

Dialogue on the Wall

An installation exploring the Israeli Palestinian conflict

di-a-logue n: an exchange of ideas and opinions
v: to take part in a dialogue

rel-i-quary n: a container or shrine in which
sacred relics are kept

PROJECT INTENTIONS

“For Israelis who live in the environment of terrorism there is a sense of security that I cannot fully fathom. For Palestinians who live in the environment of occupation there is yet another experience of their powerlessness which I cannot begin to fathom. For any and all who have opinions but choose to live outside Israel (or Palestine), they have interesting opinions but have nothing on the daily bottom line of life.” -Joseph Edelheit

This project is intended as a catalyst for a painful conversation that must occur if the next generation of Israelis and Palestinians, “... whose destinies are profoundly linked” are ever to coexist without the threat of violence. The physical manifestation of the WALL in the gallery provides a backdrop for contemplation and engagement.

CREATIVE TEAM

Jay H. Isenberg AIA is a practicing architect in the Twin Cities, an adjunct assistant professor at the University of Minnesota College of Design School of Architecture and an arbitrator and mediator of design and construction conflicts. As an artist he explores the diverse themes that emerge at the intersections of architecture, psychology, ethics, law and politics. He is a founding member of Form + Content Gallery.

Lynda Monick-Isenberg is an artist, teacher and chair of the Foundation program and the director of the Teaching Artist program at the College of Visual Arts in St. Paul, MN. She also works as a peer coach for the Minneapolis Public School’s Arts for Academic Achievement program. She has exhibited her drawings and weavings in numerous galleries around the country and is a founding member of Form + Content Gallery.

Jeremy Clark is an artist and designer choosing to work in a varied range of disciplines and mediums. Following traditional art school training focused on design, he has built a successful career creating total branded experiences for fashion and retail clients. His art embraces the fundamentals of architecture and graphic design and celebrates his love of raw and industrial materials and textures.

Ron Haselius is computer modeler and animator specializing in architecture and engineering. His clients include Perkins + Will Architects, Miller-Dunwiddie Associates, Parker Durrant, SRF Consulting and the University of Minnesota. In 2005 he was Emmy nominated for his contribution to the TPT program, “Minnesota: A History of the Land”, a four part series that examined the impact of European settlement upon the landscape of Minnesota.

Dennis Fox, photography. See panelist bio below

PARTICIPANT BIOS: (See calendar of events)

Joseph A. Edelheit, Director of Religious and Jewish Studies and Associate Professor of Philosophy at St Cloud State University, has been a rabbi for 35 years and retired from Temple Israel as Senior Rabbi in 2001. He also serves as Director and Interfaith Scholar of Living India, a non-profit organization, doing HIV-AIDS prevention and care in rural India. He is married to Mabelle Norling and together they manage 5 children ranging from 32 to 13.

Rabbi Amy Eilberg is the first woman ordained as a Conservative rabbi by the Jewish Theological Seminary of America. Rabbi Eilberg directs interfaith dialogue programs in the Twin Cities, including at the Jay Phillips Center for Jewish-Christian Learning in St. Paul. She teaches the art of compassionate listening in venues throughout the country, and is deeply engaged in peace and reconciliation efforts in connection with the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, as well as with issues of conflict within the Jewish community. She lectures and writes on issues of Jewish healing, spiritual direction, and peace-making.

Steven M. Hunegs was born in St. Louis Park, Minnesota, January 20, 1963; admitted to bar, 1990, Minnesota and U.S. District Court, District of Minnesota.

Education: University Of Wisconsin, Madison (B.A., 1985); University of Minnesota Law School (J.D., 1990). Assistant Attorney General, Minnesota, 1990-1996. Member: Ramsey County, Minnesota State and American Bar Associations. Partner at the law firm of Hunegs, LeNeave, Kvas and Thornton from 1996-2006. Currently serving as the Executive Director of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Minnesota and the Dakotas.

Dennis Fox is a Boston-based academic, writer, activist, and photographer. A social psychologist whose primary work addresses the intersection of psychology, law, and justice, he is emeritus associate professor of legal studies and psychology at the University of Illinois at Springfield and co-editor of *Critical Psychology: An Introduction*. In the 1960s he was a Zionist youth activist in Brooklyn Young Judea and, after a year in Israel, the national organization’s aliyah coordinator; he now belongs to Jewish Voice For Peace. In 2006, during his fourth trip to Israel and Palestine, he worked as a Fulbright Senior Specialist in Peace and Conflict Resolution at Ben Gurion University, Be’er Sheva, Israel, and as a consultant in Law and Society at Birzeit University, Ramallah, West Bank. His photo galleries, essays, blog, and academic papers are available at dennisfox.net.

David Jordan Harris is co-founder and Artistic Director of Voices of Sepharad, a performance ensemble dedicated to the richness of Mediterranean Jewish culture. Among the company’s many productions over a twenty-one year span are *Tales of Djoha: Trickster in Two Worlds* and *Peace in the House*, which explore the multi-layered historic and contemporary relationships of Sephardic Jews and their Arab neighbors. David believes that holiness in daily life arrives at our door in the form of our neighbors. Our job is to open our door to the world and attend to what we hear.

Salah Abdul Fatah a native of Egypt, has played the Arabic violin since the 1960s and has recorded in Egypt for television with Abdel Aziz Mahmoud. Salah currently plays with the ensembles Layalli Sharque and Amwaaj and is Music Director of Belahdaan, a weekly cable TV show. He has worked with David and Voices of Sepharad since 2001.

Thomas Fisher Associate AIA, is the Dean of the College of Design at the University of Minnesota, and a Professor in the School of Architecture. He has published 24 book chapters and 246 major articles in various journals, and has written three books: *In the Scheme of Things*, *Alternative Thinking on the Practice of Architecture*; *Salmela Architect*; and *Lake/Flato Buildings and Landscapes*. He has delivered over 125 lectures at 33 different schools of architecture and 57 professional societies, and has served on 48 design juries and academic or professional committees.

Steve Busa is the artistic director of the Red Eye Theater, a writer and a peer coach for Minneapolis Public School’s Arts for Academic Achievement and the Perpich Center.

RELIQUARY QUOTATIONS:

1. **“Something’s always breaking...”**
-“Breakage”, Robert Friend from “The Next Room”,
The Menard Press, London, 1995
2. **“Today, they shoot....”**
-Uri Na’amati, Israeli father of Israeli protestor Gil Na’amati
from “Barrier”, Isabel Kershner, p.126, Palgrave Macmillan 2005
3. **“Each martyr has his own features...”**
“Diary”, Mahmoud Darwish
<http://www.wordswithoutborders.org/article.php?lab=DarwishDiary>
“The hearths have turned...”
Father of Sari Nusseibeh,
from “Once Upon a Country”, Sari Nusseibeh
p 48, Farrar, Straus and Giroux, NY 2007
4. **“Yet we will write our story...”**
-“Why did they select us to be their victims?”, Ayman Agbaria,
http://israel.poetryinternationalweb.org/piw/cms/cms_module/index.php?obj_id=7981
5. **“The bride is beautiful, but...”**
-1897 cable to Theodor Herzl from two Austrian rabbis,
Gregory McNamee, Editorial Reviews Amazon.com
of “The Iron Wall: Israel and the Arab World by Avi Shlaim
6. **“A land without a people...”**
-Early commonly used Zionist slogan attributed to Israel Zangwill
from Wikipedia
7. **“So leave our land...”**
-“Passers Between the Passing Words”, Mahmoud Darwish 1988
8. **“You are only twenty...”**
-“Woman Martyr’, Agi Mishol
http://www.pbs.org/newshour/indepth_coverage/entertainment/poetry/profiles/poet_mishol.html
“Mothers don’t sleep...”
-Salman Natour, “Coffins on our Shoulders”,
Rabinowitz and Abu-Baker, p110 University of CA Press 2005
9. **“The possibility that the dead...”**
-“The Lost, A Search for Six of Six Million”,
Daniel Mendelsohn p42, Harper Collins, 2006
10. **“Standing tall I march...”**
-Muntasib al-Qama, “The Standing Tall” by Samih al-Qasem,
“Coffins on our Shoulders”,
Rabinowitz and Abu-Baker p2, University of CA Press 2005

CALENDAR OF COMMUNITY EVENTS:

All events are free except the Sept. 15th artist salon (\$5.00 charge, students free), open to the public, and presented at Form + Content Gallery

Saturday, August 18, 7:00 – 9:00 pm
Opening Reception

Thursday, August 23, 7:00 pm reception
“Dialogue on the Wall”; A wide ranging political, historical and cultural conversation moderated by Rabbi Joseph Edelheit, and including Steve Hunegs, Rabbi Amy Eilberg and Dennis Fox (see panelist bios above)

Saturday, August 25, 7:30 pm reception
“Beyond the Wall: Shared Musical Traditions in the Middle East” and cross cultural celebration with David Jordan Harris (voice) and Salah Abdel Fattah (violinist)

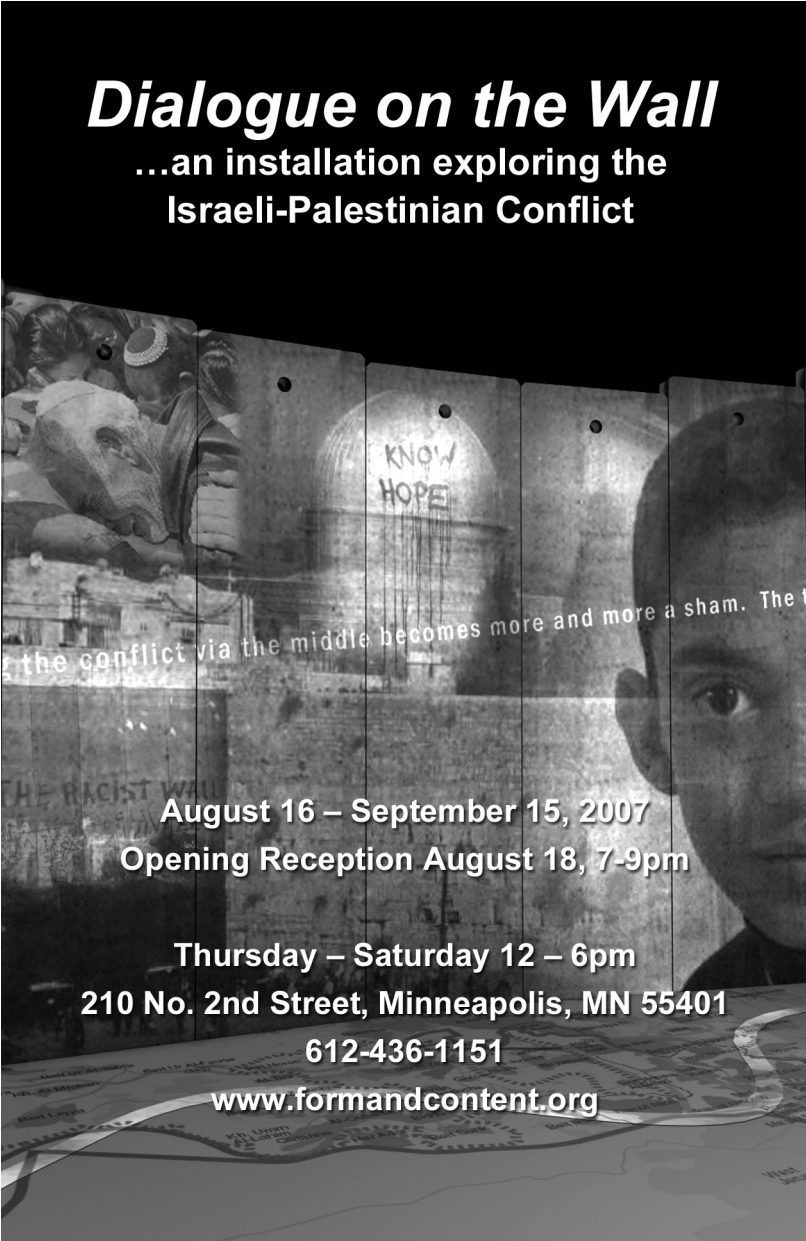
Saturday, September 8, 7:30 pm reception
“Voices for the Future” a dialogue for and with the student community facilitated by Steve Busa, Artistic Director of The Red Eye Theatre

Saturday, September 15, 7:30 pm reception
“Promoting Community Dialogue through Art,” an artist salon sponsored by Rimon, the Minnesota Jewish Arts Council. Moderated by Thomas Fisher, Dean of the University of Minnesota College of Design

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Rabbi Joseph Edelheit, sponsor and mentor
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National Camera, equipment
College of Visual Arts
Stanberry Electric, lighting and electrical
Steph Thompson, gallery intern
Jamie Sandhurst, gallery intern

For further references and research visit the project bookmarks at
<http://del.icio.us/Dialogue>



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Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

August 16 – September 15, 2007
Opening Reception August 18, 7-9pm

Thursday – Saturday 12 – 6pm
210 No. 2nd Street, Minneapolis, MN 55401
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