



A LIVING  
MEMORIAL  
TO THE  
HOLOCAUST

Edmond J. Safra Plaza  
36 Battery Place, New York, NY 10280  
(646) 437-4200 [www.mjhnyc.org](http://www.mjhnyc.org)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Contact: Abby R. Spilka  
(646) 437-4333  
[aspilka@mjhnyc.org](mailto:aspilka@mjhnyc.org)

## ***May-August Public Programming Schedule Announced at the Museum of Jewish Heritage — A Living Memorial to the Holocaust***

New York, NY –Public programming this spring and summer at the **Museum of Jewish Heritage—A Living Memorial to the Holocaust** will feature the launch of **Film Club @MJH**, an intriguing literary series called **Terrace Talks**, and **concerts with virtuoso performers** reflecting dynamic Jewish musical traditions. The Museum will present events with Sephardic super star **Gerard Edery** (May 26), the **Chief Cantor of Vienna Shmuel Barzilai** (June 3), and **all-stars from the Krakow Jewish Music Festival** including Klezmer great **Frank London** (June 9). In addition, a **comedy show featuring** Cory Kahaney, Jessica Kirson, and Esther Goodhart (May 16) about the people who love mah jongg will be presented in conjunction with the Museum’s newest special exhibition, *Project Mah Jongg*.

New this year is the **Film Club @MJH**, which engages the Museum’s film audience members via an online community on Facebook where viewers can discuss the films and suggest films for consideration. Club members will also receive exclusive benefits at participating downtown businesses. This series of six domestic and foreign films includes the Coen brothers’ *A Serious Man* (June 2), followed by a discussion with Rabbi Irwin Kula and film critic Leonard Quart, and the French/German production *Saviors in the Night (Unter Bauern)* (June 30), which opened this year’s New York Jewish Film Festival. The dates and program details for all six films can be found below.

Following on the success of last summer’s **Terrace Talks**, the Museum is once again offering a line-up of fascinating authors presented in one of the Museum’s beautiful spaces with stunning views of New York Harbor and the Statue of Liberty. **Louis Begley** (May 5), **Ruth Reichl** (May 9), and **Judith Shulevitz** (July 7) are just a few of the featured speakers. Program details can be found below.

### **May programs :**

- **PEN World Voices Festival** – The Museum welcomes back the Festival for a full day of programs that includes Ben Okri, Salman Rushdie, and Ariel Dorfman (May 2)
- **Why the Dreyfus Affair Matters** – Novelist and lawyer Louis Begley in conversation with *New Yorker* journalist Jane Kramer (May 5)
- **For You Mom, Finally** – Author Ruth Reichl in conversation with literary critic and essayist Daphne Merkin (May 9 – Mother’s Day) [Terrace Talk]
- **Birthplace (Miejsce urodzenia)** – Screening of the powerful documentary about renowned writer Henryk Grynberg’s quest to learn who killed his family in WWII, followed by a discussion with Grynberg and historian Joanna Michlic (May 12) [Film Club]
- **The Future Mah Jongg Players of Majestic Isles** – An afternoon of comedy and stories about mah jongg and the people who are crazy about it, with comedians Cory Kahaney and Jessica Kirson, and Esther Goodhart (May 16)
- **Former Neighbors: A Jewish-Polish Conversation** – A panel of historians and the Chief Rabbi of Poland explore the complicated questions about the revival of Jewish culture in Poland (May 25)

(More)

- ***The Spirit of Sepharad: From Casbah to Caliphate*** – Gerard Edery and friends return for a lively concert celebrating the Sephardic and Mizrahi traditions and the shared melodies of the Jewish, Christian, and Islamic faiths (May 26)

#### June programs :

- ***A Serious Man*** – Following a screening of the Coen Brother's film, Rabbi Irwin Kula and film critic Leonard Quart unravel this black comedy about an ordinary man's search for clarity in a universe gone awry (June 2) [Film Club]
- ***Tradition into Future*** – In this world premiere, Cantor Shmuel Barzilai, Chief Cantor of Vienna, and Adam Holzman, jazz pianist and former member of the Miles Davis Band, perform a unique blend of Hasidic and Klezmer music with jazz and world music (June 3)
- **Celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Krakow Music Festival with *The Stars of Szeroka Street*** – This evening of music from the famous Krakow Festival of Jewish Culture features luminaries Frank London, Lorin Sklamberg, Benzion Miller, and Michael Alpert with special guests Armenian oud master Ara Dinkjian and Indian percussionist Deep Singh. (June 9)
- ***Devotion: A Memoir*** – Author Dani Shapiro in conversation with novelist Lauren Grodstein about her spiritual quest to answer her son's questions about God, mortality, and the afterlife (June 16). [Terrace Talk]
- ***Surviving Hitler: A Love Story*** – The New York City premiere of a documentary chronicling the lives of two German teenagers who fall in love amidst the July 1944 plot to kill Hitler (June 23) [Film Club]
- ***Saviors in the Night (Unter Bauern)*** – The opening night pick of this year's New York Jewish Film Festival tells the riveting true story of a family hidden from 1943-1945 by German farmers (June 30) [Film Club]

#### July programs:

- ***The Sabbath World: Glimpses of a Different Order of Time*** – Author Judith Shulevitz in conversation with Nicholas Lemann, dean of the Columbia School of Journalism, about her exploration of the sabbath in Judaism and Christianity (July 7) [Terrace Talk]
- ***Four Seasons Lodge*** – An inspiring documentary that follows a community of Holocaust survivors who come together each summer at their Catskills bungalow colony (July 21) [Film Club]
- ***Ajami*** – This 2010 Academy Award nominee for Best Foreign Film examines the repercussions of a revenge killing in Jaffa's multi-ethnic Ajami neighborhood (July 21) [Film Club]

#### August programs :

- ***Hebrew Mystical Chant with the Kirtan Rabbi*** – Rabbi Andrew Hahn leads call-and-response singing that combines yogic chanting with the language of the Torah and Kabbalah (August 4)
- ***Missing a Beat: The Rants and Regrets of Seymour Krim*** – Mark Cohen discusses his biography of an influential Beat writer who covered the post-war American scene from a Jewish perspective (August 11) [Terrace Talk]

Detailed descriptions are included with this release.

The Museum's three-floor Core Exhibition educates people of all ages and backgrounds about the rich tapestry of Jewish life over the past century—before, during, and after the Holocaust. Special exhibitions include *Project Mah Jongg*, opening May 4 and on view through January 2, 2011; *Traces of Memory: A Contemporary Look at the Jewish Past in Poland*, on view through August 15; and *The Morgenthau: A Legacy of Service*, on view through December 2010. The Museum's new Keeping History Center features *Voices of Liberty*, an interactive installation featuring the stories of immigrants from 1935 through the

present. The Museum offers visitors a vibrant public program schedule in its Edmond J. Safra Hall. It is also home to Andy Goldsworthy's memorial *Garden of Stones*, as well as James Carpenter's *Reflection Passage*, Gift of The Gruss Lipper Foundation.

### Public Programs

#### **PEN WORLD VOICES FESTIVAL**

**Sunday, May 2, 1 P.M.**

#### ***Ben Okri in Conversation with Vanity Fair's Anderson Tepper***

In a rare U.S. appearance, Nigerian-born Ben Okri, author of nine novels, including Booker Prize-winning *The Famished Road*, will discuss his transcendent work with critic Anderson Tepper.

Poet and novelist **Ben Okri** was awarded the Booker Prize for Fiction for his novel *The Famished Road* (1991). Set in a Nigerian village, this is the first in a trilogy of novels that tells the story of Azaro, a spirit child. Azaro's narrative is continued in *Songs of Enchantment* (1993) and *Infinite Riches* (1998). His latest novels are *In Arcadia* (2002), *Starbook* (2007), and *Tales of Freedom* (2009), which brings together poetry and story.

**Anderson Tepper** has been on the editorial staff of *Vanity Fair* since 1998 and has written about books for a variety of publications, including *The New York Times Book Review*, *The Nation*, *TLS*, *Washington Post*, *Village Voice*, *Salon*, *Nextbook*, and *Tin House*.

**2:30 P.M.**

#### ***Two Worlds***

Irakli Kakabadze (*Candidate Jokola*); Anne Landsman (*The Rowing Lesson*); Jose Manuel Prieto (*Nocturnal Butterflies of the Russian Empire*); and Salman Rushdie (*Midnight's Children*); moderated by *New Yorker* staff writer Adam Gopnik

This international panel of writers—all of whom now call America home—will discuss how their increased familiarity with America and its literature has altered their perception of fiction and influenced their own works.

**Irakli Kakabadze** holds an M.S. degree in Conflict Analysis and Resolution from George Mason University in Virginia. Kakabadze is a multifaceted artist who has collaborated with a number of other writers and performers to establish ongoing projects such as the Polyphonic Blues Band and Theater for Change.

**Anne Landsman** is a South African-born novelist. She is the author of *The Devil's Chimney* and *The Rowing Lesson*, for which she won the 2009 Sunday Times Fiction Prize.

**José Manuel Prieto** is the author of several novels, non-fiction books, articles and essays, as well as a translator of Russian Literature into Spanish. His works include *Livadia*, *Mondadori, Barcelona, 1998*, *Enciclopedia de una vida en Rusia, Mondadori, Barcelona, 2003*, *El Tartamundo y la rusa, Tusquets, México 2002* *Treinta dias en Moscú, Mondadori, Barcelona, 2001*. Currently, he is the Margaret and Herman Sokol Fellow at The Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers in The New York Public Library.

**Salman Rushdie** is a British-Indian novelist and essayist. He achieved notability with his second novel, *Midnight's Children* (1981), which won the Booker Prize in 1981. Other notable works include *Shame*

(2003), *Shalimar the Clown* (2005), and *The Enchantress of Florence* (2008). He was the president of the PEN American Center from 2004-2006.

**Adam Gopnik** is an American writer, essayist, and commentator. He is best known as a staff writer for *The New Yorker*—to which he has contributed non-fiction, fiction, memoir, and criticism—and as the author of the essay collection *Paris to the Moon*, an account of the half-decade that Gopnik and his family spent in the French capital.

#### **4:30 P.M.**

#### ***Ariel Dorfman in Conversation with Tablet Magazine's Gabriel Sanders***

Ariel Dorfman (*Death and the Maiden*) was part of the democratic movement that brought Salvador Allende to power in Chile and then saw that revolution come to a violent end. He joins Gabriel Sanders for a far-reaching conversation about art and politics.

**Ariel Dorfman** is a Chilean-American novelist, playwright, essayist, and human rights activist. A citizen of the United States since 2004, he has been a professor of literature and Latin American Studies at Duke University since 1985.

**Gabriel Sanders** was the associate editor of the *Forward* for four years before joining *Tablet*. He has interviewed a wide range of authors at the Museum. His writing has appeared in *The New York Times Book Review*, *Bookforum*, *The Jerusalem Report*, *Time Out New York*, and other publications.

*Each program is \$15, \$10 Museum and PEN members  
Smarttix: 212.868.4444 or www.smarttix.com*

### **TERRACE TALK**

**Wednesday, May 5, 7 P.M.**

#### ***Why the Dreyfus Affair Matters***

(Yale University Press, 2009)

Author Louis Begley in conversation with Jane Kramer

An acclaimed novelist and lawyer, Begley creates a riveting account of the famously complex case that tore France apart, and shows why this abuse of power is still a concern today.

*\$5, free for members*

**Louis Begley** is an American novelist. His first novel, *Wartime Lies*, was written in 1989. It won the PEN/Hemingway Award for a first work of fiction in 1991. The French version, *Une éducation polonaise*, won the Prix Médicis International in 1992. He has also won several German literature prizes, including the Jeanette Schocken Prize in 1995 and the Konrad Adenauer Foundation Literature Prize in 2000. His novel *About Schmidt* was adapted into a major motion picture starring Jack Nicholson.

**Jane Kramer** is a journalist who is the European correspondent for *The New Yorker*; she has written the column “Letter from Europe” for 20 years. Kramer has also written nine books, the latest of which, *Lone Patriot* (2003), is about a militia in the American West. Her other books include *The Last Cowboy*, *Europeans*, and *The Politics of Memory*.

### **TERRACE TALK-MOTHER'S DAY**

(More)

**Sunday, May 9, 2:30 P.M.**

***For You Mom, Finally***

(Penguin, 2010)

Author Ruth Reichl in conversation with literary critic and essayist Daphne Merkin

Reichl's complex portrait of a mother-daughter relationship is an exploration of one of life's biggest mysteries—understanding the person who was your mother before she became your mother.

*\$5, free for members*

**Ruth Reichl** is a food writer, co-producer of PBS's *Gourmet's Diary of a Foodie*, culinary editor for the Modern Library, host of PBS's *Gourmet's Adventures with Ruth*, and the last editor-in-chief of the now shuttered *Gourmet* magazine. She has written three critically acclaimed, best-selling memoirs: *Tender at the Bone: Growing Up at the Table*, *Comfort Me with Apples: More Adventures at the Table*, and *Garlic and Sapphires: The Secret Life of a Critic in Disguise* and has most recently published *Not Becoming My Mother*. Her latest book is *Gourmet Today* a 1,008 page cookbook containing over 1,000 recipes.

**Daphne Merkin** is a literary critic, essayist, and novelist, whose work has appeared in *Commentary Magazine*, *The New Republic*, and *The New Yorker*. She is known for her honest and poetic forays into autobiography and her personal essays tackling subjects ranging from her battle with depression to the unacknowledged complexities of growing up rich on Park Avenue. In 2005, she joined *The New York Times Magazine* as a contributing writer. She is the author of a novel, *Enchantment* (1984) as well as a collection of essays, *Dreaming of Hitler* (1997).

## **FILM CLUB**

**Wednesday, May 12, 7 P.M.**

***Birthplace (Miejsce urodzenia)***

(Poland, 1992, Betacam SP, 47 minutes, Polish with English subtitles)

Written and directed by Pawel Lozinski

Post-screening discussion with writer Henryk Grynberg, the subject of the film, interviewed by historian Joanna Michlic

Henryk Grynberg, renowned for chronicling the fate of the Polish Jews, makes a rare public appearance at the screening of this captivating and poignant documentary about his quest to learn who murdered his relatives during World War II.

*\$10, \$7 students/seniors, \$5 members*

**Henryk Grynberg** is a Polish-Jewish writer and actor who survived the Nazi occupation. He is an award-winning novelist, short-story writer, poet, playwright, and essayist who has authored 20 books of prose and poetry and two dramas.

**Joanna Michlic** is the author of *Poland's Threatening Other: The Image of the Jew from 1880 to the Present* (2008) and with Anthony Polonsky is the editor of *The Neighbors Respond: The Controversy over the Jedwabne Massacre in Poland* (2003). She is the Director of the Project on Families, Children and the Holocaust at the Hadassah-Brandeis Institute at Brandeis University. She was appointed the Helene and Allen Apter Chair of Holocaust Studies and Ethical Values in Lehigh University's Department of History in April 2007.

## **COMEDY**

**Sunday, May 16, 2:30 P.M.**

### ***The Future Mah Jongg Players of Majestic Isles***

Join us for an afternoon of comedy and stories about mah jongg and the people who are crazy about it, featuring comedians Cory Kahaney and Jessica Kirson, and hosted by self-proclaimed "Oriental Yenta" Esther Goodhart.

*\$15, \$12 students/seniors, \$10 members*

**Cory Kahaney** is best known from the first season of *Last Comic Standing* (NBC). She has been seen as the comedy coach on *Nick at Nite*, the *Funniest Mom in America* series, and her own standup special on *Comedy Central Presents*. Cory's most recent success was her critically acclaimed off-Broadway production, *The J.A.P Show: The Princesses of Comedy*. Kahaney performed at the Museum of Jewish Heritage last year in a collaborative comedic theater work called *Pastrami on Rye... With Mayo*, which was selected for the opening night gala of the 2009 Chutzpah! Festival.

Comedian **Jessica Kirson** has performed at a variety of comedy festivals throughout the country, including those sponsored by Toyota, Comedy Central, and HBO. She has been featured on various television shows including, Comedy Central's *Premium Blend* and *Fresh Faces*, Nickelodeon's *Sixth in the Suburbs*, Noggin's *LOL*, VH1's "Awesomely Bad" Shows, NBC's *Last Comic Standing* (Seasons 2 and 3), NBC's *Last Call With Carson Daly*, and *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*.

**Esther Goodhart** is a comedian. She is a host of the syndicated program *Asian America* and is known as the Oriental Yenta. She teaches Hebrew at three temples, and she ran unsuccessfully for the Demarest (NJ) Town Council as a Republican.

### **TERRACE TALK**

**Monday, May 24, 7 P.M.**

***Crossing Mandelbaum Gate***

(Scribner, 2010)

Pulitzer Prize-winning author Kai Bird in conversation with Gabriel Sanders, deputy editor, *Tablet Magazine*

Each day on his way to school, Bird passed through Mandelbaum Gate, which separates Israeli-controlled West Jerusalem from the Arab-controlled East. As an American who grew up in the midst of wars in the Middle East from the 1950s through the 1970s, Bird provides an illuminating perspective on the Arab-Israeli conflict in this fascinating memoir.

*\$5, free for members*

**Kai Bird** is an American Pulitzer Prize-winning author and columnist best known for his biographies of political figures. Bird and co-author Martin J. Sherwin won the 2006 Pulitzer Prize in biography for *American Prometheus: The Triumph and Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer*.

**Gabriel Sanders** was the associate editor of the *Forward* for four years before joining *Tablet*. He has interviewed a wide range of authors at the Museum. His writing has appeared in *The New York Times Book Review*, *Bookforum*, *The Jerusalem Report*, *Time Out New York*, and other publications.

### **DISCUSSION**

**Tuesday, May 25, 7 P.M.**

***Former Neighbors: Contemporary Jewish-Polish Relations***

Dr. Antony Polonsky, Brandeis University; Michael Schudrich, Chief Rabbi of Poland; and Tomasz Kunczewicz, director, Auschwitz Jewish Center; moderated by Dr. David Marwell, Museum Director

Home to Europe's largest Jewish community before the Holocaust, Poland is currently experiencing a revival of Jewish culture. The panel explores this resurgence and the complicated questions it raises about contemporary identity.

*\$10, \$7 students/seniors, \$5 members*

**Antony Polonsky** is the Albert Abramson Professor of Holocaust Studies at Brandeis University. He has won the National Jewish Book Award in Eastern European Studies and been awarded the Knight's Cross, order of merit, Republic of Poland for outstanding services to studies in Polish Jewry.

**Rabbi Michael Schudrich** is the Chief Rabbi of Poland. He was born in New York City to a Polish Jewish family from Baligrod. Schudrich is a graduate of SUNY Stony Brook and Columbia University, and received rabbinic ordination from Jewish Theological Seminary of America, and later, an orthodox rabbinical ordination through Yeshiva University from Rabbi Moshe Tendler. He served as rabbi of the Jewish Community of Japan from 1983-89.

**Tomasz Kunczewicz** holds a M.A. in English Studies from Adam Mickiewicz University and an M.A. in Jewish History from Brandeis University. His areas of study are Polish-Jewish history, the Holocaust, anti-Semitism, and xenophobia and tolerance education. He has served as the Director of the Auschwitz Jewish Center, in Oświęcim, Poland since 2000.

**David G. Marwell, Ph.D.** served as the Chief of Investigative Research at the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Special Investigations, where he conducted historical research in support of prosecution of Nazi war criminals living in the United States. He also played a major role in the Justice Department's investigations of Klaus Barbie and Josef Mengele. He is the director of the Museum of Jewish Heritage — A Living Memorial to the Holocaust.

### **CONCERT**

**Wednesday, May 26, 7 P.M.**

*The Spirit of Sepharad: From Casbah to Caliphate*

Gerard Ederly and friends present a musical celebration that explores both the rich cultural strains that influence the Sephardic and Mizrahi traditions and the shared melodies of the Jewish, Christian, and Islamic faiths.

*\$15, \$12 students/seniors, \$10 members*

**Gerard Ederly's** record label, Sefarad Records, produces concerts and recordings that synthesize the eclectic traditional folk styles of disparate, far flung, and often interrelated cultures from the Judeo-Arab, Judeo-Spanish, Middle Eastern, Northern European, and Eastern European musical worlds. Ederly sings in 15 languages and speaks four fluently. In 2008 he released Sefarad's 13th recording — *Two Faiths, One Voice* with Maria Krupoves.

### **FILM CLUB**

**Wednesday, June 2, 6:30 P.M.**

*A Serious Man*

(U.S.A., 2009, 35mm, 105 minutes)

(More)

Written and directed by Joel Coen and Ethan Coen

Post-screening discussion with Rabbi Irwin Kula, host of PBS' *Simple Wisdom*, moderated by film critic Leonard Quart

Following the screening of the Coen brothers' enigmatic tale of a modern-day Job set in the 1970s, Rabbi Kula unravels this black comedy about an ordinary man's search for clarity in a universe gone awry.

*\$10, \$7 students/seniors, \$5 members*

**Rabbi Irwin Kula**, the host of *Simple Wisdom*, is known as both a provocative religious leader and a respected spiritual iconoclast. A renowned thinker, teacher, and rabbi, he is the author of *Yearnings: Embracing the Sacred Messiness of Life* (Hyperion, Sept. 2006), winner of a Books for a Better Life award, and selected by *Spirituality & Health* magazine as one of the 10 Best Spiritual Books of 2006.

**Leonard Quart** is professor emeritus of Cinema Studies at the College of Staten Island, CUNY. His essays and articles have appeared in *Film Quarterly*, *Dissent*, *The Forward*, and *London Magazine*, among others. For over 20 years, he has been an editor and contributing editor of *Cineaste*. He is the co-author of books including *The Films of Mike Leigh* and *How the War was Remembered*.

## **CONCERT**

### **World Premiere**

**Presented by the Austrian Cultural Forum, New York**

**Thursday, June 3, 7 P.M.**

### ***Tradition into Future***

Cantor Shmuel Barzilai, Chief Cantor of Vienna's Jewish community and Adam Holzman, jazz pianist and former member of the Miles Davis Band

Barzilai and Holzman perform a unique program fusing music from the Hasidic and Klezmer traditions with jazz and world music.

Co-sponsored by the Austrian Cultural Forum.

*\$15, \$12 students/seniors, \$10 for Museum members and Friends of the Austrian Cultural Forum*

**Cantor Shmuel Barzilai** is the Chief Cantor of the Israelitische Kultusgemeinde Wien in Austria. Barzilai has a lyrical tenor voice, and studied under cantor Moshe Stern in the Tel Aviv Institute for Cantorial Art. He was in the first graduating class of the Institute. Barzilai has served as the Chief Cantor in Vienna since 1992, and frequently tours throughout Europe.

**Adam Holzman** is a recording artist, concert performer, soloist, and educator. He is the founder of the Guitar Department at the University of Texas at Austin where, in addition to his active performing career, he heads a thriving guitar studio. From 1992-1994 Holzman held the title of Maestro Extraordinario given by the Universidad Autonoma de Nuevo Leon, Monterrey, Mexico, where he served as artist-in-residence. In 2001, Holzman was awarded the Ernst von Dohnanyi Prize for Outstanding Achievement from Florida State University and the Robert W. Hamilton Fine Arts Award from the University of Texas.

## **CONCERT**

**Wednesday, June 9, 7 P.M.**

**Celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Krakow Music Festival with**

### ***The Stars of Szeroka Street***

Musical luminaries Frank London, Lorin Sklamberg, Benzion Miller, and Michael Alpert—frequent performers at the Krakow Festival of Jewish Culture—perform a special concert of spiritual music from the meditative to the ecstatic. They are joined by Cantor Daniel Gildar (piano), Brandon Seabrook (guitar & electronics), Pablo Aslan (bass), and special guests Armenian oud master Ara Dinkjian and Indian percussionist Deep Singh.

*\$25, \$20 students/seniors, \$15 members*

**Frank London**, a trumpeter and composer, is a member of the Klezmatics, Hasidic New Wave, and has performed with John Zorn, LL Cool J, Mel Torme, Lester Bowie's Brass Fantasy, LaMonte Young, They Might Be Giants, David Byrne, Jane Siberry, Ben Folds 5, Mark Ribot, Maurice El Medioni, and Gal Costa, and is featured on over 100 CDs. His own recordings include *Invocations*; Frank London's Klezmer Brass All Stars *Di Shikere Kapelye* and *Brotherhood of Brass*; *Nigunim* and *The Zmiros Project* (with Klezmatics vocalist Lorin Sklamberg); *The Debt*; *The Shekhina Big Band*; the soundtrack to *The Shvitz*; the soundtrack to Pearl Gluck's *The Divan*, and four releases with the Hasidic New Wave.

**Lorin Sklamberg** can be heard on more than 50 CDs, and regularly collaborates with his Klezmatics bandmates for various projects. He composes and performs for film, dance, stage, and circus, produces recordings, and teaches and lectures. The Klezmatics are globally renowned world music superstars — and the only klezmer band to win a Grammy award. They have performed with folk singers Pete Seeger, Arlo Guthrie, and Odetta, classical virtuoso Itzhak Perlman, singer-songwriters Ben Folds and Natalie Merchant, Beat poet legend Allen Ginsberg, and many others.

**Cantor Benzion Miller** was born at the Dachau concentration camp. He has held positions in Montreal at the Sheves Achim Synagogue on Côte-des-Neiges, and in Toronto. Since 1981, he has been cantor of Temple Beth El (now Young Israel Beth-El) of Borough Park in Brooklyn.

**Michael Alpert** is a klezmer singer and multi-instrumentalist who has been called a key figure in the klezmer revival of the 1970s and 1980s. He has played in a number of groups since that time, including Brave Old World, the New York Bandura Ensemble, Khevrisa, Kapelye, and also with clarinetist David Krakauer and bandurist Julian Kytasty. He is also a noted teacher of Yiddish folkdance and has worked to see dance retake its traditional place in klezmer music.

**Cantor Daniel Gildar** studied at the Cleveland Institute of Music, majoring in piano, theory, and voice. In addition to his cantorial duties, Gildar has an international reputation as an accompanist of both cantorial and secular music. He has participated in seven historic missions to Eastern and Central Europe under the auspices of the Chaim and Gila Weiner Society for the Advancement of Cantorial Art. Gildar has been the accompanist for every concert produced by Cantors of the World.

**Brandon Seabrook**, a graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music, is currently based in Brooklyn. He has become known for his incredible energy, unique musical voice and his fresh and exciting approach to the banjo and guitar. He has performed throughout the United States and Europe including All Tomorrows Parties Festival, U.K., Warsaw Jazz Festival, and as artist in residence at the Borderland Foundation for Avant-garde Culture in Sejny, Poland. He has performed alongside noted improvisers such as Roswell Rudd, Anthony Coleman, Min Xiao-Fen, Roger Miller, Jack Wright, Jessica Pavone, and many others.

**Pablo Aslan** is a pioneer and leading figure in tango jazz, a growing new style that blends the repertoire, instrumentation and vocabulary of tango with elements of jazz.

*(More)*

**Ara Dinkjian** is best known as the founder of the highly influential and groundbreaking instrumental group, Night Ark, which recorded four CDs for RCA/BMG and PolyGram/Universal. His compositions have been recorded in 13 different languages by top singers and musicians throughout the world (including Eleftheria Arvanitaki and Sezen Aksu). His hit “Homecoming” (“Dinata Dinata”) was performed at the closing ceremonies of the 2004 Athens Olympics. Dinkjian is also considered one of the top oud players in the world.

**Deep Singh** is an Indian percussionist, who began to play the tabla at the age of three and at the age of seven became the youngest disciple of Ustad Allah Rakha. Singh’s professional career started at the age of nine and he has since performed at prestigious venues such as The Royal Albert Hall, London and Carnegie Hall, among many others. Singh has accompanied the finest musicians from India such as Dr. Aruna Sharma, Ustad Salamat Ali Khan, Ustad Sultan Khan, Hari Harren, Ghulam Ali, and many more. With his years of experience as an Indian classical musician and playing with western bands, Singh is revered as a master in blending music from the east and west.

### **TERRACE TALK**

**Wednesday, June 16, 7 P.M.**

***Devotion: A Memoir***

(HarperCollins, 2010)

Author Dani Shapiro in conversation with novelist Lauren Grodstein (*A Friend of the Family*)

When her son poses difficult questions about God, mortality, and the afterlife, Shapiro embarks on a reflective journey with the help of a yogi, a rabbi, and a Buddhist.

\$5, free for members

**Dani Shapiro** most recent books include *Black & White* (2007), *Family History* (2003), and the best-selling memoir *Slow Motion*. Her short stories and essays have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Granta*, *Tin House*, *Elle*, *Bookforum*, *Oprah*, *Ploughshares*, among others, and have been broadcast on National Public Radio. She is a contributing editor at *Travel + Leisure* and guest editor of *Best New American Voices 2010*. Her new memoir, *Devotion*, was published in February.

**Lauren Grodstein’s** books include the novels *A Friend of the Family* and *Reproduction is the Flaw of Love*, and *The Best of Animals*, a story collection. Her pseudonymous *Girls Dinner Club* was a New York Public Library Book for the Teen Age. Her work has been translated into German, Italian, French, Turkish, and other languages, and her essays and stories have been widely anthologized. Grodstein teaches creative writing at Rutgers-Camden, where she helps administer the college’s MFA program.

### **FILM CLUB**

**New York City Premiere**

**Wednesday, June 23, 6:30 P.M.**

***Surviving Hitler: A Love Story***

(U.S.A., 2010, DigiBeta, 67 minutes)

Directed by John-Keith Wasson

This documentary chronicles the lives of two German teenagers who fall in love amidst the July 1944 plot to kill Hitler.

\$10, \$7 students/seniors, \$5 members

## **FILM CLUB**

**Wednesday, June 30, 6:30 P.M.**

***Saviors in the Night (Unter Bauern)***

(Germany/France, 2009, 35mm, 100 minutes, German with English subtitles)

Directed by Ludi Boeken

The opening night pick of this year's New York Jewish Film Festival, this film is the riveting true story of how Marga Spiegel, her husband, and their young daughter were hidden from 1943-1945 by courageous farmers in southern Münsterland.

*\$10, \$7 students/seniors, \$5 members*

## **TERRACE TALK**

**Wednesday, July 7, 7 P.M.**

***The Sabbath World: Glimpses of a Different Order of Time***

(Random House, 2010)

Author Judith Shulevitz in conversation with Nicholas Lemann, Columbia University

Part history, part meditation, Shulevitz's book delves into the Sabbath in Judaism and Christianity while invoking a wealth of non-religious sources, from William Wordsworth to Sigmund Freud.

Ultimately, *The Sabbath World* suggests that the Sabbath offers a way to live outside of time, even for one day each week—an act not just of renewal but of resistance in an obsessively over-scheduled and over-networked world.

*\$5, free for members*

**Judith Shulevitz** is a journalist, editor, and culture critic. She graduated from Yale College in 1986. From 1991 to 1994, Shulevitz was the co-editor of *Lingua Franca* with Margaret Talbot. She was the founding culture editor of *Slate*. Shulevitz also worked as deputy editor of *New York* magazine, and was a columnist for the *New York Times Book Review* from 2001 to 2003. Her articles have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The New Republic*, and elsewhere.

**Nicholas Berthelot Lemann** is dean and Henry R. Luce professor at the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. Lemann is from New Orleans and graduated from Harvard University in 1976. He is a journalist, editor, and author of several books on 20th century United States history.

## **FILM CLUB**

**Wednesday, July 21, 6:30 P.M.**

***Four Seasons Lodge***

(U.S.A., 2008, DigiBeta, 101 minutes)

Directed by Andrew Jacobs with cinematography by Albert Maysles

This film is an inspiring and startling documentary that follows a community of Holocaust survivors who come together each summer at their beloved bungalow colony in the Catskills to dance, cook, fight, flirt, - and celebrate their survival.

*\$10, \$7 students/seniors, \$5 members*

**Andrew Jacobs** has been a staff writer at *The New York Times* for the past eight years, where he has covered a wide variety of beats, from the American South and the aftermath of Sept. 11, to New Jersey politics and the New York City Police Department. The idea for *Four Seasons* grew out of a six-part series Jacobs did for the *Times* about summer life in the Catskills. A graduate of New York University, Jacobs spent a year teaching and writing in China during the pro-democracy movement.

**Albert Maysles** and his brother David (1932-1987) are recognized as pioneers of “direct cinema,” earning their distinguished reputations by being the first to make non-fiction feature films—films in which the drama of human life unfolds as is, without scripts, sets, or narration. A recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1965, he has been making films since 1955, including the cult classics *Salesman* (1968); *Gimme Shelter* (1970), the dazzling portrait of Mick Jagger and the Rolling Stones on their American tour which culminated in a killing at the notorious concert at Altamont, and *Grey Gardens* (1976), which captures on film the haunting relationship of the Beales, a mother and daughter living secluded in a decaying East Hampton mansion. He received the Sundance Film Festival 2001 Cinematography Award for Documentaries for *Lalee’s Kin: The Legacy of Cotton*. It was also nominated for an Academy Award; in 2004 the film received the DuPont Columbia Gold Baton Award.

### **FILM CLUB**

**Wednesday, July 28, 6:30 P.M.**

#### ***Ajami***

(Israel, 2009, DigiBeta, 120 minutes, Arabic and Hebrew with English subtitles)

Directed and written by Scandar Copti and Yaron Shani

2010 Academy Award nominee for Best Foreign Film

Set in Jaffa’s multi-ethnic Ajami neighborhood — home to Jews, Muslims, and Christians — this contemporary crime drama examines the repercussions of a revenge killing that reveals the cultural and religious tensions simmering beneath the surface.

*\$10, \$7 students/seniors, \$5 members*

### **CONCERT IN CAFE**

**Wednesday, August 4, 7 P.M.**

#### ***Hebrew Mystical Chant with the Kirtan Rabbi***

Join the Kirtan Rabbi, Andrew Hahn, for an evening of call-and-response singing. Kirtan, an age-old yogic chanting style from India, is intertwined with the lyrical language of the Torah and Kabbalah, resulting in an experience that is contemplative and jubilant.

*\$12, \$10 for members*

**Rabbi Andrew Hahn**, Ph.D combines a variety of tools to introduce Jewish wisdom to an increasingly global, religious village. Popularly known as the Kirtan Rabbi, Hahn’s music is characterized by great energy, passion and melodic flow.

### **TERRACE TALK**

**Wednesday, August 11, 7 P.M.**

#### ***Missing a Beat: The Rants and Regrets of Seymour Krim***

(Syracuse University Press, 2010)

With author Mark Cohen

Cohen introduces Seymour Krim, an influential 1961 Beat writer, to a new generation. Krim pioneered an innovative style of subjective and personal reporting in his writings about the post-war American scene from a Jewish perspective.

*\$5, free for members*

**Mark Cohen** is a cultural critic and lecturer who published numerous articles on Jewish American literary and popular culture for *American Jewish History*, the *Saul Bellow Journal*, *Tablet*, and *Modern Judaism*. He is the author of *Last Century of a Sephardic Community: The Jews of Monastir, 1839-1943*.

## **Exhibitions**

### ***The Mah Jongg Project***

May 4, 2010 - January 2, 2011

Since the 1920s, the game of mah jongg has ignited the popular imagination with its beautiful tiles, mythical origins, and communal spirit. Come learn the history and meanings of the beloved game that became a Jewish-American tradition.

This exhibition is made possible through the generosity of the National Mah Jongg League. Additional support provided by Sylvia Kay Hassenfeld.

*New York* magazine is the media partner.  
More information at [www.projectmahjongg.com](http://www.projectmahjongg.com).

### ***Traces of Memory***

On view through August 15, 2010

[www.mjhnyc.org/traces](http://www.mjhnyc.org/traces)

The exhibition serves as a lament to the destroyed Jewish civilization that once flourished in Poland, a record of the locations of the annihilation of the Jews, and an exploration of the commemorative efforts now taking place there. *Traces of Memory* features images by photographer Chris Schwarz (1948-2007), the founding director of the Galicia Jewish Museum, Krakow, with research and texts by Jonathan Webber. Together they travelled through Poland's countryside to document the visible traces of the Jewish past.

From the permanent exhibition of the Galicia Jewish Museum, Kraków ([www.galiciajewishmuseum.org](http://www.galiciajewishmuseum.org))

### ***The Morgenthau: A Legacy of Service***

On view through December 2010

[www.mjhnyc.org/morgenthau](http://www.mjhnyc.org/morgenthau)

The Morgenthau have embraced the promise of America since their arrival in 1866. Wanting to contribute to their country and their communities, they dedicated themselves to public service. The exhibition tells the story of three generations of this family, and explores the fascinating ways in which their service to others changed the course of world events, American politics, and Jewish history.

*This exhibition is made possible through generous funding from The Isenberg Family Charitable Trust, Marina and Stephen E. Kaufman, Lois and Martin Whitman, Jack Rudin, and New York State Senator Eric T. Schneiderman. Media sponsorship is generously provided by Manhattan Media.*

### ***Keeping History Center***

Now on View

[www.mjhnyc.org/khc](http://www.mjhnyc.org/khc)

Link history with the present using the latest technology in this new installation. Experience breathtaking views of New York Harbor and explore *Voices of Liberty*, a digital soundscape composed of stories about arriving on American shores or seeing the Statue of Liberty for the first time. Come add your story, too. Investigate the intersection of art, memory, and time with *Timekeeper*, a virtual exploration of Andy Goldsworthy's stunning memorial *Garden of Stones*.

The Center is designed by the award-winning firms C&G Design and Potion.

*The Center, dedicated by Morton Pickman in memory of Morris and Fannie Pickman, is made possible by a generous grant from the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation, which is funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; with additional support from New York State Senator Eric T. Schneiderman.*

### ***Reflection Passage***

On permanent display

MacArthur Fellow and architectural artist James Carpenter's site-specific installation captures New York Harbor's ephemeral qualities of light and water and re-presents them inside a main passageway of the waterfront Museum, creating a shimmering and ever-changing reflection.

The external events of the harbor displayed within the Museum environment are seen as a "mirroring of reality," capturing the daily seasonal light and weather cycles. Andy Goldsworthy's *Garden of Stones* sits one level below the Carpenter installation, and like the garden, *Reflection Passage* relies upon changes in the natural world to complete the artistic process.

*Reflection Passage* is the Gift of The Gruss Lipper Foundation.

### ***Garden of Stones***

On permanent display

Andy Goldsworthy's only permanent installation in New York City, *Garden of Stones* is a contemplative space dedicated to the memory of those who perished in the Holocaust and honoring those who survived. There is no charge to visit the garden, which is open during regular Museum hours.

Each of the 18 boulders in the *Garden of Stones* holds a growing dwarf oak evoking not only the adversity and struggle endured by those who experienced the Holocaust, but also the tenacity and fragility of life. Survivors and their families helped the artist plant the garden in September 2003. Nearly seven years later, the living memorial garden continues to inspire in new ways.

### **General Information**

(more)

**TICKETS**

To purchase tickets to public programs call (646) 437-4202, purchase online at [www.mjhnyc.org](http://www.mjhnyc.org), or visit the Museum in Lower Manhattan.

**MUSEUM HOURS**

Sunday through Tuesday, Thursday 10 a.m. to 5:45 p.m.

Wednesday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (DST)

Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (EST)

The Museum is closed on Saturday and major Jewish holidays

The Museum will close at 3 p.m. on May 18 and will be closed May 19, 20 in observance of Shavuot.

**MUSEUM ADMISSION**

General Museum admission is \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors, and \$7 for students. Members and children 12 and younger are admitted free.

Museum admission is **free** on Wednesday evenings between 4 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Note: Tickets to public programs do not include Museum admission. Public programs may require a separate fee.

*The Museum receives general operating support from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, and is a founding member of the Museums of Lower Manhattan.*

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