



MOTHERS

An Opera in One Act
Music and Libretto by David Sebba; Directed by Shirit Lee Weiss



Photo by Yossi Zwecker

Mothers, an original Israeli opera, brings the mothers of the Book of Genesis to the stage. The mythological discrimination against women and children is apparent throughout. Our Holy Bible tells the story of the men, who determine the future and destiny of their silent women and children. David Sebba returns to the stories we all grew up on, but this time from the perspective of the women, expressing their inner feelings and thoughts. Their stories are connected through the perspective of the biblical God, here performed by a soprano singer who uses the original biblical texts to narrate the history from which these female characters emerge.

David Sebba holds an MMus with honors in Composition and Singing from Tel Aviv University Academy of Music. He has composed theatre music and written arrangements and orchestrations for most of the orchestras and choirs in Israel. He is currently the conductor in residence of the Raanana Symphonette Orchestra, and serves as the music director of three choirs. He participates in choral festivals in Europe, and in recordings for radio and television, and performs in operas and concerts as a conductor, singer, and accompanist. He wrote *Alice in Wonderland*, an opera commissioned by the Israeli Opera, which has also been performed in Lithuania.

Shirit Lee Weiss is an opera director, whose numerous credits include: *The Medium* and *The Telephone* (Menotti), *Die Zauberflöte*, *Die Entführung aus dem Serail*, *Don Giovanni*, *Le nozze di Figaro*, *The Impresario* and *La finta giardiniera* (Mozart), *Duke Bluebeard's Castle* (Bartok), *Trouble in Tahiti* (Bernstein), *Il barbiere di Siviglia* (Rossini), *Die Fledermaus* (J. Strauss), *Die lustige Witwe* (Lehar), *Ba-ta-clan* (Offenbach), *Pierrot Lunaire* (Schoenberg), *Hansel und Gretel* (Humperdinck), *Don Pasquale* (Donizetti), *Werther* (Massenet). She also directed two musicals, both of which won first prize: *Greta and the Space Race* (Yonatan Cnaan and Valeria Zabelotsky) in 2014, and *Goldi's Bra* (Aviv Koren) in 2015.

THE ISRAELI OPERA TEL AVIV-YAFO

Running Time: 75 minutes

Booking:

Michael Ajzenstadt, Artistic Administrator,
michael@israelopera.org.il

Set: Michael Kremenko

Costumes: Maya Meidar Moran

Lighting: Nadav Barnea

Cast: Yael Levita, Daniela Skorka, Shay Bloch, Shaked Strul, Natasha Manor, Roni Einav, Lena Fraifeld, Lilian Ruth

Conductor: David Sebba

Members of the Israel Symphony
Orchestra Rishon LeZion



THE HANOCH LEVIN INSTITUTE OF ISRAELI DRAMA

The Hanoch Levin Institute of Israeli Drama was founded in 2000 by Noam Semel. The Institute has set as its goal to promote Israeli drama and raise awareness of its crucial role in the formation of Israeli culture, both in Israel and abroad. The Institute operates in the following fields:

Translation of contemporary Israeli drama

An enterprise for the purpose of exposing Israeli drama and encouraging its staging in theatres throughout the world. Ever since the Institute's establishment, Israeli plays are staged in major theatres around the world.

Isra-Drama - International Exposure of Israeli Theatre

An event designed to expose Israeli theatre to the international theatre community. During the days of the Exposure, we present the best of Israel's original productions, accompanied by surtitles. Our guests are invited to panels and discussions, and have the opportunity to meet and talk with our leading theatre creators.

Israeli Dramatists Website - dramaisrael.org

Our goal is to provide accessible information on plays to production bodies in Israel and abroad; to encourage the translation of Israeli plays; to facilitate open access to texts; to maintain a central arena to discuss questions with which playwrights engage; to encourage grants, and translation and production possibilities around the world; and to provide up to date news on Israeli drama: new productions, study days, calls for festivals, development plans, and more.

Contact us:

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Photo: Gadi Dagon

Hanoch Levin 1943-1999

Hanoch Levin - playwright, author, poet, and director. Levin was without doubt the most important and prolific playwright in the history of Israeli theatre, an outstanding artist, whose oeuvre stands as one of the basic foundations of Israeli cultural history. He wrote more than sixty plays and published books of poetry and prose. Levin wrote in varied dramatic styles and directed only his own work. His plays are performed in many theatres in Israel and around the world.

For further reading: hanochlevin.com



THEATRE AND
FRINGE DEPT.



The Hanoch Levin Institute
of Israeli Drama (NPO)

