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MJCCA News

ARTS AND CULTURE WINTER/SPRING SEASON. The Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta's 2018 Winter/Spring Arts + Culture season includes offerings for audiences of all ages, with programs taking place at the MJCCA, 5342 Tilly Mill Road, Dunwoody.

"This is a season that I am particularly proud of, one that comprises performances, author events, and productions for the entire community," explains Sandra Bass, MJCCA director of Arts + Culture. "Through this season's lineup, there truly will be a cultural offering for every age and interest."

The lineup includes:

Dance: The Koresh Dance Company, founded in 1991 by Israeli-born choreographer and artistic director Roni Koresh, is known for its engaging performances and technically superb dancers. Performances are January 27, 8:00 p.m., and January 28, 5:00 p.m. Tickets are \$25-\$38.



Koresh Dance Company

Comedy: *You're Funny, But You Don't Look Jewish* features four Jewish stand-up comedians—Mike Capozzola, Gina Gold, Joe Nguyen, and Samson Koletkar—who will share the stage and their experiences as "undercover" members of the tribe. Performances are February 10, 7:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. Tickets are \$18-\$24.



Mike Capozzola

Music: Israeli singer Achinoam Nini, also known as Noa, has shared the stage with such superstars as Sting, Quincy Jones, Stevie Wonder, and Andrea Bocelli. She has performed at Carnegie Hall, the White House, the Vatican, and other venues and has sold millions of albums worldwide. Don't miss this epic and moving performance, February 17, 8:00 p.m. Tickets are \$40-\$45.

Music: Enjoy an evening of elegantly swinging jazz with the Joe Alterman Trio, as the piano master returns to the MJCCA for one night only. Joe Alterman has studied with such greats as Don Friedman, Joe Lovano, and John Scofield. He has performed at world-renowned venues, including the Kennedy Center. Alterman's latest release, *Comin' Home to You*, is his fourth critically acclaimed album. Performances are Sunday, March 18, 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$20-\$25.



Joe Alterman (photo: Willie T Jacobs Photo)

Literary: Steve Berry, author of *The Bishop's Pawn*, comes to the MJCCA for A Page From the Book Festival of the MJCCA book talk and signing. A *New York Times* bestselling author, Berry, who hails from Marietta, Georgia, will present his newest thriller, *The Bishop's Pawn*, a riveting adventure involving his recurring hero, former-Justice Department operative Cotton Malone. The event is Sunday, March 25, 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$10-\$15.

Family Theatre: *Play the Play with Cat the Cat* will be presented by the Alliance Theatre's Kathy & Ken Bernhardt Theatre for the Very Young. Using rhythm and language from Mo Willems' beloved *Cat the Cat* series, this production, ideal for children one to five years, invites young audiences to identify *Cat the Cat's* parade of animal friends, mimic their sounds, and learn a new language. Performances are Sunday, April 15, 10:30 a.m., 12:00 noon, and 4:00 p.m. Tickets are \$10-\$14.

Art and Comedy: eXplosion, the Art and Comedy of BAM Percussion, electrifies crowds with powerful rhythms and deliriously funny sketches. The BAM characters, who look as if they walked straight out of a mad cartoon, speak BAM speech, a language unique to them, but understood by all ages. Performances are Saturday, April 28, 8:00 p.m., and Sunday, April 29, 4:30 p.m. Tickets are \$13-\$36.

Comedy: "What War Zone?" *The Comedy of Benji Lovitt* offers a hilarious picture of Israel by deconstructing cultural differences and the immigrant experience there. Benji's energy and enthusiasm makes audiences laugh out loud, as he sheds light on embarrassing Hebrew mistakes, Jewish holidays, and exactly what makes Diaspora and Israeli Jews different from each other. The performance is Thursday, May 3, 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$18-\$24.

Literary: Anita Shreve, author of *The Stars Are Fire*, will do a book talk and signing in A Page From the Book Festival of the MJCCA event. From the *New York Times* best-selling author of *The Weight of Water* and *The Pilot's Wife* (an Oprah's Book Club selection) comes an exquisitely suspenseful novel, *The Stars Are Fire*, the story of an extraordinary young woman tested by a catastrophic event and its devastating aftermath. The book is based on the true story of the largest fire in Maine's history. The event is Tuesday, May 3, 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$18-\$24.

All of the above events take place in the Morris & Rae Frank Theatre.

In addition, the MJCCA offers various culinary arts and visual arts classes. Culinary arts offerings include international cuisine paired with the perfect adult beverage, with classes including Sushi and Saki, Russian and Vodka, Moroccan and Mint Tea, and Chocolate and Wine. Visual arts classes include Brushes + Bottles Nights and the MJCCA's unique Do It Yourself Studio, featuring crafts such as mason jar candles, metal stamped jewelry, and string art.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit atlantajcc.org/boxoffice, or call at 678-812-4002.

BRILL INSTITUTE SPRING 2018 COURSES. The MJCCA's Lisa F. Brill Institute for Jewish Learning, Atlanta's largest adult Jewish education program, offers classes to more than 450 students, at 12 partner locations across metro Atlanta, including the MJCCA's Zaban Park. Courses are taught by some of Georgia's most outstanding Jewish scholars, rabbis, and Emory professors, with a range of daytime and evening options.

"We are thrilled to provide an array of courses with gifted teachers and presenters, for people of all ages and denominations, looking to study Jewish topics," said Brill Institute Director Talya Gorsetman. "Our classes positively and inclusively enlighten people who are interested in exploring their Judaism."

Spring 2018 classes include: "The Star and The Crescent: Into the Modern World: Follow the long journey of Judaism and Islam into Modernity," "Loving Yiddish Through Song," "Ulpan—Conversational Hebrew Class," "The Meaning of the Bible," "Foundations of Jewish Living," "The Cairo Geniza," "Techinot: The Power of Women's Personal Prayer," "Taste of Judaism," and "Derech Torah: An Introduction to Judaism."

"Whether you are just beginning to delve into Judaism, or simply want to deepen your knowledge, we have a class for you," explains Gorsetman. "The Lisa F. Brill Institute for Jewish Learning truly provides an environment which encourages open discussion and engagement."

Fees vary by class. For a complete schedule, locations, and registration, visit atlantajcc.org/brill, or call Laurie Rose at 678-812-3723.