

PLAYBILL

JEWISH VOICE FOR PEACE



VARIETY SHOW

APRIL 23, 2020

WELCOME

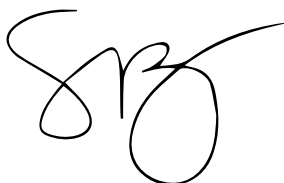
Welcome to the first-ever JVP Artists' Virtual Variety Show!

We're so excited to try this new format for bringing the talent and passion of JVP members to the virtual stage. We're also thrilled to have this opportunity to support some of our JVP artists amidst a pandemic that has affected artists and performers in unique and devastating ways.

We all need to be challenged and nourished by the arts. So we're very grateful that these performers are willing to share their talents with us, to bring us together as a community, and to give us an opportunity to have a shared cultural experience in a time of separation and isolation.

We encourage everyone to please give to support this work. All proceeds will be shared directly with participating artists.

Thank you so much for being here, and please enjoy the show!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SB', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

Samantha Brotman
Membership Manager, JVP National

THE CAST

WRESTLING WITH ZIONISM

(in order of appearance)

Talia Baurer

Kenneth Hughes (*Abdullah Aljammal / Esther's father*)

Tzvia Thier

Sara Abou Rashed

Stu Freeman (*reading for Kenan Jaffe*)

Esther Farmer, Director

Rosalind Petchesky



I AM AMERICA

Sara Abou Rashed



RED SAGE STORIES PLAYBACK THEATRE

Emily Burkes-Nossiter

Melissa Nussbaum Freeman, Director

Maria Hendricks

Sonya Joyner

Raquel Saenz

Ukumbwa Sauti



distances & separations

Rosza Daniel Lang/Levitsky

(lyrics [here](#))



ZIONISTS ANONYMOUS

Hadar Ahuvia and Noa Grayevsky

WHO'S WHO

HADAR AHUVIA is a dancer, choreographer, and Jewish educator. Raised in Israel/Palestine and US/Turtle Island, she is the granddaughter of kibbutzniks who settled, fought, built, composed and ritualized the collectivist Zionist community/colony. She is unraveling and reimagining her heritage, in text, movement and song reshaping it for a radical diasporism. HadarAhuvia.com

TALIA BAURER is an educator, writer, and activist living in New York City. She is a self-loving anti-Zionist Jew who spends most of her time fighting for sexual and reproductive justice and a free Palestine.

EMILY BURKES-NOSSITER is a theatre artist, landscaper, and mother. She has a background in drama therapy and has directed several theatre companies, as well individual performance, utilizing playback and other forms of therapeutic and transformative theatre. She is committed to shaping a world that lives in love through socially engaged art and creativity.

ESTHER FARMER is a Palestinian Jew and a native Brooklynite whose passion is using theater as a tool for community development. She

is an active member of JVP, creating original storytelling and theater projects that highlight the stories about Palestine and Zionism that have not been heard.

MELISSA NUSSBAUM FREEMAN is amazed and honored that she gets to bring her whole Queer self to organizing for justice in Palestine. Her toolkit includes a life-time of healing work and theatre-making; her passion is her motor. Her backup engine is an unshakeable belief in the change that moves towards justice. tinyurl.com/redsagestories

STU FREEMAN is a veteran actor and an even longer-term member of the Jewish faith. Once the pandemic is over with you'll be able to catch him in some of the finest audiences on Broadway.

NOA GRAYEVSKY is a mixed ethnicity Jew born in Tel Aviv to lineages from Palestine, Syria, Greece, Georgia, Russia and Poland. These days, she lives in Oakland, California, where she works in community mental health and writes poetry to connect with the prosody of her great grandmothers. She understands poetry as prayer.

WHO'S WHO

MARIA HENDRICKS,

a multi-lingual artist & activist is honored to be sharing this virtual stage with so many gifted and impassioned individuals. Thank you for the opportunity and may we all continue to be the change we want to see in this world.

KENNETH HUGHES has been working in the theatre for over 45 years as actor, director, stage manager, casting director and improv comic. Now retired, he paints, cooks and spends time with Pogo, his 3 year-old rescue, a tree-legged Collie mix.

SONYA JOYNER is a multi-medium actor, proud and honored to be part of this performance at a time when so many people need their stories to be heard.

ROSZA DANIEL LANG/LEVITSKY is a cultural worker and organizer based at Brooklyn's Glitter House. Never learned how to make art for art's sake; rarely likes working alone; just another red-diaper diasporist gendertreyf mischling who identifies with, not as. In yiddish worlds, a student of Jenny Romaine, Ethel Raim, and Josh Waletzky, and a member of the Aftselakhis Spectacle Committee (making

NYC's radical purimshpil) and Koyt Far Dayn Fardakht (anarchist punk, af yidish). Free them all; free the land.

ROSALIND PETCHESKY

is a chapter leader of JVP-NYC and a lifelong anti-racist and anti-zionist feminist. She is a distinguished professor emerita at Hunter College & the Graduate Center of CUNY, where she taught political theory and women & gender studies for over three decades and engaged intensively in transnational feminist research and activism. In the Covid-19 plague, she is grateful for her steadfast JVP community, her piano, and the ability to connect remotely to her beloved grandchildren in Texas.

SARA ABOU RASHED

is a 20-year-old poet studying creative writing and international relations at Denison University in Ohio. She's originally from Haifa, Palestine but was born and raised in Damascus, Syria. Recently, Sara wrote and has been performing her autobiographical one-woman show titled "A Map of Myself," on identity, war, immigration and everything in between.

WHO'S WHO

RAQUEL SAENZ is an educator and activist who was raised on the U.S.-México border and is honored to be a part of this project in telling stories for justice.

UKUMBWA SAUTI is a playback actor, musician, educator/facilitator and media producer and critic excited to help tell stories important to validating life experiences in community.

SARAH SILLS is an artist-activist, graphic designer, organizer, event producer and Jewish Voice for Peace-NYC chapter leader. She is currently a JVP National artist involved with producing storytelling workshops and the Wrestling with Zionism Readers Theater.

TZVIA THIER is an Israeli American citizen, born in Romania, a holocaust survivor, and lived in Israel most of her life. She was a Zionist educator. At the age of 65, she was exposed to the Palestinian reality and to the truth about Zionism. Tzvia became an anti-Zionist activist.



NOTES ON WRESTLING WITH ZIONISM

If you are interested in developing a storytelling project in your chapter, please contact newyork@jewishvoiceforpeace.org.

Confronting Zionism, the book which provided inspiration for *Wrestling with Zionism*, can be purchased [here](#).

DONATIONS

for this evening are encouraged.

All proceeds will be shared
directly with the participating artists.

Jewish Voice for Peace is a membership organization with 70 chapters around the country. JVP opposes anti-Jewish, anti-Muslim, and anti-Arab bigotry and oppression. JVP seeks an end to the Israeli occupation of the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and East Jerusalem; security and self-determination for Israelis and Palestinians; a just solution for Palestinian refugees based on principles established in international law; an end to violence against civilians; and peace and justice for all peoples of the Middle East. JVP endorses the BDS movement.

