The Chai Collective Presents

# A Shiele

shining light on Jewish artists & stories

Sunday November 16 7pm

# LIVE at Stiebe shining light on Jewish artists & stories

# 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.





# LIVE of Stiebel shining light on Jewish artists & stories

#### 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 Presents

# Like Stire Land Shining light on Jewish artists & stories

Keen to Perform/Exhibit at our Next Events?

SPOTLIGHT artigg

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!





7pm | Doors Open
Grab a drink and have a shmooze!

7.30 | Act |
Rapha Manajem
David Wittenberg
Lihee Ashkar &

Studio Artist: Ellie Malin & Ryan Abramowitz

Interval

Act II Jessica Mond Ryan Abramowitz Tuli

THE CHAI COLLECTIVE GIVING LIFE TO JEWISH STORIES THROUGH THE ARTS



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# E T Shiele (shining light on Jewish artists & stories

### SPOTLIGHT ON...

#### DAVID WITTENBERG



David Wittenberg has been leading Shabbat and Yom Tov services at Brighton Shule for 25 years, despite never being formally appointed Chazzan—a fact he jokingly attributes to a personality clash with the current President. He has also served as Brighton Shule's President since 2013.

A father of four, David grew up in Sydney and performed in several Moriah College musicals, including a 1994 alumni-student production of Fiddler on the Roof. At university he appeared in multiple NSW AUJS comedy revues before moving to Melbourne in 1998. After a long break from theatre—aside from his flair for Shule announcements—he returned to the stage through the Purim Spiel in 2017, contributing as both performer and writer ("Schmaltz Consultant"). Now a fixture of the Spiel for nine years, he jokes he's only one online booking away from being put out with the hard rubbish.

If you'd like to hear more from David, he welcomes you to Brighton Shule on Shabbat or Yom Tov.

# LIHEE ASHKAR & CHARLI GRACE



Lihee Ashkar grew up in a musical family and discovered her passion for singing early on. With more than a decade of performing experience, she has appeared in musicals such as Fiddler on the Roof, The Addams Family, and Aladdin, and now performs alongside her father, who plays the oud. Currently completing a Bachelor of Music, she continues to refine her craft and develop her unique sound.

Charli Grace is a 20-year-old singer-songwriter from regional Victoria. Raised in a musical household, she has been involved in theatre, community events, and local gigs while building her own acoustic, laid-back style. Now based in Melbourne to study music, she is focused on growing as an artist and connecting with new audiences.





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# STUDIO ARTISTS

Ellie Malin is a Melbourne-based painter and printmaker whose work blends bold geometry and rich colour to evoke place, memory, and an almost "cellular" sense of recollection. Through layered, intuitive markmaking, she reveals and conceals forms that echo architecture and patterns in nature. A Monash University Fine Arts (Printmaking) graduate, Ellie has been a finalist in major art awards and has exhibited widely, including at Australian Print Workshop, Modern Times, Megalo, Boom Gallery, Linden Gallery, and Heide Museum of Modern Art. Her work appears in both Australian and international collections.



#### **ELLIE MALIN**

Allow me to bring my colour, quiet contemplation, scissors and glue! Feel free to re-imagine form and placement – or forget the imagination and just be. This isn't about making "art" – it's about playing with paper, texture, and shape. Tearing, cutting, layering... letting things land where they will. There are no mistakes here – only happy accidents and shared moments. Just come as you are and enjoy the simple, satisfying process that is collage.





Ryan Abramowitz is a South African-born, St Kilda-based award-winning author, artist and storyteller whose work is inspired by nature and human experience. With a background in design and management, he has worked across marketing and communications while running his creative business, Today Tomorrow Forever, where he paints bespoke Ketubot, Chuppahs and wedding artworks that celebrate life's simchas.

#### **RYAN ABRAMOWITZ**

His debut picture book, Elegy for an Elephant—which he both wrote and illustrated—draws on his family's experience of losing his father to suicide. Eighteen percent of profits support mental health organisations, and the book has earned multiple honours, including a Northern Lights Literary Award, a Nautilus Book Award, and shortlisting in the NSW Premier's Literary Awards.

In his spare time, Ryan enjoys pottery and swimming in Port Phillip Bay.





# SHOWCASE ARTISTS



## RAPHA MANAJEM

Rapha Manajem is a Comic and Writer from Melbourne. Raph studied International Relations at the University of Queensland where his professors described him as "informed" and "possibly Sri Lankan". In 2023, Raph received a runner up title for the National Raw Comedy competition which aired on SBS, but there were 2 others awarded the same title so while he might tell people he came second he also came forth. In any case he lost.

In 2024 he was selected for the prestigious "Comedy Zone" Melbourne International comedy festival show, and the festival's roadshow in the Northern Territory. In 2025 he debuted his first hour show at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival, which was widely anticipated to be longer than his half hour show. His debut received a nomination for best newcomer at the festival, and he smiled and clapped very professionally when he lost to a much better act at the award ceremony.

shtiebel



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## JESSICA MOND

Jessica Mond is a passionate vocalist and performer with great range and a remarkable ability to perform songs from pop/rock and jazz to musical theatre. Her accolades include winning overall as a contemporary vocalist in the Jewish Youth Music Eisteddfod and winning the Australian Stephen Sondheim Award adjudicated by Josh Piterman (Phantom of the Opera Australia and London). Jessica has performed in numerous musical productions including "Legally Blonde the Musical" as Paulette, "Into the Woods" as Cinderella's Stepmother and more.

Jessica has a bachelor's degree in music performance and studied musical theatre in London with mentors such as Michael Attenborough. During her time there she made it to the live heats of the prestigious Stephen Sondheim Society competition out of 100's of applicants. Her most memorable performance to date was having the privliedge to perform alongside Darren Criss (starred on Glee) as a guest in Melbourne at Hamer Hall for his Australian tour.





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Tuli is a weaver of worlds, threading melody, poetry, movement, and compassion into a single shimmering tapestry. A singer-songwriter, poet, yoga teacher, and mental health specialist, she blends her many callings into art that both stirs the soul and soothes the spirit.

From her first rhythms as a bass player in jazz and cover bands, she has shaped a sound uniquely her own, an enchanting fusion of folk's raw storytelling, and ethereal soundscapes that feel like whispers from another realm. Her songs are maps of the human heart, tracing love, loss, and the intricate landscapes of the mind.

Drawing on her deep knowledge of yoga and occupational therapy, Tuli's performances become more than music, they are sanctuaries, spaces where sound meets stillness, where listeners are invited into healing, reflection, and self-discovery. Whether she's gracing a festival stage under the open sky or holding a small circle in a candlelit room, Tuli's art is a testament to the tender, fierce beauty of our shared emotional journey.





# Liebel shining light on Jewish artists & stories

# 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.

#### TAMMY COHEN

Master of Jewish Education, Master of Jewish Nonprofit Management



#### SARAH COSSEY-GLAUBERT

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

#### **ADRIAN GLAUBERT**

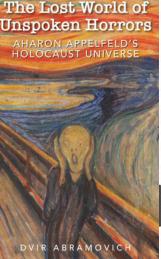
BMus (Performance) MMus(Opera) Dip. Business

#### SOME OTHER PROJECTS WE HAVE DIRECTED...

#### Candle still burns







#### REFLECTIONS ON 'WHAT WAS LOST AND WHAT ENDURES'

#### Melbourne marks Yom Hashoah









## 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.

<u>www.shtiebel.org.au</u>









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THANKYOU TO...



DAVID ZIMMERMANN

KIRSTEN & KARIM SHAKER

AND OUR VOLUNTEERS
& SPONSORS
WHO MAKE TONIGHT POSSIBLE



