



# YOM HASHOAH 2022

KEEPING ALIVE THE STORIES OF SURVIVAL

With Holocaust Survivor Olga Horak OAM



# Yom Hashoah Communal Commemoration

Wednesday 27 April 2022

27 Nissan 5782

Moriah College

Moshe Triguboff Auditorium

7:00pm



# Musical Notes

**Alexis Fishman** is a Helpmann award nominated actor and singer. She is the creator of seven solo shows that have been performed across Australia and the United States including the award-winning *Club Gelbe Stern*, which tells the story of a Jewish Cabaret star performing her final night on stage in Berlin in 1933. Alexis performed for the troops in Iraq and Afghanistan during the Iraq war and is board member of 3GNY, a New York based organisation for grandchildren of Holocaust survivors. She is also the author of two published essays in Jewish themed texts. Alexis holds a BA in Musical Theatre from the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts and a Masters degree in International Relations from Deakin University.

**Ben Adler**, violinist, is a founding member of klezmer-fusion band *CHUTNEY* and classical string quartet, *the Ben Adler Quartet*, and lectures in music at the University of New South Wales. He has toured nationally with the Australian Chamber Orchestra, and also plays with multi-ARIA-winning gypsy band *Monsieur Camembert*, *Potbelleez* frontman, Ilan Kidron's *Glassbreakers*, and Emanuel Synagogue's Shabbat Live band.

**Paul Khodor** is the lead keyboardist for acclaimed klezmer-fusion band *CHUTNEY*. For the past 18 years he has been an integral part of the Jewish music community, accompanying numerous Jewish ensembles, including the Sydney Jewish Choral Society and is the resident keyboardist of Emanuel Synagogue's Shabbat Live band.

Ben Adler and Paul play together as **Chutney Unplugged**. They arranged the music for *Avinu Malkeinu* and *Memories*.

**Rabbi Yehoshua Niasoff** is Chazan at Kehillat Kadimah. He has been a communal chazan for over 20 years and has performed with leading figures in Jewish music. He has performed publicly since the age of 7. Rabbi Niasoff is a graduate of the Yeshiva Centre's Rabbinical College.

**Nissa Niasoff** has a music degree from the Conservatorium of Music. She is a composer, concert producer, lecturer, author and illustrator.

**Rabbi George Mordecai** is a Rabbi, Cantor and educator at Emanuel Synagogue. Rabbi Mordecai previously served as cantor at congregations throughout the USA. He weaves his rich cultural heritage into his work as a cantor and performer.

# Program

<b>Music &amp; In Memoriam:</b>	<b>Alexis Fishman with Chutney Unplugged</b> <i>'Avinu Malkeinu', composed by Max Janowski</i>
<b>Welcome:</b>	<b>Lesli Berger</b> <i>President, NSW Jewish Board of Deputies</i>
<b>Introduction to Theme and Survivor Testimony:</b>	<b>Dane Stern</b> <i>Chair, Shoah Remembrance Committee, NSW JBD</i>
<b>Video Survivor Testimony:</b>	<b>Olga Horak OAM</b> <i>Holocaust survivor, Vice President of AAJHSD</i>
<b>Song:</b>	<b>Rabbi Yehoshua Niasoff with Chutney Unplugged</b> <i>'Memories', composed by Abie Rotenberg</i>
<b>Next Generation Address:</b>	<b>Alexis Fishman</b> <i>3<sup>rd</sup> Generation, board member of 3GNY</i>
<b>Righteous Among the Nations:</b>	<b>Egon Sonnenschein</b> <i>Holocaust survivor and brother of Aviva Fox, who was saved by the Prohic family</i>
<b>Vignettes of Holocaust Survivors:</b>	<b>Ana de Leon, Gaby de Leon, Joe Symon, Mimi Wise, Sam Young</b>
<b>Lighting of the Memorial Candles Introduction:</b>	<b>Suzanne Green</b> <i>Education &amp; Engagement Manager, NSW JBD</i>
<b>Candlelighters:</b>	<b>Jack Meister</b> <b>Joe Symon</b> <b>Ana de Leon</b> <b>Gaby de Leon</b> <b>Sam Young</b> <b>Olga Horak OAM</b>
<b>Memorial Prayers:</b>	<b>Rabbi Y. Niasoff accompanied by Nissa Niasoff</b> <i>Chazan, Kehillat Kadimah</i>
<b>Closing Remarks:</b>	<b>Darren Bark</b> <i>CEO, NSW Jewish Board of Deputies</i>
<b>Partisan Song:</b>	<b>Rabbi Yehoshua Niasoff with Chutney Unplugged</b> <i>Arrangement by Dr Joseph Toltz</i>
<b>National Anthems:</b>	<b>Rabbi George Mordecai with Chutney Unplugged</b> <i>Cantor, Emanuel Synagogue</i>

## Message from the Chair of the Shoah Remembrance Committee

In one of tonight's musical pieces, the singer asks "What will become of all the memories? Who will stand before the world, knowing what to say, when the very last survivor fades away?"

In the past year, we lost many of our community's cherished survivors. With ever-fewer survivors remaining with us, it's imperative we focus on how to preserve the memories of the Holocaust.

This year's Yom Hashoah theme is "Keeping Alive the Stories of Survival".

The focus tonight is simply on survivors and their stories. In place of a keynote speaker, we will hear testimony from Olga Horak OAM, a stalwart of our community. Survivor Egon Sonnenschein will tell the story of how his sister was saved by Righteous Among the Nations. A range of survivors will share their answers to questions such as "Why did you decide to speak about the Holocaust?"

Survivors want us to listen to their stories. Tell their stories. Keep alive their stories. Tonight, we will listen to the stories of several Holocaust survivors. We will learn how grandchildren of survivors are receiving training to tell their grandparents' stories in public. We will hear how survivors would like us to ensure their stories are kept alive well into the future.

If you have survivor relatives: I hope tonight's commemoration inspires your family to watch, hear or read your relative's testimony together. Learning a story is the first step in keeping it alive.

On behalf of the NSW Jewish Board of Deputies and its Shoah Remembrance Committee, I welcome you all to this year's Yom Hashoah commemoration.

## Acknowledgements

This year's communal Shoah commemoration events were made possible with the generous financial support of the JCA. We also thank the following communal organisations whose representatives and other members of the Shoah Remembrance Committee give their time:

Australian Association of Jewish Holocaust Survivors and Descendants

COA                                  Courage to Care

Sydney Jewish Museum      Youth HEAR

### **Shoah Remembrance Committee:**

Dane Stern, Chair

Danny Hochberg

Simone Starikov

Nadia Coburn

Michelle Levitt

Rachel Tanny

Margaret Foster

Juliane Michaels

Aviva Wolff

Rosalie Hirsch

Sandra Rothman

Suzanne Green, Manager

### **NSW Jewish Board of Deputies Staff:**

Darren Bark, CEO

Suzanne Green, Manager, Education & Holocaust Remembrance

....and all other Board of Deputies staff

Community Security Group



Thank you to Dashing Digital Rose Bay for printing the programs and flyers.