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Psychologist and Parenting Expert Dr. Becky; Oy Gevalt Comedy Show; Tom Gold Dance & More Join Early Fall Arts + Ideas Lineup at Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan

***Bless*, a new fall gallery exhibit featuring over 25 contemporary Israeli graphic designers, will open in the JCC lobby on September 8**

New York, NY (August 8, 2022) – The **Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan (MMJCCM)**'s Lambert Center for Arts + Ideas has announced the early fall lineup of performances, conversations, and events happening in person in the renovated Goldman-Sonnenfeldt Auditorium and on the MMJCCM rooftop.

The early fall lineup will feature a conversation with clinical psychologist and parenting expert Becky Kennedy, known as **Dr. Becky**, in conversation about her new book, *Good Inside*, with *New York Times* bestselling author and host of the *Dear Gabby* podcast, Gabby Bernstein; **Oy Gevalt** special rooftop back-to-school comedy show; the return of MMJCCM dance programming with **Tom Gold Dance**; a rooftop screening of Steven Spielberg's adaptation of ***West Side Story***; and a new gallery installation in The Laurie M. Tisch Gallery in the MMJCCM lobby: ***Bless, a contemporary graphic design exhibit***. Additional fall programming will be announced at a later date.

Bless: Design for Good, a contemporary exhibit featuring the work of over 25 graphic designers, will open in The Laurie M. Tisch Gallery on September 8, and will be on display through December 31. The exhibit will feature graphic design works by contemporary Israeli designers, selected by the Shenkar Research Center for Israeli Design in collaboration with 3X3 Active Gallery. *Bless* is a collection of graphic works, made by various designers & artists from Israel, presenting both new and iconic pieces from the past decades. Through this collage of messages, tackling current event topics, audiences are invited to reflect on the world, and search for opportunities to better our society. *Bless* is free and open to the public during MMJCCM building hours. For more details, please visit mmjccm.org/upcoming-exhibit.

"With all that is going on in headlines and current events, my hope is that *Bless* will allow visitors to reflect on the state of our world, and take a moment for hope, healing, and reconnecting with the community," shares **Udi Urman, Exhibit Curator and MMJCCM Director of the Lambert Center for Arts + Ideas**. "The pieces from over 25 incredible Israeli artists will tackle themes

ranging from human rights to global warming to unity to justice and peace, and much more. The power of art as a tool for healing will be on full display."

Artists on display in *Bless* include Adam Yekutieli, Arik Weiss, Ashger Zamana, Avihai Mizrahi, Danielle Weinberg, David Tartakover, Dede Banaid & Nitzan Mintz, Eli Khromov, Faina Feigin, Anat Meshulam & Dor Chen, Jennifer Abessira, Kobi Franco, Lahav Halevy, Liron Lavi Turkenich, Matan Iontef, Naama Nechushtai, Neil Cohen, Noam Benatar, Oded Ben Yehuda, Omri Goldzak, Otte Wallish, Rotem Cohen-Soaye, Yaacov Shavit, and Zvi Narkis. *Bless* is curated by Michal Shapira and Tom Kohen.

Studio Arts classes, which reopened this summer, will continue to expand in the fall. The studios at the MMJCCM welcome beginners into a supportive, hands-on environment and offer students with intermediate to advanced skill levels an opportunity to master new, more complex techniques. This fall, ceramics classes will return to the MMJCCM for the first time since pre-pandemic, and additional visual arts classes have since reopened, including oil painting, watercolor, and drawing. For more details and to register: mmjccm.org/studio-art.

Conversations are sponsored by Zabar's and Zabars.com. Virtual programming in the Lambert Center is made possible by the Laurie M. Tisch Illumination Fund.

Gallery exhibits and programs are made possible with the generous support of the Laurie M. Tisch Illumination Fund. Additional support is provided by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council and the generosity of individual donors.

MMJCCM ARTS + IDEAS SEPTEMBER LINE-UP

Dates and times are subject to change.

[The Carole Zabar Center for Film Presents: West Side Story](#)

Tuesday, September 6, 7:30 PM - In Person, Rooftop

Love at first sight strikes when young Tony spots Maria at a high school dance in New York City. Their burgeoning romance helps to fuel the fire between the warring Jets and Sharks—two rival gangs vying for control of the streets. Steven Spielberg's adaptation of the 1957 musical *West Side Story* presents a new look at the classic musical that lives up to its beloved forebear—and in some respects might even surpass it.

[Oy Gevalt Comedy Night: Back-To-School Edition](#)

Wednesday, September 7, 7:30 PM - In Person, Rooftop

Oy Gevalt Comedy Night, a collaboration between The Lambert Center for Arts + Ideas and the West Side Comedy Club, is back with a special back-to-school edition—and it will take place on our rooftop! The evening will feature popular comedian Jessica Kirson and will be hosted by comedian Felicia Madison.

[Bless: Design for Good](#)

September 8 through December 31 - In Person

Bless is a collection of graphic works by designers and artists from The Shenkar Research Center for Israeli Design, part of the Shenkar Academy, based in Ramat Gan, Israel. The research center, founded in 2006, maintains the most extensive digital collection in Israel of graphics & design by local artists who worked between 1850-2022. *Bless* is part inspiration, part call-to-action, emphatically reminding us that kindness, inclusion, peace and unity are not simply aspirations but daily practices and individual actions. Open and free for the public

[Good Inside: A Conversation with Dr. Becky](#)

Tuesday, September 13, 7:00 PM - In Person

Join us for an intimate evening with psychologist and parenting expert Becky Kennedy, known as “Dr. Becky,” in conversation about her new book with New York Times bestselling author and host of the Dear Gabby podcast, Gabby Bernstein.

In her highly anticipated first book, *Good Inside: A Guide to Becoming the Parent You Want to Be*, Dr. Becky shares her parenting philosophy, complete with actionable strategies, that will help parents move from uncertainty and self-blame to confidence and sturdy leadership. A signed copy of *Good Inside* is included in each ticket price.

[Tom Gold Dance Company](#)

Wednesday, October 26, 7:30 PM - In Person

For its debut at the Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan, Tom Gold Dance will present the first complete, in-person performance of *Portraits*, and the world premiere of a new work, both created by company founder and director Tom Gold. Set to chamber music by Czech composer Bohuslav Martinů, *Portraits* was inspired by The Morgan Library & Museum’s 2020 retrospective, *David Hockney: Drawing from Life*. Tom Gold Dance premiered *Portraits* in February 2021 in a livestreamed performance from the Nave of the Church of the Heavenly Rest in NYC. The new work will draw on themes and elements from the concurrent exhibition, *Bless*, on view in The Laurie M. Tisch Gallery in the JCC lobby.

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

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