

The Betsy – South Beach Introduces Yiddish Speaker’s Sunday Brunch Series

Ocean Drive Arts Hotel adds to Jewish Cultural Programming by Revisiting the J’OY’ of Yiddish language and Culture

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(Miami Beach, Florida) The Betsy-South Beach announces the creation of a program to celebrate the legacy of Yiddish language and culture at a monthly Yiddish Speaker’s Brunch. The Betsy’s Yiddish Speaker’s Brunch is free and open to the public.

“I remember my grandparents and parents speaking Yiddish in our home and the importance of buying the Yiddish Language Forward for my grandfather”, said Betsy owner Jonathan Plutzik. “I know how vibrant Yiddish-speaking culture was on South Beach a generation ago. It’s our privilege to actively embrace this history by revisiting and preserving it.”

The program always welcomes a community artist or scholar to frame the conversation, with recent special guest hosts/speakers including Dr. Asher Milbauer (Founder of the Exile Studies Program at FIU), Dr. Haim Shaked (Founder of the Miller Center for Contemporary Judaic Studies at University of Miami), Dr. Curt Leviant (Author of The King of Yiddish), Dr. Holli Levitsky (Author of The Catskills, The Holocaust, and The Literary Imagination and Director of the Jewish American and Holocaust Literature Association), and Dr. Annette Fromm, speaking on the Humor of the Rabbi of Chelm (Folklorist and Museum Educator).

The next Yiddish Speaker’s Brunch at The Betsy is scheduled for April 17, 2016, at 9:30 AM. The topic is Yiddish Poetry – in time for National Poetry Month – to celebrate the rich legacy of Yiddish poetry that has continued to fade from the public conscience as legacy writers and appreciators age, and as subsequent generations lack access. National Poetry Month Programs at The Betsy will take place throughout the month of April, featuring writers and readers from wide ranging cultural traditions, including the Yiddish Poetry tradition. Jewish cultural programming takes place at The Betsy year round in all arts disciplines. For information on The Betsy’s cultural programs– artsandculture@thebetsyhotel.com

Seating at the April 17 Yiddish Brunch is limited to 50 people. RSVP to artsandculture@thebetsyhotel.com

About The Betsy

The Betsy-South Beach (thebetsyhotel.com) is a luxury boutique hotel located on Ocean Drive that embraces ‘*things that matter*’ under the auspices of a Philanthropy, Arts, Culture, and Education Program - with a very special focus on poetry and literature. Each room at the hotel has a curated library, and a poetry bookmark is placed on each guest’s pillow every night. Since reopening in 2009, the hotel has become a catalyst for energized discourse, innovative thinking, and charity, working with hundreds of nonprofit partners. A robust range of Jewish programming take place all year long; the hotel is host and producing partner for the annual Jewish American and Holocaust Literature Conference, as well as The Betsy/FIU Exile Writers in Residence Program. The Betsy Writer’s Room has hosted 300+ resident thought leaders since 2012 (thebetsywritersroom.com). Jonathan Plutzik and Lesley Goldwasser are principal owners of The Betsy-South Beach. The Betsy is located at 1440 Ocean Drive, Miami Beach. 1- [305-760-6900](tel:3057606900)

See images of March 20 Salon on following page.



The Great American Poet, Gerald Stern, with Dr. Asher Milbauer, Host of the Yiddish Brunch Program at The Betsy Hotel and Founder/Director of the Exile Studies Program at Florida International University – at The Betsy Hotel, March 2016



The Salon table @ the Yiddish Brunch Program - at The Betsy Hotel, March 2016



Drs. Asher Milbauer, Host of the Yiddish Salons Program at The Betsy Hotel and Founder/Director of the Exile Studies Program at Florida International University, with Dr. Haim Shaked, Founder/Director of the Miller Center for Contemporary Judaic Studies at University of Miami – at The Betsy – South Beach’s Yiddish Brunch.