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OCT
21 – 29
2023

WRITTEN AND PERFORMED BY Niv Petel

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2023/2024

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SWEET 16 ANNIVERSARY 2023/24 SEASON



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ARTISTIC DIRECTORS' MESSAGE

When we first thought of programming *Knock Knock* a few years back we knew it to be an engaging and important contribution to our understanding of life in Israel. Little did we know where Israel and Jewish communities around the world would be at this moment of time. Our collective pain resonates deeply for Israel, yet it is through our belief in the restorative nature of theatre and communities coming together, that we can hopefully find some comfort.

Thank you for coming to the performance today and contributing to supporting Israel. A personal thank you to Niv Petel for braving his journey in coming to Toronto to give a beautifully nuanced physical performance about the effects of National Service on everyday life. Something, thank G-D, we don't face in Canada. To our fallen Jews, may their memory be a blessing.



David Eisner & Avery Saltzman

CO-ARTISTIC DIRECTORS

Harold Green Jewish Theatre Company

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Amidst the raw pain and heartbreak we are all feeling in the wake of recent tragic events which continue to unfold in Israel, Niv Petel's *Knock Knock* stands as a timely testament to the human stories caught within this tumultuous crossfire. This narrative doesn't just reflect the region's pain; it underscores its urgency, making it deeply resonant for today's world. *Knock Knock* offers an intimate journey into the homes and hearts of those directly impacted by such profound upheavals. Beyond the headlines and political rhetoric, Petel delves into the personal stories of individuals grappling with sudden loss, fear, and the chaos of unpredicted violence. Every knock in this narrative becomes emblematic of the uncertainty that punctuates life in this volatile region. This is a play which has suddenly and unfortunately become profoundly relevant in capturing the moment — the immediate aftermath, the fresh wounds, and the visceral reactions of a society under siege.

As we collectively try to process recent events, *Knock Knock* serves as both a mirror and a lens — reflecting the immediate emotions of a nation, and focusing on the larger questions of humanity that such crises inevitably evoke. At a time when the world is clouded with narratives of division and hatred, this play rises as a powerful testament to the human capacity for understanding, reconciliation, and the undying pursuit of peace. Join us in experiencing *Knock Knock*, a story where every door opened and every knock heard heralds a hope for a brighter, unified tomorrow.



Danny Webber

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DONATIONS

THE HAROLD GREEN JEWISH THEATRE COMPANY DONATES ALL PROCEEDS OF "KNOCK KNOCK" IN SUPPORT OF ISRAEL.

In light of the recent tragic events in Israel, the Harold Green Jewish Theatre Company announces its commitment to stand with our community in support and solidarity by **donating 100% of the ticket-sale proceeds from *Knock Knock***, to Beit Halochem Canada, Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel and The Association for the Soldiers of Israel-Canada in order to help those directly impacted.

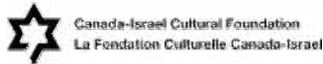


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KNOCK KNOCK

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WRITTEN, PERFORMED AND DIRECTED BY

NIV PETEL

ARTISTIC ADVISOR
MAIA LEVY

SET & COSTUME DESIGNER
RHIANNON WHITE

LIGHTING DESIGNER
OLIVER BUSH

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BIOS

NIV PETEL (Writer, Performer and Director)

Originally trained in Israel, at The Performing Arts Studio, founded by Yoram Loewenstein, Tel-Aviv. Niv worked in theatre, TV and voiceovers, and won the award for Best Actor in Theatre for Youth and Children, 2014, for his role in the one-man show *Snowball*. Theatre credits in Israel include: *Much Ado About Nothing*; *The Comedy Of Errors*; *Company* (Ber Sheva Theatre); *Mother Of Him* (Beit Lessin Theatre); *You Will Not Play Wagner!* (Jerusalem Theatre); *Do I Win Or Do I Lose* (Assistant Director at Cameri Theatre). Niv is the Israeli voice for Hiccup in *How To Train Your Dragon* amongst many others. Since graduating from Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts, London, in 2015, Niv's credits in the UK include: *NotMoses* (Arts Theatre); *La Strada* (UK tour and West End season). TV credits include: *GreenHouse Academy* (Netflix); *Special Ops*; *Srugim* (YES Drama). Today, Niv is a Graphic Designer at Playtika, and a 3D Character Animator.

MAIA LEVY (Artistic Advisor)

An Israeli actress who trained at Beit Zvi School for the Performing Arts. Since graduating (2010), she has performed in various theatres such as Hasifriya, Beit Lessin, Orna Porat, National Youth Theatre, and she is currently on tour with two one-woman shows: *The Longest Week In Moran's Life* and *Fish In The Net*. As the Artistic Advisor, Maia accompanied the creative process of *Knock Knock* from its very beginning, and assisted with editing, ideas development, and directing the show.

RHIANNON WHITE (Set and Costume Designer)

With a first class design degree from the Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts, UK, Rhiannon has previously designed for *Walk the Plank* and *Liverpool Open Culture*. She runs *Twitching Tales Puppets*, bringing puppets to events across the county and has featured on BBC *North West Tonight*. She has worked at the West Yorkshire Playhouse on their bestselling production of *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. She also runs the design company *whitewolfe.uk*

OLIVER BUSH (Lighting Designer)

Oliver has worked around the UK lighting aerial circus, musicals, dance and theatre. He trained at The Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts being awarded a first class honours degree. Most recently he designed *Giant! The Liverbird Song* and *John & Jen*. His designs have won an award from The Association of Lighting Designers and been praised for his work. Future projects include, *Life On Wheels* by Bella Kinetica and *The Ruby Slippers*.

KNOCK KNOCK

Began its way as Niv's final MA project at Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts, London. A special thanks is addressed to Ms. Sherrill Gow and Ms. Jacqui Sommerville from the MA staff. Another special thanks is addressed to Dr. Roy Horovitz and Mr. Gareth Armstrong for mentoring and being an inspiration.

Show Branding & Printing by **Wonderdog**

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Stay in touch at **www.knockknockplay.co.uk**

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If you would like to make a donation, please call Matt Birnbaum at 416.932.9995 x 223. This donor lists encompasses the period from November 1, 2021 – October 12, 2023. If we have missed your name, please accept our apologies and contact Matt Birnbaum at 416-932-9995 ext 223 with any corrections.



The Chai Society is an exclusive group of donors who, through their generosity, will breathe continuing life into the HGJTC. By becoming part of this initiative, you are contributing to the only professional Jewish Theatre Company in Toronto. You can help to support a medium that can educate – not simply our own, but the greater community – inspire and celebrate the arts across generations, while providing a positive spotlight on the Jewish story and reflecting pride in our heritage. Our theatre company has been made a reality by the Harold Green family. Now we invite you and your family to participate in building the Canadian voice of Jewish theatre.

CHAI SALON EVENINGS

This exclusive group will have access to live performances in private homes with well-known celebrities from Toronto and beyond. Whether musical, dramatic or literary, the salon evenings promise to be a unique inside look at theatre. The first evening was a salon with the Jersey Boys and Theresa Tovah.

IMPACT OF YOUR GIFT

- A portion of your gift will support the operating costs of theatre and allow us to build a bridge to sustainability. Ticket prices do not cover all the costs associated with creating live theatre.
Examples: rising costs of venues, marketing for theatre and travel for artists.
- Our Jewish values of honouring our seniors and educating our children are hallmarks of our mission. With your gift, we will pilot exciting programs with schools, both public and private, and work to bring theatre to places such as Baycrest and other retirement homes. To date we have been able to supplement a number of tickets for these populations, but we would like to establish youth programs on a continuous basis that will allow the next generation to taste Jewish art and explore the potential of our culture through a personal connection with drama and live theatre. Through programs such as In the Beginning: A Jewish Playwright's Festival, we will encourage and discover new Jewish Canadian playwrights.
- Because we plan on being here for the long term, we also wish to strategically "save for tomorrow", to ensure that programs started today will endure.

Become part of the Chai Society and achieve lifetime recognition for your founding support.
For more information, please contact General Manager Matt Birnbaum at 416.932.9995 x 223.

CHAI SOCIETY MEMBERS AS OF TODAY

The Harold Green Family, Miriam,
Eric, Cary and Ronda, Kevin and Lisa,
Robin Green and Jamie Purdon
The Azrieli Foundation
Anna and Leslie Dan
Toby and Saul Feldberg
Sheila and Murray Goldman
The Families of David Green
and Daphne Wagner,
Karen Green and George Fischer,
Donna Green and Michael Sanderson,
Lindy Green and Barry & Laurie Green
Alan Greenberg
Debbie and Warren Kimel
Metropia
The Robbins Family
Rosalie and Isadore Sharp
Shanitha Kachan and Gerald Sheff
Fran and Edward Sonshine
The Wagner Green Family Trust
Eric and Leah Weisz and Family - Effort Trust
Judy Klarman and Eric Bresler
Anonymous
Donna and Barry Bank and Barbara
and Henry Bank
Sarah and Morris Perlis and Hinda
and Allan Silber
In Honour of Marv Mitchell
Elly Barlin-Daniels and Peter Daniels
Dene and Glenn Cohen
Annalee and Jeff Wagman
Judi and Marshall Egelnick
Joy Kaufman and Eric Cohen



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AN EVENING WITH ROBERT KLEIN

ENJOY AN UNFORGETTABLE EVENING OF LAUGHTER, STORY
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**"HE WAS THE BEATLES
OF COMEDY TO ME."**

— JERRY SEINFELD

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416.366.7723 OR VISIT HGJEWISHTHEATRE.COM