connection.

## 48<sup>TH</sup> CLEVELAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

CIFF48 in person @ Playhouse Square  
April 3 – 13, 2024

CIFF48 Streams (online)  
April 14 – 21, 2024

CIFF48 will take place in-person followed by CIFF48 Streams, which will take place online. The Festival will once again present their Jewish and Israeli Visions sidebar. These films from – or about – Israel and the Jewish diaspora enlighten and entertain with their unique cultural perspective.

- CIFF48 program details will be announced in early March at [clevelandfilm.org](http://clevelandfilm.org).



**JETC.** Jewish-themed cultural events



## THE GIRL IN THE DIARY: Searching for Rywka from the Łódź Ghetto

Presented by the Maltz Museum  
from Galicia Jewish Museum in Kraków, Poland

Through April 28, 2024

Maltz Museum  
2929 Richmond Road, Beachwood

In 1945, a diary was found in the ashes of a destroyed crematorium in the liberated Auschwitz-Birkenau Camp. It was written by a 14-year-old Jewish girl named Rywka Lipszyc and documented her life in the Łódź Ghetto between October 1943 and April 1944.

Rywka’s diary told stories of a young girl who lost her siblings and parents, but never lost hope or her faith. There are no known photographs of Rywka. We do not know the color of her hair or eyes, the way she smiled or laughed. She exists for us only through the words in her diary. “The Girl in the Diary” is a tribute to the life of a child who will not be forgotten.

- For more information on booking student or adult group tours, please contact [tours@mmjh.org](mailto:tours@mmjh.org).



**JETC.**

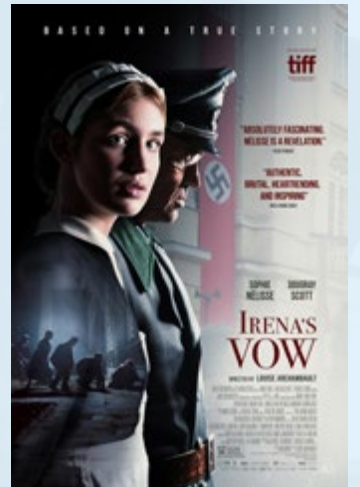


## ONE LIFE

A film by James Hawes

Opening Nationwide, March 15, 2024

Starring Anthony Hopkins, Johnny Flynn, and Helena Bonham Carter “One Life” tells the story of Sir Nicholas ‘Nicky’ Winton, a young London broker who, in the months leading up to World War II, rescued Jewish children from the Nazis.



## IRENA'S VOW

A film by Louise Archambault

Opening Nationwide, April 15, 2024

“Irena’s Vow” follows the life of a Polish nurse Irene Gut Opdyke who was awarded the Righteous Among the Nations medal for showing remarkable courage in her attempt to save Polish Jews during World War II.

# "AURORA"

**World Premiere Piccolo Concerto**  
Oded Zehavi, Composer

March 7 – 9, 2024  
Severance Music Center  
11001 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland




Oded Zehavi's first concerto for piccolo and orchestra will be premiered by The Cleveland Orchestra, Fabio Luisi conducting, in Severance Music Center: a commission by its principal piccolo Mary Kay Fink and music director Franz Welser-Möst.

Oded Zehavi's music runs the gamut from atonality to neo-romanticism and has won international accolades from both audiences and critics for its appealing and emotional content. A Jerusalem native, Zehavi is well versed in a wide variety of musical styles and is renowned for his vocal scores and textual affinity for classics of Hebrew literature. He is the recipient of numerous prizes and residencies, most recently the 2015 Schusterman Visiting Artist Residency (Case Western Reserve

University and Cleveland Institute of Music, Ohio, USA) as well as the 2014 Prime Minister's Prize for Composition.

Zehavi served as a tank commander during the First Lebanon War, an experience which profoundly affected his world view and musical direction. Zehavi is Professor of Music at Haifa University, where he founded the Department of Music in 1995. He resides in Tel Aviv with his wife and two children.

- For tickets visit [www.clevelandorchestra.com](http://www.clevelandorchestra.com) or call 216-231-1111.
- Use code "JFED" for ticket discounts.



 Sponsored with support from the Jewish Federation of Cleveland and the Cleveland Israel Arts Connection.

## HAZAMIR GALA CONCERT

Presented by HaZamir:  
The International Jewish Teen Choir

April 7, 2024 @ 2:30 pm  
Carnegie Hall, New York City

**HaZamir: The International Jewish Teen Choir** welcomes Jewishly identified and musically talented teens from a broad range of cultural backgrounds and levels of religious observance.

The annual Gala Concert gathers teens from Cleveland and our sister city Beit Shean, Israel together with 33 other chapters from the United States and Israel to perform Jewish choral music on the world's greatest stages.

- For details visit [www.HaZamir.org](http://www.HaZamir.org) or email [HaZaCleveland@gmail.com](mailto:HaZaCleveland@gmail.com).



## 2024 CLEVELAND INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

Presented by Piano Cleveland

July 28 – August 10, 2024

The 2024 Cleveland International Piano Competition has been redesigned to identify and empower future leaders of the piano world. Three contestants from Israel have been selected to compete in the CIPC.



Ido Zeev



Nabeel Hayek



Tomer Rubinstein

## LAHAV SHANI CONDUCTS THE CLEVELAND ORCHESTRA

April 26 – 28, 2024

Severance Music Center  
11001 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland



Photo: Marco Borggreve

Following a triumphant performance with his beloved Israel Philharmonic at Severance Music Center in November 2022, **Lahav Shani** returns to Cleveland this spring to conduct The Cleveland Orchestra. Lahav Shani was appointed music director of the Israel Philharmonic (IPO) in 2020. His close relationship with the IPO began in his youth when he played as a pianist in a youth concert, and in 2007 when he performed as a soloist under the baton of Zubin Mehta.

Born in Tel Aviv in 1989, Lahav Shani began his piano studies at age six. He studied with Prof. Arie Vardi at the Buchmann-Mehta School of Music, Tel Aviv University and completed his studies at the Academy of Music Hanns Eisler, Berlin, where he studied conducting with Prof. Christian Ehwald and piano with Prof. Fabio Bidini. Shani was mentored by Daniel Barenboim during his studies.

- For tickets visit [www.clevelandorchestra.com](http://www.clevelandorchestra.com) or call 216-231-1111.
- Use code "JFED" for ticket discounts.



 Sponsored with support from the Jewish Federation's Cleveland Israel Arts Connection.

## SACRED AND PROFANE

ChamberFest Cleveland Season 12

June 12 – 29, 2024



Various Venues

**Yaron Kohlberg**, president of Piano Cleveland joins **Roman Rabinovich**, co-artistic director of ChamberFest Cleveland to collaborate on two of this season's concerts.

**IGOR STRAVINSKY The Rite of Spring**  
with percussionists Alexander Cohen and Tom Sherwood  
Thursday, June 20, 2024 @ 7:30 pm

**GEORGE GERSHWIN / ARR. PERCY GRAINGER**  
**Porgy and Bess Fantasy for Two Pianos**  
Wednesday, June 26, 2024 @ 7:30 pm




Jerusalem native **Yaron Kohlberg** won the silver medal in the 2007 Cleveland International Piano Competition. He is one of today's top Israeli pianists and has played as soloist and chamber musician in major halls in 40 countries spanning five continents.



**Roman Rabinovich** made his Israel Philharmonic debut under Zubin Mehta at age ten, having immigrated to Israel a year earlier from Tashkent, Uzbekistan. Winner of the 12th Arthur Rubinstein International Piano Master Competition in 2008.

- For more information and a complete schedule of concerts, visit [www.chamberfestcleveland.com](http://www.chamberfestcleveland.com), call 216-471-8887, or email [info@chamberfestcleveland.com](mailto:info@chamberfestcleveland.com).

 Sponsored with support from the Jewish Federation's Cleveland Israel Arts Connection.



Israeli pianist and composer **Matan Porat** will be serving on the distinguished eight-member jury for the fiftieth anniversary of the Cleveland International Piano Competition. Born in Tel-Aviv, Porat studied with leading pianists before obtaining his master's degree from the Juilliard School.

- For details visit [www.pianocleveland.org](http://www.pianocleveland.org).

 Sponsored with support from the Jewish Federation's Cleveland Israel Arts Connection.






# MANDEL JCC CLEVELAND JEWISH BOOK FESTIVAL

Presented by the Mandel Jewish Community Center

The 24th annual Cleveland Jewish Book Festival will showcase a broad selection of fiction and non-fiction books and authors with Israeli and Jewish themes. Join these acclaimed authors to hear the stories behind their books.

- Please visit [www.mandeljcc.org/bookfest](http://www.mandeljcc.org/bookfest) for more information and tickets.



 The Mandel JCC is a proud beneficiary agency of the Jewish Federation of Cleveland.

## ISRAEL STORY PRESENTS WARTIME DIARIES

A specially curated program developed by the award-winning podcast "Israel Story" with Yochai Maital and Mishy Harman (scheduled to appear)

Thursday, May 16, 2024 @ 7:30 pm  
Mandel JCC  
26001 South Woodland Rd, Beachwood



Everything in this corner of the world has changed since Saturday, October 7. All around us, friends, family, and colleagues have experienced loss. "Wartime Diaries" will share diverse voices and testimonies that try to paint a picture of these devastating times.

 Sponsored with support from the Jewish Federation's Cleveland Israel Arts Connection.



## DARE TO LEAD LIKE A GIRL with Dalia Feldheim

Tuesday, March 12, 2024 @ 10:00 am  
Virtual

"Lead Like a Girl" is a holistic look at how to achieve purpose and joy at work. It is about turning the world of work into a place where empathy, intuition, passion, and resilience take their rightful place, where women can lead like women and men can tap into their more feminine leadership traits and lead (more) like a girl!

**Dalia Feldheim**, founder of Flow Leadership Consultancy, draws on her own extensive corporate leadership experience and her passion for championing others, to enable organizations to promote a more authentic, happy and psychologically safe working culture.



## SIEGAL LIFELONG LEARNING PRESENTS

To register visit [www.case.edu/lifelonglearning](http://www.case.edu/lifelonglearning), call 216-368-2091, email [lifelonglearning@case.edu](mailto:lifelonglearning@case.edu).



### ENVISIONING WOMEN FROM THE TORAH: THE ART OF MIDRASH

Siona Benjamin, Artist

Thursdays, May 2 – 23, 2024  
@ 2 - 3:30 pm  
Virtual

The practice of interpreting Biblical text dates back nearly 2,000 years to the first rabbinic Midrashim. Experience this tradition through the eyes of artists, gaining new insights into familiar stories.

### WHERE HARRY MET SALLY: THE DELECTABLE HISTORY OF THE JEWISH DELI

Ted Merwin, PhD, Senior Writer,  
Jewish Federations of North America

Wednesday, May 8, 2024 @ 7 pm  
Landmark Centre Bldg., 25700 Science Park Dr., Beachwood



The corner Jewish deli has been an iconic institution in both Jewish and American life, becoming an icon in popular culture. Does the deli have a future in an age of health-consciousness and gourmet food trends? What, if anything, has taken the place of the deli as a "secular synagogue" for Jews to get together in a non-religious space?

### MOVIN' ON UP: JEWS AND UPWARD MOBILITY IN POPULAR ENTERTAINMENT

Ted Merwin, PhD, Senior Writer,  
Jewish Federations of North America

Thursday, May 9, 2024 @ 10 am – 12 pm  
Landmark Centre Bldg., 25700 Science Park Dr., Beachwood



This talk will look at representations of Jewish residences in vaudeville, stand-up comedy, and sitcoms (including Seinfeld and Curb Your Enthusiasm) to trace how increasing affluence among Jews has been satirized in ways that reveal underappreciated aspects of the American Jewish domestic experience.

### MAH JONGG: HOW A CHINESE GAME BECAME A JEWISH TRADITION

Gregg Swain, Mah Jongg Historian and Psychologist

Monday, May 20, 2024 @ 1 – 2:30 pm  
Landmark Centre Building, 25700 Science Park Dr., Beachwood

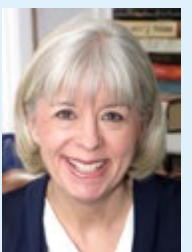
Have you ever wondered why Mah Jongg is often referred to as Jewish game? How did this pastime originally played by Chinese men, become a mainstay of Jewish American women's lives? Learn how this game enriched the lives of Jewish women in the States, promoting fellowship and a sense of community.

### MAH JONGG: A WINDOW INTO CHINA

Gregg Swain, Mah Jongg Historian and Psychologist

Tuesday, May 21, 2024 @ 10 am – 12 pm  
Landmark Centre Building  
25700 Science Park Dr., Beachwood

Mah Jongg is considered to be the national game of China. It evolved into the version played today by millions of people around the world. The rituals of the game and the tiles themselves provide an insight into Chinese culture and art.





# #BRING THEM HOME NOW

Designed by **Nancy Schwartz-Katz** and championed by **Sharon Rosenbaum**, two 15' x 10' ribbons displaying the faces of the 240 hostages were installed outside the Jewish Federation of Cleveland building this past December. The faces on the ribbon serve as a visual reminder that our brothers and sisters in Israel are still being held hostage following the October 7 attacks.



Nancy Schwartz-Katz, Judaic artist; Roee Perry, project manager at Adam Building Company, and Sharon Rosenbaum, member of the executive committee of the Jewish Federation of Cleveland's board of trustees, stand with the top portion of one of the ribbons.

*Made possible through the generosity of Pam & Craig Kahn.*

## CLEVELAND ISRAEL ARTS CONNECTION

The Cleveland Israel Arts Connection is a program of the Jewish Federation of Cleveland, connecting our community with the most dynamic 21st century cultural experiences that Israel has to offer. Working in partnership with Northeast Ohio's leading arts organizations, we strive to identify, enhance, promote, and create unique and engaging Israeli cultural opportunities.

**Daniel N. Zelman**, Board Chair    **Erika B. Rudin-Luria**, President

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# BECOME A PATRON

## OF CLEVELAND ISRAEL ARTS CONNECTION

Join our Patron Society and help ensure high-quality, thought-provoking, and emotional Israeli arts and culture continues in Cleveland.

You will enjoy "Meet the Artist" receptions, name recognition in the twice-yearly arts brochures and on [www.jewishcleveland.org](http://www.jewishcleveland.org), plus the satisfaction of knowing you are helping connect Cleveland and Israel through the arts.

For more information about the Cleveland Israel Arts Connection Patron Society, please contact Rebecca Sattin at [rsattin@jewishcleveland.org](mailto:rsattin@jewishcleveland.org) or 216-593-2873.

# WAYS YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

**Support vital community services** via the Campaign for Jewish Needs.

**Become a Cleveland Israel Arts Connection Patron** and bring our program to life!

**Ensure creative Israel arts programming** by responding with your own ideas and programs.

If interested, email [israelarts@jewishcleveland.org](mailto:israelarts@jewishcleveland.org)



THE JEWISH FEDERATION'S  
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*We regret the omission of any names.*

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Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Building  
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