

CONTACT: Wendy Wilcox  
Jewish Theatre Collaborative  
971-255-9774  
wendy@jewishtheatrecolaborative.org

DATE: June 3, 2010

WHO: Jewish Theatre Collaborative

WHAT: **Israel Onstage 3-Through the Years- Staged readings of Israeli plays**

WHEN: Tuesday's June 29 July 6 and July 13 at 7:00 pm

WHERE: Artist Repertory Theatre, Morrison Stage 1515 SW Morrison Portland OR 97205

HOW MUCH: Suggested Donation \$12/reading or 3/ \$30 All Seating is General Admission

RESERVATIONS: [www.jewishtheatrecolaborative.org](http://www.jewishtheatrecolaborative.org) or 503-512-9JTC (582)

### **Jewish Theatre Collaborative takes a 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Journey to Israel looking forward in to the past**

Portland OR- Jewish Theatre Collaborative is proud to announce, Israel Onstage 3: their third electrifying season of staged readings of works by Israeli playwrights. Starting June 29<sup>th</sup> at Artist Repertory Theatre's Morrison Stage, JTC will continue to examine Israeli life as it is reflected and experienced onstage. From communal life on a Kibbutz in 1947, to the trauma of the Yom Kippur war all the way to the me generation's life in the fast lane in Tel Aviv 2001, Israel Onstage 3 brings Israel to life with riveting theatre followed by provocative and engaging talk backs with audience members after each reading.

Israel Onstage is a partnership with the Harold Schnitzer Family Program in Judaic Studies at Portland State University. The series kicks off at PSU with a class entitled **Setting the Stage: Historical and Sociological Anchors of the Plays**. Held at PSU, the class is free, open to the public and serves as a great introduction to all three pieces. To rsvp or to register for PSU credit call 503-512-0582.

The first staged reading on June 29, ***He Walked through the Fields*** by Moshe Shamir. Written in 1947 and performed throughout the state during the War of Independence, this play looks at Kibbutz life and the Palmach, examining founding ideals of the State. One young man's struggle makes us conscious of the tensions between serving the greater good and honoring individual needs.

From there, July 7<sup>th</sup> JTC moves to ***High Noon*** Adapted by Shmuel Vilozhny in 2004. The trauma of the 1973 Yom Kippur War scarred a generation, and left fault lines throughout Israeli Society that continue to shape its socio-political landscape. In a surprise attack on Yom Kippur along the Suez Canal, fewer than 500 Israeli defenders were attacked by 80,000 Egyptians. Nationally it was a disaster; socially, it was a catastrophe. This play takes you into the debriefing room of a returned POW from the Suez front as Officer and Soldier wrestle with the implications of the war.

Ending the series with contemporary Tel Aviv, July 13<sup>th</sup> JTC bring us ***Milano*** by Shmuel Hasfary. It's the European Cup and the Israeli Team HaPoel has made it to the quarter finals against Italy. But because of frequent terrorist attacks (Intifada 2, 2001), the home game will be played in nearby Cyprus. This crazy epic ride thru Cyprus and Milano makes for hysterical and troubling a-hah moments that capture secular Israel in the new millennium.

Executive Director Sacha Reich is particularly excited about this season. "Pouring through scripts over the last 10 months with the rich committee participation of community leaders Sylvia Frankel, David Fuks, Barbara Slader, Sondra Pearlman and Elaine Friedman, we were able to arrive at a dynamic trio of plays that resonate with similar themes, illuminating powerful shifts in the Israeli psyche over the years."

For tickets go to [www.jewishtheatrecolaborative.org](http://www.jewishtheatrecolaborative.org) or 503-512-9JTC (582)

This Program is made possible with support from the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, the Oregon Israel Fund of the OJCF, the Consulate General of Israel & the Institute for Israeli Drama