



VISUAL ART



LITERATURE



FILM



MUSIC



THEATER

Roe Green, Honorary Producer

SPRING & SUMMER
2026
SEASON



CLEVELAND·ISRAEL
ARTS CONNECTION

a program of the Jewish Federation of Cleveland

Spring & Summer 2026 Season

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Dear Friends:

Thank you for your steadfast commitment to supporting Israeli art and culture here in Cleveland! Your support makes it possible for us to bring exceptional experiences that inspire and challenge our community as we celebrate the extraordinary and bountiful cultural mosaic of Israel.

We are thrilled for our newest exhibition at the Roe Green Gallery, **“Contemporary Visions of Israel”** curated by **Jane Glaubinger**, a master curator of prints (retired) for the Cleveland Museum of Art. Open March – August 2026, this exhibition highlights diverse Israeli artists whose works reflect the country’s vibrant and evolving cultural landscape and the continuing emergence of Israeli artists in the international art world. Through a mix of mediums, it offers viewers a fresh and multifaceted perspective on Israel. “Contemporary Visions of Israel” will conclude with a **CIAC Presents: What Makes Israeli Art Israeli with James Snyder**, Director of The Jewish Museum, on **August 3**.

This summer, we are proud to present a **Summer of Israeli Theater**, showcasing remarkable theatrical voices from Israel. In June, we open with “The Goldsmith,” a powerful work that we are thrilled to introduce to local audiences at **Cleveland Play House’s New Ground Theatre Festival**. July brings “Peter is Back” to the **BorderLight Theatre Festival**, offering a bold and imaginative perspective that promises to spark conversation. We conclude the season in August at **Dobama Theatre** with “What’s Wrong with the World?!” a thought-provoking production that reflects the spirit of contemporary Israeli theater at its finest.

In addition to this vibrant theatrical lineup, special musical highlights bookend our summer. In June we proudly sponsor composer **Benjamin Yusupov** at **ChamberFest Cleveland**. His dynamic artistry and international acclaim make this collaboration particularly meaningful, and we are delighted to share his work with you. At the end of July, we look forward to welcoming Israeli pianist **Ilana Vered** as a juror for **Cleveland International Piano Competition and Institute for Young Artists**.

Opening **Fall 2026** at the Roe Green Gallery, **“BORDERS”** will feature the innovative work of multidisciplinary artist **Ronen Sharabani**, curated by **Matthew Garson**. Sharabani blends movement, architecture, light, and conceptual exploration, creating powerful sensory experiences that investigate ritual, conflict, and shifting cultural landscapes. Sharabani continues to drive the boundaries of conceptual art forward by inviting viewers into a space where perception transforms and borders blur.

The quality and variety of our programming is not possible without you – our patrons, donors, and champions of the arts. Thank you for supporting our mission to bring the highest world-class Israeli creativity to Cleveland!

With heartfelt gratitude,

Roe Green *Erica Hartman-Horvitz*
Roe Green Erica Hartman-Horvitz



Erica Hartman-Horvitz and Roe Green

YOM HA’ATZMAUT 2026 Community-Wide Program

Presented by the Jewish Federation of Cleveland

Wednesday, April 22, 2026
Congregation B’nai Jeshurun
27501 Fairmount Blvd., Pepper Pike

- Details coming soon!
- For more information visit jewishcleveland.org.



SUMMER OF ISRAELI THEATER

Experience the best of Israeli theater without leaving home!

 Sponsored by the Jewish Federation's Cleveland Israel Arts Connection.

Three of Cleveland's theatrical powerhouses are presenting Israeli works this summer. Mark your calendars, secure your tickets, and get ready to enjoy the finest collection of Israeli plays outside of Tel Aviv.

The award-winning solo show, "The Goldsmith" will be presented at The Cleveland Play House's New Ground Theatre Festival in June. In July "Peter is Back," a cutting-edge production showcasing Israeli art, technology, and innovation, will be featured at BorderLight Theatre Festival. And finally, Dobama Theatre will present a staged reading of a Texas Adaptation of the Israeli play, "What's Wrong with the World?!"

JUNE STAGED READING



The Goldsmith
Presented by Cleveland Play House
New Ground Theatre Festival

"The Goldsmith," written and performed by **Sharone Sayegh**, is a play with music that traces four generations of an Iraqi-Jewish family across Iraq, Israel, and the United States. Drawing on lived history and personal memory, the play follows a Mizrahi Jewish woman navigating love with heart and humor. As past and present collide, inherited gold jewelry becomes a living archive of memory – melted, reshaped, and passed down through generations.

Performed in English, with excerpts in Hebrew and Arabic, "The Goldsmith" balances humor, music, and heartbreak to offer an intimate and funny exploration of Jewish continuity, cultural inheritance, and the courage it takes to honor where you come from while choosing who you become.

Artist Talkback follows each performance.

- Visit www.clevelandplayhouse.com after May 1 for information.



June 13 & 14, 2026
Outcalt Theatre, Cleveland Play House
1407 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland

JULY



"PETER IS BACK"
Presented by BorderLight
Theatre Festival

July 9, 10, 11, 2026
Playhouse Square District, Cleveland

"Honored members of the Academy! You have done me the honor of inviting me to give you an account of the life I formerly led as an ape."

Whatever the speaking creature in Franz Kafka's 1917 "A Report to an Academy" may be – he is back! And he is going to actually meet you and tell you something about reality today.

"Peter is Back" is a live meeting between the artist **Amir Yatziv** and a CGI avatar, brought to life using advanced artificial intelligence (AI) technology. Peter can follow a script while improvising and responding to the conversation as it unfolds. The artist and his intangible character talk about life, the journey into humanness, and post-humanness.

But you see, there is no magic here, the mechanism is exposed, and you are invited to take part in the cross-species conversation. Try to come as open and tolerant as possible, things could get wild, you know.

Artist Q & A follows each performance.

- Tickets go on sale May 6.
- Visit www.borderlightcle.org for information.



AUGUST STAGED READING



"WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE WORLD?!"
Presented by Dobama Theatre

August 12 - 15, 2026 @ 7:30 pm
Dobama Theatre
2340 Lee Road, Cleveland Heights

Bobbie Tucker, a seventy-year-old woman who lives on a ranch, and whose dream is basically to have another grandson or two, drags her husband Hank along on a crazy mission to save her son's marriage, after he leaves home following a bitter argument with his wife.

A sentimental comedy by **Gur Koren**, "What's Wrong with the World?!" sets a collision course between a woman who just wants to see her family happy, and her kids, the younger generation, who might be ruling the world, but don't necessarily know what to do with it.

Dobama Theatre will present the "Texas Adaptation" of this Israeli comedy. **Alon Pdut's** translation is uniquely fascinating in that it demonstrates the Israeli playwright's/adaptor's perspective on American culture and highlights the universality of family dynamics.

- Visit www.dobama.org for information.



Playwright **Gur Koren** is the dramaturg of the Cameri Theatre of Tel Aviv, and a recipient of the Israeli Theatre Awards Playwright of the Year, 2014.



Alon Pdut is a multitalented Israeli arts professional. His original scripts, adaptations, and translations showcase his storytelling abilities and knack for witty dialogue and engaging narrative.

Photo from original Israeli production.

CONTEMPORARY VISIONS OF ISRAEL

Jane Glaubinger, Ph.D., Curator

March 15 – August 3, 2026

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

- To schedule group tours or individual visits, email israelarts@jewishcleveland.org or call 216-593-2890.

The visual arts in Israel are vibrant and varied. Artists employ different approaches and themes often based on a common cultural experience or are influenced by international trends. The works from local collections in *Contemporary Visions of Israel* illustrate the diversity and vitality of modern Israeli art.

The exhibition includes artists' reactions to October 7, representation of "The Land of Israel," and the emergence of Israeli artists in the international art world.



Jane Glaubinger holds a B.A., M.A., and a Ph.D. in art history. She began her tenure at the Cleveland Museum of Art as a fellow in 1974 and then worked as Curator of Prints for 41 years, until her retirement in 2016.

Throughout her career, Jane has authored numerous articles and catalogs, given myriad lectures, and curated countless exhibitions. Jane has been a member of the Cleveland Israel Arts Connection for many years and curated the CIAC exhibition "Prints from Kibbutz Cabri" in 2014.

 Sponsored by the Jewish Federation's Cleveland Israel Arts Connection.

 Sponsored with support from Cuyahoga Arts & Culture

Home Slippers/Safety Pins, 2019.
Etti Abergel



Fields and Vision: Untitled 03 (detail), 2022. Ori Gersht



ROE GREEN GALLERY OPEN HOUSES + SPECIAL EVENTS

- Free and open to the community, registration required.
- To register email israelarts@jewishcleveland.org.

EXHIBITION OPENING + MEET THE CURATOR

Sunday, March 15, 2026 @ 1 – 3 pm
Roe Green Gallery

Go behind the scenes with curator **Jane Glaubinger** as she discusses the works, the artists, and the themes of the exhibition.

BREAKFAST WITH THE CURATOR

Monday, March 16, 2026 @ 9 – 10:30 am
Roe Green Gallery

This breakfast is designed for individuals, educators, and community organizers who may wish to book group tours of the exhibition.

MEET THE CURATOR

with Jane Glaubinger
Sunday, April 26, 2026 @ 1 – 3 pm
Roe Green Gallery

Go behind the scenes with curator **Jane Glaubinger** as she discusses the works, the artists, and the themes of the exhibition.



Himena, 2025. Michal Chelbin

THE ART OF APPRAISAL

with Erica Hartman-Horvitz
Sunday, May 17, 2026 @ 1 – 3 pm
Roe Green Gallery

Expert fine art appraiser Erica Hartman-Horvitz will discuss how fine art is appraised and the importance of accurate, updated appraisals to safeguard your investments.



Erica Hartman-Horvitz, MBS, AAA, Co-chair Cleveland Israel Arts Connection, began her career as an art dealer, consultant, and principal of a contemporary art gallery. She holds the highest designations as Senior Certified Appraiser, Director of the Appraisers Association of America and Accredited Senior Appraiser of the American Society of Appraisers.

MEET THE GALLERY DIRECTOR

with Matthew Garson
Tuesday, June 2, 2026 @ 6 – 7:30 pm
Roe Green Gallery

Matthew Garson will discuss what goes into selecting Israeli artists and curators for upcoming exhibitions in the Jewish Federation's Roe Green Gallery. He may even provide a preview of the next exhibition, opening on August 16.



Matthew Garson is a fine art advisor, curator, and interior design consultant with over 30 years of experience. He currently serves as Chair of the Visual Arts sub-committee of the Cleveland Israel Arts Connection and Volunteer Director of the Roe Green Gallery.

MEET THE COLLECTORS

Tuesday, July 21, 2026 @ 6 – 7:30 pm
Roe Green Gallery

View the exhibition and learn from the collectors what attracted them to the specific works and why they added them to their personal art collections.

CONTEMPORARY VISIONS OF ISRAEL

EXHIBITION CLOSING + CIAC PRESENTS: WHAT MAKES ISRAELI ART ISRAELI?

with James Snyder
moderated by Jane Glaubinger, Ph.D.

Monday, August 3, 2026 @ 6 – 7:30 pm
Roe Green Gallery

Few individuals have as extensive experience with Israeli art as James Snyder. As past director of the Israel Museum in Jerusalem and current director of the Jewish Museum in New York City, James has interacted with Israeli art and artists for nearly three decades. James will share his vast knowledge and consider “What Makes Israeli Art Israeli?”

James S. Snyder began his tenure as the Jewish Museum’s Helen Goldsmith Menschel Director in November 2023, after serving since 2019 as Executive Chair of the Jerusalem Foundation, Inc. He is also Director Emeritus of the Israel Museum, Jerusalem, where he served as the Anne and Jerome Fisher Director from 1997 through 2016 and then as International President through 2018. He is also a Senior Fellow of the Middle East Initiative at Harvard’s Kennedy School.



Photo: Eile Posner

During his tenure as Director of the Israel Museum, Snyder led the Museum through the most dramatic period of growth since its founding and secured its stature as one of the world’s foremost museums. Prior to his appointment at the Israel Museum, Snyder held a number of positions at The Museum of Modern Art, culminating as Deputy Director from 1986 to 1996.

- Light bites will be served.
- For more information email israelarts@jewishcleveland.org.



Virtual Territories #1

Opening Sunday, August 16, 2026

BORDERS: Ronen Sharabani

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



BORDERS will explore the constant push and pull that is entwined in Ronen Sharabani’s work, creating a sense of boundaries or “Borders.” You will see his ability to capture the viewer and draw them into his very own artistic world.

Ronen Sharabani was born and works in Tel Aviv, Israel. On the cutting edge of contemporary Israeli conceptual art, Sharabani explores ritual, struggle, and faith as well as cultural, economic, and political values to provide viewers with intense visual and sensory experiences that harmoniously bridge spirituality and secularism. His videos and installations blend movement, performance, architecture and light into intensely visual and sensory probes.

The Cleveland Israel Arts Connection is partnering with DocuNation to present a powerful virtual documentary film series to the CIAC community.

DOCUNATION: EMBRACING THE ISRAELI SPIRIT

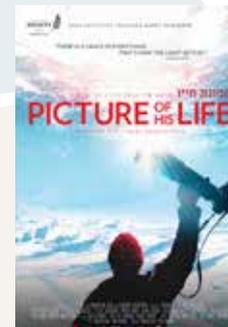
DocuNation gathers films that reflect the heartbeat of Israel – tender, courageous, and full of hope. They share stories of resilience and creativity, of kindness and connection, and of the quiet heroism found in everyday life.



A HEART BEAT AWAY

Available: March 12 – 30, 2026
Filmmaker Zoom Conversation: Sunday, March 22 @ 1 pm ET

“A Heart Beat Away” tells the story of an Israeli pediatric cardiologist sent to Africa to examine hundreds of children, of which only a handful can receive the treatment which will save their lives. It is a riveting human drama, swinging on the pendulum between science and faith, hope and despair, life and death. At its center are human doctors who have been thrust into the position of gods in the midst of Africa.



PICTURE OF HIS LIFE

Available: April 9 – 27, 2026
Filmmaker Zoom Conversation: Sunday, April 19 @ 1 pm ET

World-renowned wildlife photographer **Amos Nachoum** has one final photographic dream remaining – to photograph a polar bear underwater while swimming alongside it. The film follows Amos in the Canadian Arctic, as he prepares for his ultimate challenge. As the journey unfolds, so does an intimate and painful story of dedication, sacrifice, and personal redemption.

A live Zoom conversation with the filmmaker and DocuNation’s **Yonatan Nir** will follow each week of screening. All films will have English subtitles, and the filmmaker conversation will be conducted in English.

- To register, visit www.docunation.org/ciac.

THROUGH A SEPHARDIC LENS

Film Clips and Discussion with Israeli filmmaker **Rafael Balulu**

Thursday, April 16, 2026
@ 7 pm
Mandel JCC
26001 South Woodland Rd, Beachwood

Join Israeli filmmaker **Rafael Balulu** for film clips and a discussion on Sephardic perspectives post-October 7. The program will highlight voices, stories, and realities often underrepresented in mainstream discussions.

Balulu was born in 1981 in Afula, Israel. He is a writer and producer of many films. His short film “Batman at the Checkpoint” has screened at the Cleveland Jewish FilmFest.

- For tickets visit www.mandeljcc.org/filmfest.
- For more information call 216-593-6278 or email filmfest@mandeljcc.org.

Presented with support from Rafi’s dear friends Brenda & David Goldberg.



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



BAKLAVA BASH Ancient Songs & Stories of Jerusalem

Presented by Apollo's Fire

Saturday, March 28, 2026 @ 8 pm

BLU Jazz+, 47 E. Market St, Akron

Sunday, March 29, 2026 @ 12:30 pm

Music Box Supper Club, 1148 Main Avenue, Cleveland

In this musical tour of the four quarters of the Old City, the ancient tradition of *Hakawati* – Middle Eastern storytelling – comes to life alongside ancient Arab and Jewish songs. Phenomenal oud master Ronnie Malley weaves tales of his Palestinian ancestors, while Israeli-American musician **Daphna Mor** evokes the ancient Middle Eastern landscape with her haunting wind instrument, the ney.

- For more information, visit www.apollosfire.org or call 216-320-0012.



EL KHAT

Presented by
The Cleveland Museum of Art

Wednesday, April 15, 2026 @ 7:30 – 9 pm

Gartner Auditorium
The Cleveland Museum of Art
11150 East Boulevard, Cleveland

Although Yemeni in origin, the band **El Khat** formed in Israel in 2019 where they began to hone a DIY attitude, psych-rock energy, and experimentalism in garages and warehouses. Using self-made instruments as an expression of a minimalist life philosophy, the trio has created a unique collection of original Arabic tunes of Yemeni origin.

- For tickets visit www.clevelandart.org/events/el-khat or call 216-421-7350.



O JERUSALEM! Crossroads of Three Faiths

Presented by Apollo's Fire

April 9 – 11, 2026

Various Venues, including Congregation Mishkan Or, Beachwood

Ringed with urgency in our time, this acclaimed program created by Jeannette Sorrell returns in a fresh version. Honoring the peoples whose music and faith brought such vibrancy to the Middle East, 26 artists from Jewish, Palestinian, Muslim, and Christian backgrounds perform on oud, theorbo, medieval harp, zither, strings, and exotic percussion.

In this musical tour of the four quarters of Old Jerusalem (Jewish, Christian, Arab, and Armenian), surprising cross-influences emerge. A Sephardic ballad leads to a classical Arabic love song; selections from Monteverdi's great *Vespers of 1610* echo the exotic and rapturous singing of the Jewish cantors in the temples. The rhythms of daily life – love, singing, dancing and prayer – culminate in a joyous celebration of shared humanity. Tel Aviv native **Daphna Mor** returns as a featured performer on recorder and ney.

- For tickets and venue information, visit www.apollosfire.org or call 216-320-0012.
- Use code "JFED" for ticket discount.

View of Damascus Gate with Camel Drivers, Jerusalem, c.1844 (oil on board), Caffi, Ippolito (1809-66) / Galleria Internazionale d'Arte Moderna, Ca' Pesaro, Venice, Italy / © Mondadori Electa / Bridgeman Images

"The place where
brothers and strangers
are one..."
~ Jalal al-Din Rumi,
13th-c. Persian poet



VERONA QUARTET with Yaron Kohlberg

Presented by Cleveland Chamber Music Society

Tuesday, April 28, 2026 @ 7:30 pm

Gartner Auditorium, Cleveland Museum of Art
11150 East Boulevard, Cleveland

Described as "the pianist with golden hands" by international media, Jerusalem-born and Israeli native **Yaron Kohlberg** is one of today's top Israeli pianists. Kohlberg will join the Verona Quartet for a performance of *Dvořák: Quintet for Piano and Strings in A major, Op. 81*.

The Verona Quartet has firmly established itself amongst the most distinguished ensembles on the chamber music scene today. The group's singular sense of purpose earned them a reputation for their "bold interpretive strength, robust characterization, and commanding resonance" (*Calgary Herald*). A string quartet for the 21st century, the Verona Quartet champions the rich breadth of the string quartet repertoire from the time-honored canon through contemporary classics.

- For tickets, visit www.clevelandchambermusic.org.
- Use code "JFED" for ticket discount.



Photo: Kaupo Kikkas



CONTINENTAL DRIFTS ChamberFest Cleveland Season 14

Benjamin Yusupov, Composer-in-Residence

June 10 – 27, 2026

Various Venues



3 of Yusupov's compositions will be performed at the festival:

Piano Trio No. 2, "From Jewish Traditions"

Wednesday, June 17, 2026 @ 7:30 pm

Mixon Hall, Cleveland Institute of Music
11021 East Boulevard, Cleveland

Yusupov's 2nd Trio presents a musical panorama of Jewish folk music traditions, including the use of musical sources from various ethnic communities. Yusupov will perform as part of the piano trio.

- A talkback with Benjamin Yusupov will follow the June 17 concert.

Crossroads No. 2 for Solo Piano

Thursday, June 18, 2026 @ 7:30 pm

Mixon Hall, Cleveland Institute of Music
11021 East Boulevard, Cleveland

Written for solo piano, Crossroads No. 2 combines melodic lyricism and modern tonalities, building to a frenzied yet soulful finish. A dramatic showpiece for piano, performed in this concert by Adam Golka.

Quintet for Marimba and Strings

Saturday, June 20, 2026 @ 7:30 pm

Federated Church
76 Bell Street, Chagrin Falls

Quintet for Marimba and Strings is a virtuosic work written in two movements. Marimba soloist Jeff Stern makes his ChamberFest Cleveland debut with this performance.



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



Benjamin Yusupov is Music Director and Principal Conductor of "Israel Soloists" Chamber Orchestra founded by him in 2015. He serves as Music Director and Principal Conductor of Hakfar Hayarok Youth Symphony Orchestra since 2012 and currently serves as Composer-in-Residence of Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra. Born in Tajikistan, Yusupov studied piano, composition, and conducting at the Tchaikovsky State Conservatory in Moscow. He received his Ph.D. at Bar-Ilan University.

Yusupov's music is not limited by genre classifications or cultural and ethnic idioms, but rather embraces and employs all styles and influences to create his own unique musical language both as a composer and a conductor. His compositions make use of both Western and Eastern musical traditions, including the use of musical sources from various ethnic communities.



- For more information and a complete schedule of concerts, visit www.chamberfestcleveland.com, call 216-471-8887, or email info@chamberfestcleveland.com.

PIANO



RAN DANK & SOYEON KATE LEE

Presented by Piano Cleveland

**Tuesday, April 21, 2026
@ 12 pm**

Ames Family Atrium
The Cleveland Museum of Art
11150 East Boulevard, Cleveland

**Wednesday, April 22, 2026
@ 6 pm**

Forest City Brewery
2135 Columbus Road, Cleveland

Two Cleveland International Piano Competition medalists in one concert! See husband and wife Ran Dank and Soyeon Kate Lee perform together.

Born in Israel, **Ran Dank** is the recipient of numerous honors. Dank won a coveted place on the Young Concert Artists roster in 2009 and subsequently made his New York recital and Kennedy Center debuts. He has also won top prizes at the Cleveland International Piano Competition, the Naumburg International Piano Competition, the Sydney International Piano Competition, and the Hilton Head International Piano Competition.

- For information visit www.pianocleveland.org.



BETWEEN THE KEYS: Music and Reflections with Yaron Kohlberg

Presented by Fairmount Center for the Arts

**Saturday, April 26, 2026
@ 2 – 3 pm**

Fairmount Center for the Arts
8400 Fairmount Road, Novelty



Piano virtuoso and Artistic Director **Yaron Kohlberg** of Piano Cleveland returns for an afternoon concert and lecture to close out the Fairmount Center for the Arts 2025–2026 season.

- For tickets visit Info@FairmountCenter.org; fairmountcenter.org/speaker-series or call 440-338-3171.



CLEVELAND INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION AND INSTITUTE FOR YOUNG ARTISTS

Presented by Piano Cleveland

July 24 – August 1, 2026

The CIPC and Institute for Young Artists is known as one of the top international piano competitions for emerging pianists ages 10-18. With over \$30,000 in prizes, the CIPC and Institute for Young Artists offers unparalleled musical experiences for today's world.

Semi-Final Solo Round + Conversation with Ilana Vered

Sunday, July 26, 2026 @ 2 pm

Mixon Hall, Cleveland Institute of Music
11021 East Boulevard, Cleveland



Enjoy a semi-final solo round featuring contestants from the Rising Star (ages 10-12,) Junior (ages 13-15,) and Senior (ages 16-18) Divisions, followed by an intimate conversation with competition juror and Israeli pianist, **Ilana Vered**.

Widely recognized as one of the leading pianists of her generation, **Ilana Vered** studied at the Paris Conservatoire and the Juilliard School, winning the Young Concert Artists International Auditions in 1961.

Vered has performed with orchestras and at music festivals worldwide. In 2023, she was accepted to join the Jerusalem Academy of Music.

- For information visit www.pianocleveland.org.
- Use code "JFED" for ticket discounts.

SIEGAL LIFELONG LEARNING PRESENTS

To register, visit www.case.edu/lifelonglearning, call 216-368-2091, or email lifelonglearning@case.edu.



LEE YARON Award-winning Israeli journalist

Dates and times being finalized

Visit www.case.edu/lifelonglearning, call 216-368-2091, or email lifelonglearning@case.edu.

At 30, **Lee Yaron** is the youngest-ever winner of the National Jewish Book Award's Book of the Year (2024), alongside Philip Roth, Elie Wiesel, and David Grossman. She is the recipient of the Natan Fund's Winter 2025 Notable Book Award and earned Yaron a place on Forbes' 30 Under 30 (2025).



BEYOND THE HEADLINES: Hope, Resilience, and Israel's Future

Join a powerful conversation with **Lee Yaron** on her groundbreaking book, "10/7: 100 Human Stories." Praised by The New Yorker as "a masterpiece of journalism and humanism," the book offers an intimate, ground-level view of the Israeli communities and history through more than 100 human stories from October 7.

WORDS THAT MOVE THE WORLD: Journalism as a Catalyst for Societal Change

Lee Yaron presents a compelling, moderated discussion on the transformative power of journalism in times of crisis. Drawing on her extensive experience as an investigative reporter, Yaron explores how journalism can drive meaningful societal change—from influencing legislation to shaping public discourse. This talk offers a unique perspective on journalism's vital role as a catalyst for societal change.

Lee Yaron's lectures are supported by the Herbert and Mariana Luxenberg Siegal College Israel Lecture Fund of the Jewish Federation of Cleveland and are offered in partnership with the Jewish Federation's Cleveland Israel Arts Connection.

ISRAELI BOOK CLUB Calling all readers!

Cleveland Israel Arts Connection is excited to host an Israeli book club. This new program is an opportunity to read and discuss Israeli authors and books with our CIAC community. If you are interested in learning more, please let us know by scanning the QR Code.

All books and conversations will be in English.



SIEGAL LIFELONG LEARNING PRESENTS

To register, visit www.case.edu/lifelonglearning, call 216-368-2091, or email lifelonglearning@case.edu.



MRS. LILIENBLUM'S CLOUD FACTORY by Iddo Gefen

Sylvia Abrams, Ph.D., Professor Emerita and Former Dean, Siegal College

Monday, March 16, 2026 @ 10 – 11:30 am

Landmark Centre Bldg., 25700 Science Park Drive, Beachwood



Author and neurocognitive researcher **Iddo Gefen's** debut comic novel, Mrs. Lilienblum's Cloud Factory, is about a tech startup that turns sand into rain clouds. The story races forward as the Lilienblum family builds a company around Mrs. Lilienblum's invention, turning startup culture, the obsession with company valuation and funding, family secrets, and romantic and familial love into a source of comedy.



KIBBUTZ BUCHENWALD: How Survivors Wrote Their Way to a New Beginning

Lilach Naishtat, Ph.D., Ruth Meltzer Fellow, Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, University of Pennsylvania, and Senior Lecturer, Kibbutzim College of Education, Tel Aviv, Israel

Thursday, April 30, 2026 @ 7 – 8:30 pm

Online

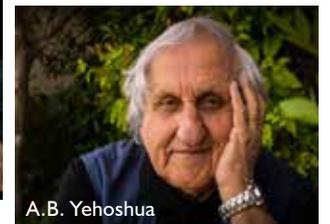
Sixteen Jewish survivors of Buchenwald made an extraordinary choice: they would build a kibbutz in Israel. Calling themselves Kibbutz Buchenwald, they kept a collective diary between 1945-1948. Explore how writing became a tool for healing as these survivors used words to process trauma, rebuild identity, and envision their future. Their story offers insights into how communities respond to catastrophe through collective storytelling—a practice witnessed again as Israeli kibbutzim documented experiences following October 7.



Amos Oz



Savyon Liebrecht



A.B. Yehoshua

THREE STORIES, THREE WINDOWS: What We Can Learn from Israeli Short Stories

Shira Atik, Poet and Literary Translator

Thursdays, July 9 – 30, 2026, 10:30 am -12 pm
Landmark Centre Bldg., 25700 Science Park Drive, Beachwood

Israel publishes more books per capita than any other country, and its writers have won international recognition, including the Nobel Prize for Literature and the Man Booker International Prize. In this class, we will explore three short stories by some of Israel's most gifted writers – **Amos Oz, Savyon Liebrecht,** and **A.B. Yehoshua.**

SIEGAL LIFELONG LEARNING PRESENTS

To register, visit www.case.edu/lifelonglearning, call 216-368-2091, or email lifelonglearning@case.edu.

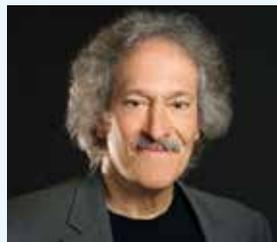
WHAT IS JEWISH ART? Modernity, Identity, and Creative Expression

Ori Soltes, Ph.D., Teaching Professor, Georgetown University

Mondays, July 6 – 13, 2026 @ 1:30 – 3 pm

Online

How do we define “Jewish art”? Is that phrase based on subjects, style, symbols, or artist identity? This image-rich talk will ask where and when “modernity” begins and how its arrival affects the role of Jews in art.



JEWISH ART IN THE DIASPORA

This collection of courses and lectures explores Jewish fashion, visual art, literature, and music that has its roots from the Far East, to Europe, Asia, and Latin America.

All events are at Landmark Centre Bldg., 25700 Science Park Drive, Beachwood unless otherwise noted.

AMERICAN DREAM: Immigrants and the Business of Cleveland Fashion

Patty Edmonson, Museum Advisory Council Curator of Costume and Textiles, Western Reserve Historical Society

Mondays, April 27 – May 4, 2026 @ 1:30 – 3 pm

Week 1: Landmark Centre Bldg.

Week 2: Western Reserve Historical Society

GEORGIAN JEWS AND THEIR CULTURAL TREASURES

Thea Gomelauri, PhD, Associate Faculty, Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, Director of the Oxford Interfaith Forum, University of Oxford, UK

Mondays, May 4 – June 15, 2026 @ 11 am – 12:30 pm

Online

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF AN EARLY MUSIC PIONEER: Noah Greenberg

David Rothenberg, Ph.D., Professor of Music, CWRU

Thursday, May 14, 2026 @ 1:30 – 3 pm

In person

ROOTS AND RESONANCE: Jewish Life and Art in Mexico

Sara Aroeste, Ph.D., Regional Director, Art Question International, Art Historian

Tuesdays, May 26 – June 2, 2026 @ 1:30 – 3 pm

Online

ANGELA BUCHDAHL: Heart of a Stranger: An Unlikely Rabbi's Story of Faith, Identity, and Belonging

Ruth Silon, Professor Emerita, Cuyahoga Community College

Thursday, June 11, 2026

@ 1:30 – 3 pm

In person



HEBREW SCRIPT IN ITALIAN RENAISSANCE ART

Gregor Christopher Meinecke, Associate scholar, Max-Planck-Institut, Florence, Italy, and Ph.D. candidate, Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa/Hamburg University, Germany

Tuesdays, July 7 – 21, 2026 @ 1:30 – 3 pm

Online

ANATOLY KAPLAN: THE ENCHANTED TAILOR, Sholem Aleichem in Soviet Graphics

Presented by Mishkan Or Museum

April 1 – October 30, 2026

Exhibition reception

Sunday, May 3, 2026 @ 1 – 3pm

The Hartzmark Gallery

Congregation Mishkan Or

Jack & Lilyan Mandel Building

26000 Shaker Boulevard, Beachwood



Anatoly Kaplan (1901-1980), was one of the most important graphic artists and illustrators of Soviet Russia. “The Enchanted Tailor” is a series of lithographs based on the story by Sholem Aleichem. The series was a rare occurrence of Jewish culture openly presented to the Soviet audiences. Through their magical beauty the images elevate the absurdist humor of Sholem Aleichem’s characters, while also subtly injecting a critique of Soviet reality under the radar of censorship.

- To schedule a visit, email: koicherman@mishkanor.org or call 216-831-3233.

LEGACY OF LIGHT featuring “From the Diary of Anne Frank” by Michael Tilson Thomas

Presented by Cleveland Repertory Orchestra

Saturday, April 11, 2026 @ 7 – 8:30 pm

Disciples Christian Church

3663 Mayfield Road, Cleveland

Heights



Michael Tilson Thomas and Audrey Hepburn in rehearsal. Photo by Todd Levy for New World Symphony.

“From the Diary of Anne Frank” is a melodrama in the form of symphonic variations. It was written for Audrey Hepburn who had grown up in occupied Holland, was the same age as Anne Frank and strongly identified with her and with the suffering of all children. It takes its shape primarily from the diary passages that Audrey and I selected and read together. ~Michael Tilson Thomas

- For more information, visit www.clevelandrepertoryorchestra.org.



ICONS IN INK

Presented by Maltz Museum

May 3 – August 23, 2026

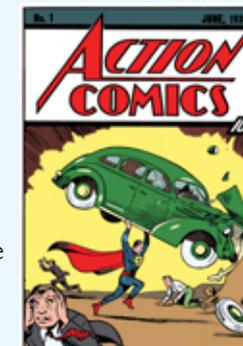
2929 Richmond Road, Beachwood

Discover the powerful fusion of Jewish culture, history, and artistic expression through the lens of graphic storytelling in this dynamic traveling exhibition from the Center for Jewish History!

“Icons in Ink” examines a wide range of Jewish themes and identities in comics, recognizing the diverse roots that have contributed to this unique art form. It explores how the industry has evolved over the last century, tackling subjects from identity and the combating of antisemitism to the changing face of the medium itself.

The exhibition includes a new section focusing on Cleveland’s rich history of comic book creators and artists – CLEVELAND: HOME OF HEROES!

- For information, visit www.maltzmuseum.org or call 216-593-0595.



The Maltz Museum is a proud beneficiary partner of the Jewish Federation of Cleveland.

Staged Reading “PLAYING DIRTY”

By Faye Sholiton

Directed by Sheri Gross

Presented by Interplay Jewish Theatre

Sunday, April 26, 2026 @ 1 pm

Maltz Museum

2929 Richmond Road, Beachwood

In the aftermath of an ugly racial incident at a high school football game, the hosting Valley Cardinals must make amends. Unfortunately, some adults who believe that the best defense is a good offense only exacerbate the tension, prompting the kids to find their own way to make amends.

- For reservations: visit <https://bit.ly/Playdirt> or call 216-593-0583.





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.

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Pam Young

We regret the omission of any names.

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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 jewishcleveland.org, plus the satisfaction of knowing you are helping connect Cleveland and Israel through the arts.

For more information about the Patron Society, please contact **Rebecca Sattin** at rsattin@jewishcleveland.org or 216-593-2873.

WAYS YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

If interested, email israelarts@jewishcleveland.org

Help keep our community safe, strong, and growing by supporting 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.



Jewish Federation of Cleveland
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