

# What's Going On In NYC This Week

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By Orli  
Santo



Wonder of wonders: Gal Gadot in “Wonder Woman.” Clay Enos/DC Comics

## WONDER WOMAN

Well, we just couldn't stay away. Here at The Buzz, we usually traffic in non-blockbuster fare, but Israel has been waiting for this Gadot for a long, long time — a legitimate superstar Sabra actress riding a No. 1-grossing, \$435-million hit film. Starring in “Wonder Woman,” the former model and Miss Israel Gal Gadot is poised to become the first A-list Israeli movie star ever. The film follows Diana, an Israeli-accented warrior-princess and demi-goddess, as she grows and trains to be an unconquerable warrior on an all-female, all-warrior, all-Israeli-accented island. After a handsome American pilot fighter (Chris Pine) arrives at the island and alerts Diana to the World War (I) raging outside, the two rush off to save the world through their combined military prowess. Besides being celebrated as the first super-heroine film to break the box-office glass ceiling, “Wonder Woman” is being both hailed and denigrated as a uniquely pro-Israel cinematic work. “Israel — and the Jewish people — need heroines such as Gal Gadot,” The Jerusalem Post wrote. “They present a picture to the world of the beautiful, sexy Israeli, countering the all-too-pervasive negative and ugly imagery of Israel and Israelis in the international media.” Meanwhile, in Tunisia, Lebanon and Algeria, the film was banned as “Zionist soldier propaganda,” citing a 2004 Facebook post by Gadot, a former IDF soldier, supporting the IDF's war in Gaza. The debate about what this particular super hero really is and isn't about continues apace. — In very wide release.

## ON THE ROOF WITH LEV-YULZARI



Nadav Lev and Rémy Yulzari play the JCC Manhattan rooftop next week.

Kicking off its summer rooftop music series, JCC Manhattan features the acclaimed Lev-Yulzari Duo and some heavyweight guests. Israeli-born, N.Y.-based guitarist Nadav Lev is an Andrés Segovia Award winner. French-born double bassist-composer Rémy Yulzari, whose material ranges from chamber music to Gypsy jazz to klezmer, has been hailed by The Times for his “imaginative, painterly scores.” Together they draw upon classical, Spanish and Jewish musical influences. With Grammy Award-winning Klezmatics trumpet player Frank London and sultry vocalist Basya Schechter. — Sunday, June 25, 5-7 p.m., JCC Manhattan, 334 Amsterdam Ave., (646) 505-4444, [jccmanhattan.org](http://jccmanhattan.org). \$15 in advance/\$20 day of; in case of rain, concert moves to the Goldman-Sonnenfeldt Family Auditorium.

## **Festivals**

### **TASTE OF JEWISH CULTURE**

The Workmen’s Circle holds its fourth annual “Taste of Jewish Culture” street festival, where “diversity is delicious.” Join thousands of people who come out for food, music and celebration; there’ll be dozens of food purveyors, dancing, music (the klez-rock band Golem) and arts and crafts for children. — Sunday, June 18, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Sixth Avenue bet. 48th and 49th streets. [circle.org](http://circle.org). Free.

### **EGG ROLLS, EGG CREAMS AND EMPANADAS**

Paying homage to the Jewish, Chinese and Puerto Rican communities of the Lower East Side, the Museum at Eldridge Street presents its annual signature cross-cultural block party. Top performers include trumpeter Frank London and band, the Chinatown Senior Center Orchestra, East River Ensemble and Cantor Eric Freeman. Activities include Hebrew and Chinese scribal art, yarmulke-making, Puerto Rican mask-making, hands-on dumpling, kreplach- and empanada-making demos, live demonstrations by Jewish and Chinese paper cutting artists and more. Of course, expect kosher egg rolls, egg creams and empanadas galore. — Sunday, June 18, 12-4 p.m., outside the Museum at Eldridge Street, 12 Eldridge St., (212) 219-0302, [eldridgestreet.org](http://eldridgestreet.org). Free.

## **Theater**

### **TEREZIN**

Based in part on “The Terezin Diary of Gonda Redlich,” the play tells the story of two Jewish girls — Alexi, a brilliant

violin player, and her friend Violet — locked in desperate struggle for survival after arriving at Terezin. Violet mysteriously disappears and Alexi's only hope of finding her involves teaching the Jewish ghetto's Nazi commander to play the violin. Written by Nicholas Tolkien, great-grandson of novelist J.R.R. Tolkien. — Opens Saturday, June 17, Peter Jay Sharp Theatre, 416 W. 42nd St., 4th fl., (212) 279-4200, ticketcentral.com.

## **INDECENT**

Cited as one of the best plays of 2016 by The Times, "Indecent" follows the original cast of Sholem Asch's "God of Vengeance," who risked their careers to perform a risqué work at a time when art, freedom and truth were on trial. The work is playwright Paula Vogel's Broadway debut. Rebecca Taichman (who just won a Tony) directs. — Discounts through Aug. 6, Cort Theatre, 138 W. 48th St., telecharge.com.

## **JEWISH PLAYS PROJECTS**

Open, the festival of new Jewish theater at the 14th Street Y, presents six plays in honor of its sixth year of operation, on topics such as justice, action, faith, politics, diversity and questioning. Each performance is followed by discussions with artists and special guests. — Friday, June 9-Saturday, June 17, 14th Street Y, 344 E. 14th St. at First Avenue. For tickets and show times: jewishplaysproject.org. \$18 suggested donation.

## **HELLO, DOLLY!**

The Broadway hit that became an even more famous Barbra Streisand movie is back on Broadway. The widowed, brassy matchmaker Dolly Levi travels to Yonkers to find a match for the miserly "well-known unmarried half-a-millionaire" Horace Vandergelder. Played on film by the legendary Babs, this Broadway revival features the no-less-legendary Bette Midler as Dolly. Directed by four-time Tony Award-winner Jerry Zaks. — Shubert Theatre, 225 W. 44th St., (212) 239-6200, hellodollyonbroadway.com. \$59-\$189.

## **Music**

### **YOTAM SILBERSTEIN AND LA FAMILIA QUARTET**

Since his 2005 move to New York, guitarist and Tel Aviv native Yotam Silberstein has released three albums and collaborated with the likes of bassist Avishai Cohen, James Moody and Roy Hargrove. About Jazz summed up Silberstein's 2009 release, "Next Page," as an "unadorned hollow-body guitar work [that] freely invites comparison to releases from the heyday of Blue Note Records." With Glenn Zaleski on piano, Rick Rosato on bass and Daniel Dor on drums. — Friday, June 16, 10:30 p.m., Cornelia Street Café, 29 Cornelia St., (212) 989-9319, corneliastreetcafe.com. \$20, drinks included.

### **ARI HOENIG QUARTET**

With a power group of top Israeli-born sidemen, veteran drummer and composer Ari Hoenig plays a flexible, broad-minded brand of jazz, incorporating influences from hardcore punk and metal, hip-hop, acid jazz and electronica. With pianist Shai Maestro, guitarist Gilad Hekselman and bassist Orlando le Fleming. — Monday, June 19, 10:30 p.m., Smalls Jazz Club, 183 W. 10th St., (646) 476-4346, smallslive.com.

### **ASAF YURIA**

After playing alongside Israeli jazz pioneers such as Omer Avital and Anat Cohen, Israeli-born saxophonist Asaf Yuria leads his own quintet in a repertoire of familiar pieces from the swing and jazz traditions, alongside original works. — Thursday, June 22, 10:30 p.m.-1 a.m., Smalls Jazz Club, 183 W. 10th St., (646) 476-4346, smallslive.com.

### **GILAD HEKSELMAN ZUPEROCTAVE**

Israeli-born jazz guitarist Gilad Hekselman has drawn praise for his smooth sound and formidable technique. After establishing his sound in the classic jazz trio and quartet, ZuperOctave, he explores a bass-less, semi-electronic version of his compositions. With Aaron Parks on keyboards and Kush Abaday on drums. — Friday, June 23, 9 and 10:30 p.m., Cornelia Street Café, 29 Cornelia St., (212) 989-9319, corneliastreetcafe.com. \$10 cover plus \$10 minimum.

### **SVETLANA & THE DELANCEY FIVE**

Offering hard-swinging 1920s-'40s jazz standards as well as explosive originals mixing jazz, blues, bop and klezmer, Svetlana & The Delancey Five play a “signature brand of bold, brassy, big band music” (Time Out NY). The Wall Street Journal described them as an “outstanding band ... [with an] exceptional vocalist and songwriter.”— Sunday, June 25, 10 a.m. doors, 11 a.m. concert, City Winery, 155 Varick St., (212) 608-0555, citywinery.com. \$10.

### **ISRAELI JAZZ SPOTLIGHT**

Hosted by Israeli-American jazz composer and bassist Or Bareket, Cornelia’s monthly “Israeli Jazz Spotlight” features new and old talents rising from the fertile New York-Israel jazz connection. Described as “a remarkable talent and a welcome new voice on the scene,” Israeli-born jazz guitarist/composer Rotem Sivan and his trio (8 p.m.) perform original scores with “style and sound that bring a fresh flair and a remarkable sophistication to jazz” (Jazz Times Magazine). The duo of newcomer composer, songwriter and bassist Tal Ronen and pianist Eden Ladin — a veteran sidemen with the likes of Avishai Cohen, Ari Hoenig, Omer Avital and more — will play the first comprehensive concert of Ronen’s music, ranging from bebop to folk music (10 p.m.). — Sunday, June 25, Cornelia Street Café, 29 Cornelia St., (212) 989-9319, corneliastreetcafe.com. \$20, drinks included.

### **THE SHAULI EINAV QUARTET**

Israeli-American saxophonist and composer Shauli Einav is a “remarkably complete musician, a virtuosic soloist with a lush sound on both soprano and tenor whose compositions are daring and deep” (All About Jazz), and his album “Opus One” (Plus Loin Music) was reviewed as a “smartly played, swinging and evocative jazz album” (DownBeat Magazine). With Edward Perez on bass, Nitzan Gavrieli on piano and Peter Kronreif on drums. — Monday, June 26, Smalls Jazz Club, 183 W. 10th St., (646) 476-4346, smallslive.com.

### **MICHAEL ATTIAS**

Israeli-born saxophonist/composer/bandleader/conceptualist Michael Attias leads a versatile reeds-bass-drums outfit, dedicated as much to thoughtful hushes as bursts of rugged expressionism. — Tuesday, June 27, 7 p.m., Barbès, 376 Ninth St., (347) 422-0248, barbesbrooklyn.com. \$10.

### **Film**

#### **KOSHER LOVE**

What happens when a matchmaker, a newly married couple and a single, religious hip-hop artist explore the precise meaning of true love? “Kosher Love” takes a humorous look at the search for romance and marriage in the Orthodox/chasidic Jewish world, as it pushes back against an ever-encroaching secular world and its misbegotten concepts of love. Produced by Academy Award-winner Frederic Rohbot and directed by Evan Beloff. Part of the Lower East Side Film Festival. —Sunday, June 11, Sunshine Cinema, 143 E. Houston St. (bet. First and Second avenues), lesfilmfestival.com.

#### **THE B-SIDE**

Portrait photographer Elsa Dorfman found her medium in 1980: the larger-than-life Polaroid Land 20×24 camera. For the next 35 years, she captured the “surfaces” of those who visited her Cambridge, Mass., studio — families,

Beat poets, rock stars and Harvard notables. As pictures begin to fade and her retirement looms, Dorfman gives Oscar-winning documentarian Errol Morris (“The Thin Blue Line,” “The Fog of War”) an inside tour of her backyard archive. — Tuesday, June 20, 7:30 p.m., JCC Manhattan, 334 Amsterdam Ave., (646) 505-4444, [jccmanhattan.org](http://jccmanhattan.org). In theaters June 30.

### **THE WOMEN'S BALCONY**

When the women's balcony in an Orthodox synagogue collapses, leaving the rabbi's wife in a coma and the rabbi in shock, the congregation falls into crisis. Charismatic young Rabbi David appears to be a savior after the accident, but slowly starts pushing his fundamentalist ways. This tests the women's friendships and creates an almost Lysistrata-type rift between the community's women and men. — Quad Cinema, 34 W. 13th St., (212) 255-2243, [quadcinema.com](http://quadcinema.com).

### **THE WEDDING PLAN**

Rama Burshtein's (“Fill the Void”) oddball romantic comedy follows Michal (Noa Koler), a 32-year-old Orthodox woman preparing for her much-anticipated wedding. When her fiancé abruptly decides to cancel their scheduled wedding, telling her, “I just don't love you,” she decides that she will proceed without him. She hires a hall, plans a menu and sends out invitations. Now all she needs, with 22 days left before her chosen date, is a bridegroom. Koler won an Ophir (the Israeli version of the Oscar) for her performance. — Lincoln Plaza Cinema, 1886 Broadway, (212) 757-0359. For tickets and show times visit [lincolnplazacinema.com](http://lincolnplazacinema.com).

### **Exhibitions**

#### **CITY OF GOLD, BRONZE AND LIGHT**

In conjunction with the 50th anniversary of the Six-Day War and the reunification of Jerusalem, this new exhibition explores the tensions between imaginary and physical Jerusalem. Combining paintings, drawings, prints, photographs and other media, the exhibit juxtaposes visual and material characterizations of the Holy City from the 17th to 21st centuries with a series of Talmudic, prosaic and poetic passages. — Through July 30, Yeshiva University Museum, 15 W. 16th St., [yumuseum.org](http://yumuseum.org).

#### **ANISH KAPOOR**

Celebrated Jewish-Indian sculptor and Genesis Prize-winner Sir Anish Kapoor brings his large-scale installation, “Descension,” to Brooklyn Bridge Park. Twenty-six feet in diameter, the work is a continuously swirling whirlpool filled with an all-natural black dye, producing the illusion of an ever-churning black hole. — On display through Sept. 10, Pier 1 of Brooklyn Bridge Park, Brooklyn, [publicartfund.org](http://publicartfund.org).

#### **FLORINE STETTMEYER: PAINTING POETRY**

Through her critically acclaimed poems, paintings and drawings, as well as a selection of costume and theater designs, photographs and ephemera, The Jewish Museum offers a timely reconsideration of poet/painter Florine Stettheimer, an icon of Jazz Age New York. — Through Sept. 24, The Jewish Museum, 1109 Fifth Ave., (212) 423-3200, [thejewishmuseum.org](http://thejewishmuseum.org).