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## **Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan Announces *COMPLICATED MATERIALS* A Pop-Up Jewelry Showcase by Omri Goren August 29 through September 1**

**New York, NY** (July 28, 2022) – The Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan (MMJCCM) announced today *Complicated Materials*, a pop-up jewelry showcase by Israeli jewelry and fashion designer **Omri Goren**. The solo exhibit, on display in Makom at the MMJCCM, highlights Goren’s family history and the transformation of Israel through the years. *Complicated Materials* will be on display from August 29 through September 1, and is free and open to the public.

During this limited showcase, view a one-of-a-kind collection of brooches designed by fashion and jewelry designer **Omri Goren**. As a child, Goren and his grandfather, Michael Shlomovitch, drew together on Saturdays. Although Goren preferred models and dresses as subjects, his grandfather insisted that he sketch views of Israeli landscapes and laborers. Thirty years later, Goren’s latest showcase features pieces of his grandfather’s paintings transformed into brooches of various shapes. The intergenerational dialogue developed through this process reflects the complex relationship between Goren and his grandfather, and their family legacy.

Artist **Omri Goren** shares: “This exhibit is part of my dialogue with my grandfather’s art. With him. It serves as a reflection of my thought process years in the making. As the name suggests, *Complicated Materials* is a body of individual works that together creates one evolving, eclectic visual language, which is part retrospective and part dialogue. Through different disciplines, my vision was to create a variety of pieces ranging from two dimensional collages to contemporary sculpture to contemporary jewelry design.”

Omri Goren was born in 1980 in Kfar Shmuel. A graduate of the Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design, he works as a fashion and jewelry designer and holds a doctorate from the Sorbonne. Goren is a senior lecturer in the Department of Jewelry and Fashion Design at Bezalel and in the Department of Fashion Design at the WIZO Haifa Academy of Design and Education.

Michael Shlomovitch, Goren’s grandfather, was born in Rishon Lezion in 1920 and died in 1995. The source of his artistic inspiration was the landscapes of his youth: the shared lives of Jews and Arabs, peddlers in the market who were his friends, hard-working people he knew, news stories that influenced him, and famous personalities he admired and painted.

***Complicated Materials*** will open on Monday, August 29 in the Makom Studio on the seventh floor at the MMJCCM. The showcase is free and open to the public during JCC building hours. For more details, please visit [mmjccm.org/makom#goren](http://mmjccm.org/makom#goren).

All individuals ages 5 and older are required to provide proof of full vaccination (via NYS Excelsior Pass, NYC COVID Safe app, or vaccination card) in order to enter the Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan and JCC Harlem or attend any JCC program.

## **ABOUT THE MARLENE MEYERSON JCC MANHATTAN**

Together with its community, the Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan creates opportunities for people to connect, grow, and learn within an ever-changing Jewish landscape. Located on 76th Street and Amsterdam Avenue, the JCC is a vibrant non-profit community center on the Upper West Side. It also presents a robust slate of virtual programming, serving an even wider community. The JCC serves over 55,000 people annually through 1,200 programs each season that educate, inspire, and transform participants' minds, bodies, and spirits. Throughout COVID-19, the JCC has pivoted to meet the community online, exceeding 102,000 registrations to over 3,000 virtual classes and programs in the earliest part of the pandemic. Since its inception, the JCC has been committed to serving the community by offering programs, classes, and events that extend beyond neighborhood boundaries, reaching people at all stages of their lives.

Learn more at [mmjccm.org](http://mmjccm.org)

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