

The Chai Collective Presents

LIVE

at Shtiebel

shining light on Jewish artists & stories

Sunday July 27

7pm

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Acknowledgment of Country

The Chai Collective respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands in which we gather to give life to Jewish stories.

We pay our respect to their Elders, past and present and their continuing relationship to the land.

We recognise our shared traditions in storytelling, affirming the enduring importance of narratives in sharing tradition, culture & history, connecting generations across time.

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WELCOME TO
Live @ Shtiebel
presented by The Chai Collective

Live @ Shtiebel exists to...

**CELEBRATE, SHOWCASE,
RECOGNISE & CHAMPION
Jewish Artists & Jewish stories**
of all modalities, backgrounds,
and experiences

Follow us on socials

#liveatshtiebel #thechaicollective
@thechaicollective18



THE CHAI COLLECTIVE
GIVING LIFE TO JEWISH STORIES THROUGH THE ARTS



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Keen to Perform/Exhibit at our Next Events?

SPOTLIGHT artists

perform one item of your choosing

SHOWCASE artists

perform a 20-25 minute set

STUDIO artists

exhibit your work throughout our venue



REGISTER YOUR INTEREST NOW!

Programme

The Chai Collective Presents

7pm | Doors Open

Grab a drink and have a shmooze!

7.30 | Act I

Shaz Kirschner

Ayala Kedem

Amira Susskind

Interval

Act II

Sam Katz

Josh New

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HEBREW TRANSLATION

AYALA KEDEM

'TO GIVE'

your soul and your heart
to give
to give when you love
and how does one find the difference
between taking and receiving
you will yet learn to give, to give

to discover hidden secrets
to disentangle the knot
when your heart is crushed inside you
from every smile, from every look

you are careful, you know
and noone but you hears
walks among the subtleties
and fills empty hours

to give
your soul and your heart
to give when you love
you will yet learn to give, to give

you learn with the years
to build buildings together
to live with all the changes
to weave a life story with her

and to go through hard times
with troubles and emotions
to always know to let go
and to preserve the taste

to give...

to see amidst the downfall
that there is room for forgiveness
it's always possible to start again
like a new day, like as usual

to give...

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SPOTLIGHT ON...

AYALA KEDEM



A dramatic-emotional pop singer performing in Israel and Australia, Ayala is a soprano with experience in various types of performances, as a soloist, in choirs, and as an actress

She has performed on well-known stages, including Tmuna Club, Ramat Gan Theater, the Parliament of Victoria, and more.

Her musical style ranges from dramatic pop to emotionally deep songs with strong vocal presence, as she brings to the stage a blend of technique, emotion, and presence

SHAZ KIRSCHNER



Shaz is a psychologist by day, musical theatre lover by night, and storyteller always. She's passionate about mental health, show tunes, and the magic that happens when stories and music come together.

Shaz has written and performed in shows across Australia and Israel, and most recently made a joyful splash in her first Purim Spiel. She's all about connecting people—one song, one story, and one slightly dramatic moment at a time.

SAM KATZ



Sam Katz is a passionate singer and performer! Since she was small, she was dancing before she could walk, and singing before she could talk.

Performing and musical theatre have been apart of her life forever, and she hopes to one day make it on a Broadway stage, and/or the big screen!

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STUDIO ARTISTS

Using visual and written language, Aimee Harel's creative practice is spontaneous and diverse as she responds to divine forces within and surrounding her.

As a creative mentor, she spent the last few years supporting artists living with disabilities and is deeply inspired by outsider and naïve traditions.

Aimee is most interested in the role art plays in mental and emotional wellbeing, and it is this that continues to draw her back to creativity throughout her life.

AIMEE
HAREL



Toby Wundheiler is a Melbourne-based emerging artist currently undertaking a Diploma of Visual Arts at RMIT University. His multidisciplinary practice includes printmaking, drawing, sculpture, and mixed media, with a strong emphasis on process, materiality, and intuitive making.

Toby is interested in how repetition, layering, and experimentation can reveal new visual possibilities, often working between analogue and digital methods. He is committed to developing a sustainable and evolving art practice that reflects both curiosity and a deep engagement with the act of making.

TOBY W



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SHOWCASE ARTISTS



AMIRA SUSSKIND

Amira is a multidisciplinary artist currently performing and creating in the fields of theatre and music. Her art touches on themes of identity, relationships and of course, intergenerational trauma.

Her debut play *A Very Narrow Bridge* premiered at (her alma mater) VCA's muse festival in July of 2023. Following the universal and ever so present themes of conflict; revenge, mortality and fear, the play is set in the land of a centuries old war and finds its characters searching for meaning and faith in a vengeful existence.

Amira's music on the other hand tends to veer away from the analysis of collective trauma and more or less focuses on personal trauma; relationships, childhood and more. With a bit of comedy and a bit of everything, really, Amira is beyond thrilled to share some of her new and old work with the audience at the chai collective.

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SHOWCASE ARTISTS



JOSH NEW

Josh is a talented multi-instrumentalist and vocalist who specialises in live acoustic music with layers that drift between vocals, keys, guitar and sax. His repertoire encompasses a range of genres from Jazz/R&B through to Alternative and Indie with a blend of originals, reimagined covers and both current and classic hits.

Josh recently moved from Sydney – where he grew up – down to Melbourne where he works in Experiential Education at The King David School and is studying a Masters of Music Teaching.

Whilst he hasn't yet found the time to make music performance a regular part of his life just yet, he is warmly looking forward to 'Live @ Shtiebel' to debut his music in a Melbourne setting.

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What is The Chai Collective?

Giving life ('chai') to Jewish stories through the arts, we are a dedicated team passionate about telling Jewish stories, fostering artists and creating opportunities in the arts.

Whether it be through cultural consultancy, creative direction, or curating and managing events and experiences, we are committed to supporting and advocating for our community.

Our Founders

TAMMY COHEN

BA,
Master of Jewish Education,
Master of Jewish
Nonprofit Management



SARAH COSSEY-GLAUBERT

BA, BMus, DipEd, AMusA,
MBus (Arts Culture Management)

ADRIAN GLAUBERT

BMus (Performance)
MMus (Opera)
Dip. Business

SOME OTHER PROJECTS WE HAVE DIRECTED...

YOM HASHOAH 2024

Candle still burns

AJN STAFF

MORE than 1000 people gathered at Robert Blackwood Hall for the JCCV Yom Hashoah Commemoration on Sunday.

JCCV vice-president Hayley Southwick, a descendant of survivors, addressed the current unprecedented resurgence in antisemitism.

She turned to the survivors in the audience and pledged, "We will continue to do all that we can to protect a Jewish way of life for all of us here in Victoria. We are here because of you."

Host Annette Charak, the daughter of Holocaust survivors, beautifully guided the audience through the theme of the evening "We Are Here".

Youth movement representatives read out excerpts from poems and letters written by Jewish adults and children from inside the ghettos, camps and while fleeing.

Six survivors lit memorial candles. They remained on stage to hear Rabbi Chaim Cowen perform Kel Maleh Rachamin, and chazan Brett Kaye recite Kaddish.

The audience was honoured to hear witness to Dr Henry Elkert's story and remarkable life journey.



Michele Huppert lights a candle.

Photo: Peter Haskin

on the past has formed their identity and their future. They declared that they would continue to celebrate their identity, despite any obstacles they may face.

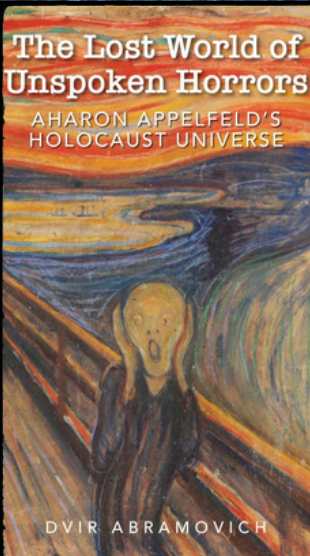
"They are the new custodians of the stories of the past," JCCV CEO Naomi Levin said.

"As time passes, there are fewer survivors that can pass on the lessons, and we must honour their legacy by involving the younger generations in commemoration."

The evening ended with the re-established multi-school choir, accompanied by Tomi Kalinski, who proudly and triumphantly sang the *Pravos Hymn*, ending with the words "We are here!"

The evening came together thanks to a committee of dedicated volunteers, with the help of The Chai Collective and Ellie Roth.

"We also want to express our gratitude to Monash University."



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REFLECTIONS ON 'WHAT WAS LOST AND WHAT ENDURES'

Melbourne marks Yom Hashoah

SHARVIN KOLIB

AROUND 1000 people including Holocaust survivors and their descendants, as well as politicians and representatives from Victoria Police and multi-faith communities gathered at Monash University last week for the 2025 JCCV Yom Hashoah commemoration.

The evening was hosted by survivor Nina Rasan and her daughter-in-law Natalie Rasan, who spoke on the theme "What was lost and what endures".

Natalie Rasan commented on the rise in antisemitism in Australia. "Since last Yom Hashoah, there have been reminders right here in Victoria that the hatred that led to the Holocaust still works."

"The December 6 last year, we watched as members of our Jewish community reacted damaged and charred shtetl Torah scrolls from the remains of the Adas Israel synagogue that had been firebombed in an act of hatred... there is no doubt that this night was incredibly triggering for so many of us here tonight and for so many in our community," she said.

"And yet, as we've done so many times throughout Jewish history, we will continue to gather. We will practice our faith and we will show our unity and our strength in the face of the hate and violence."

"This attack reminds us that 'never again' cannot be a passive phrase. It is an activity that requires courage, effort, and most importantly, all of us... We will not allow the current heightened levels of anti-Jewish hate to become normalised here in Victoria. We must push it back to the margins of society where it belongs."

Nina Rasan shared her testimony of being the only surviving member of her father's family. The audience also heard the testimony of Peter Gaspar, who fled Bratislava as a boy and survived Nazi camps and hid in a hole dug into a frozen field.

Six survivors lit six memorial candles to remember the six million murdered during the Holocaust. They were accompanied by a family member who shared their story. The candlelighters were Wolf Dean, Erica Frydenberg, Peter Gaspar, Rachel Kalman, Cera Newhouse and Joe Nowowski.

Jewish schools and youth movements read testimony, shared reflections and sang in the choir – a poignant reminder of what endures.

There were also moving performances by musicians including Layla Carmeli-Wolke, Tammy Cohen, Tomi Kalinski, Rachel Moshe, Jody Merski, Gideon Preis, Yosi Ringelblum and Jonathan Skornov.

The evening was organised by JCCV's Yom Hashoah committee comprising Natalie Gunn, Nina Rasan, Muri Blum, Amanda Cantalan-Scott, Sida Moshinsky, Pauline Rockman and Aviva Weinberg.

Photo: Naomi Levine/Monash University Photo: Peter Haskin

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SPECIAL THANKYOU



(Noun) Yiddish: שטיבל shtibl, pl. shtiblekh or shtiebels

1. A room or small house used for Jewish communal prayer and gathering.
2. An intimate and approachable community free of the dogma and doctrine of traditional structures and formal institutions.
3. An innovative social enterprise responding to the changing needs of Melbourne's Jewish community.

We are an inclusive, innovative and welcoming community committed to providing the experiences and opportunities needed to foster meaningful Jewish practices and building a positive Jewish identity in our rapidly changing world.

www.shtiebel.org.au



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THANK YOU TO...



DAVID ZIMMERMANN

KIRSTEN & KARIM SHAKER

**AND OUR VOLUNTEERS
& SPONSORS
WHO MAKE TONIGHT POSSIBLE**

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2025 DATES

September 7

November 16

Sundays from 7pm

Tickets available now



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