65TH ANNIVERSARY GALA CELEBRATION TO BE HELD SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14, AT JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER’S NEWLY BUILT FREDERICK P. ROSE HALL

The soon to be opened new home of Jazz at Lincoln Center, Frederick P. Rose Hall, located on Broadway at 60th Street, Columbus Circle, will be the venue for AICF’s 65th Birthday Gala, on Sunday, November 14, 2004 at 3PM.

The program will include performances by the highly acclaimed Ariel String Quartet, the piano duo of Sivan Silver and Gil Garburg, and introduce the AICF Jazz Quintet—all current and former AICF scholarship recipients.

Gala Chairs: 
Ronnie & Larry Ackman
Margalit & Moshe Meidar
Toby & Bernard Nussbaum
Judy & Harvey Rothenberg
Blanche & Romie Shapiro

GALA EVENT RESPONSE ENVELOPE INSIDE!
From Our President

Dear Friends,

Israel is a small country with an impressive cultural life. For 65 years AICF has assisted young musicians, dancers, artists, filmmakers and architects develop into world players and has inspired teachers for future generations. AICF has helped Israel secure its standing as a leader in the performing and visual arts and, as a result, strengthened the soul of this beautiful land.

On my most recent trip to Israel, I had the opportunity to sit in on auditions and interviews with scholarship applicants in music, architecture, and fine-art. AICF has received almost 2,000 applications for the 2004/5 academic year. The excitement and intensity of these students is palpable. What I found to be most exhilarating was the fact that many of the audition judges, who are professors in institutions throughout Israel and professionals, are former scholarship recipients. This is an example of how AICF, with your help, perpetuates the arts in Israel from generation to generation.

It is a daunting task to lead an organization like AICF. Outstanding leaders in the cultural and philanthropic world both here and in Israel devote their time and expertise to its success. I salute Vera Stern for her devotion to the many young Israeli artists as they develop and become proud ambassadors for Israel and beacons of hope in these troubled times.

I am proud to be part of this legacy.

Sincerely,

William A. Schwartz
President
AICF Artists Performing at our Gala Concert November 14, 2004

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1 Samuel, 18:6

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Gershon Gerchikov, violin; Alexandra Kazovsky, violin; Sergey Tarashchansky, viola and Amit Even-Tov, cello

The Ariel String Quartet

The Ariel String Quartet was founded in 1998 under the auspices of the Jerusalem Music Center and coached by Avi Abramovich. The Quartet has performed in major venues in Israel and abroad and has won several prizes, among them first prize at the Schubert and 20th Century Competition in Graz, Austria, as well as the Audience Prize at the 2004 Aviv Competitions. For the upcoming academic year they have been invited to study at the New England Conservatory of Music. All are AICF scholarship recipients.

The Silver-Garburg Piano Duo

Sivan Silver and Gil Garburg, two of Israel's most gifted pianists, founded the Silver-Garburg Piano Duo in 1997. Since then they have performed extensively in nearly forty countries on five continents. In addition to performing, Sivan Silver and Gil Garburg present Master Classes at the Tchaikovsky Conservatory in Moscow, Australian National University, Beijing Central Conservatory of Music, Singapore University, and Ottawa University. They also teach Master Classes in summer sessions in Tel-Hai, Israel and Goslar, Germany. Both are former AICF scholarship recipients.

Avishai Cohen, trumpet

The AICF Gala Jazz Quintet

AICF scholarship recipient, Eli Degibri, saxophone, has formed a jazz quintet together with Avishai Cohen, trumpet; Katya Bromberg, piano; Tal Rosen, double bass and Daniel Friedman, drums, and will perform at the Gala.

Eli Degibri, saxophone

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Gala Honorees

Jim Dine is an international, multifaceted artist of importance and renown whose works are displayed in major museums and collections the world over. For decades, Dine has focused his efforts on the various techniques of etching, an ancient method that has for centuries fascinated the great artists and one that is important in the history of art.

In 2002 at the invitation of Rachel and Dov Gottesman, Dine conducted a two-week Master Class with 12 members of the etching workshop organized at Kibbutz Cabri in the Western Galilee. At its completion the works of the participating artists were exhibited at the Israel Museum and the Tel Aviv Museum of Art.

We are proud to be honoring Jim Dine for his contribution to the art world in general as well as his devoted work with Israeli artists.

Chaim Topol began his acting career while serving in the Israeli Army. Back in civilian clothes, Topol established a satirical theater troupe in Tel Aviv, and in 1961 was one of the founding members of the Municipal Theater of Haifa. His performance in the award winning Sallah led to being cast in the London production of “Fiddler on the Roof” as Tevye the Milkman. He went on to star in the film version which earned him an Academy Award nomination and a Golden Globe Award among many other awards.

He continues to act in theatre productions and has made many film appearances. Topol has also published and illustrated some 20 books including “To Life”, a treasury of Jewish humor, wit and wisdom.

AICF is pleased to be presenting the versatile Topol with the Aviv Award.

In 1982 Meira returned to Israel as Artistic Director in the AICF Tel Aviv office. Responsible for overseeing the scholarship process in the visual arts, she has done wonders in the promotion, recognition and exposure of new Israeli artists. She established the popular annual exhibition named ARTIC that showcases the works of AICF scholarship winners together with a full-color catalogue of the show.

At our 65th Anniversary Gala, we are thrilled to express our love and admiration for Meira by presenting her the AICF Life Achievement Award honoring her 40 years of devotion to fostering the arts in Israel.

Violinist Avi Abramovich of the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance, is the founder and coach of two successful groups—The Jerusalem Quartet and The Ariel Quartet. In recognition of the high caliber of music teachers in Israel, AICF has selected Mr. Abramovich to receive the Art of Teaching in Israel citation, to be presented by another great violinist and teacher, Itzhak Perlman. AICF supports Israeli art teachers through specific grants and offers fellowships for workshops in Israel and abroad.
### AICF Donors Get Letters

Many of our AICF named-scholarship recipients, talented young Israelis, write to their sponsors to personally tell them what their help has meant to them. Here are some excerpts:

**The William Steinberg Scholarship Endowment Fund recipient:**

**Nadav Cohen, age 20, bassoon and composer**

“I serve as a soldier in the IDF in a special program for musicians, which allows me to continue my musical studies during military service.”

**The Mr. & Mrs. Charles Feurzeig Scholarship recipient:**

**Gilad Hekselman, age 21, jazz guitar**

“As you probably know, the money in Israel nowadays, whether we like it or not, whether for the right or wrong reasons, is spent on war efforts and not on art. This is why your donation is so important for Israeli culture. It helps young artists keep developing and gives them the chance to go to good teachers.”

**The Barbara and Allan Topol Scholarship recipient:**

**Uri Gurvich, age 18, saxophone**

“With the AICF scholarship, I have the best education from the best saxophone teachers in Israel. Without your help, I couldn’t afford these teachers, and you made it possible.”

**The Mr. and Mrs. Gary Davis Scholarship recipient:**

**Maya Jacobs, age 16, viola**

“I am most grateful for the meaningful and generous contribution of the scholarship that has enabled me to continue my study of the viola. Itzhak Perlman coached me last year, unforgettable!”

**The Mr. and Mrs. Saul Brandman Scholarship recipient:**

**Michal Beck, age 12, cello**

“My teacher thinks that two lessons a week, instead of one, will give me quite a push. So the scholarship that I got from AICF came at a very good moment. My dream is to be either a soloist or the cellist in a good string quartet.”

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**Emanuela Battigelli, age 24, harp**

“I perform as the second harp in the Israeli Opera and will soon play in Tosca. I really appreciate and admire the help you give to music—it is actually very difficult to be a musician!”

**The Marcelle and Eddy Landau Scholarship Endowment Fund recipient:**

**Shir Shahal, age 22, oboe**

“I am going to take part in a special orchestra Orchestre pour la Paix (Orchestra for Peace) in France. This orchestra groups Jewish and Muslim players and conductors from all over the world. Interaction between Jews and Muslims is not a thing to be taken lightly these days. I would like to thank you for your support.”

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### AICF Instrument Fund & AICF Instrument Bank

At a certain stage of a young musician’s career development—as a soloist, a chamber music player or an orchestra member—they are in need of good, concert style instruments to further their studies or help launch their professional careers. The **AICF Instrument Fund** is one of the few public sources for assisting young Israeli students and professional musicians to acquire instruments. This special fund gives assistance on a half grant, half interest-free loan basis not only to individuals but to orchestras and music programs in Israeli schools.

The **AICF Instrument Bank** lends instruments to talented students and young professional artists on a revolving basis.

For instance, the Jerusalem Quartet is now playing on AICF’s high quality instruments: Alexander Pavlovsky, a Guadagnini violin; Sergei Bressler, a Storioni violin; and Kyril Zlotnikov, a Guadagnini cello. Amichai Grosz purchased his own viola with assistance from the AICF Instrument Fund.

The list of musicians who are awaiting their turn is rather long. Please contact us if you can help us to expand our Instrument Bank through donations of quality instruments or specially earmarked funds.

### Did You Know? 2003/2004 Academic Year

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**The Jerusalem Quartet with Vera Stern**

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AICF has initiated a project with the Cameri Theater of Tel Aviv aimed at encouraging new playwrights. Six new plays will have public readings by leading actors of the theater. The best of the six will win a workshop production at the theater. The first reading took place with a play by Giora Yahalom (above) and was well received.

Evgenya Dodina, 2004 AICF winner of the Hadassah and Raphael Klachkin Prize for Acting, has created a range of unforgettable roles with Israel’s Gesher Company. She is an actor of impressive technical achievements, equally skilled in playing tragic and comic parts, able to cause a sensation in her audience with the smallest gesture. She is appearing at the Lincoln Center Festival 2004 with Gesher recreating the roles of Wanda-Sarah in The Slave and Betty in Shosha both based on works by Isaac Bashevis Singer.

In former AICF Scholarship recipient’s film, James’ Journey to Jerusalem, Israeli filmmaker Ra’anan Alexandrowicz filters an astute exploration of the economic, moral and spiritual hypocrisies of Western society through an evocative portrait of modern Israel’s cultural and generational divisions. This debut feature film opened to critical acclaim.

At our 2003 Gala concert, Lior Navok’s (center) specially commissioned work “...of weaving the shadowed waves...” in memory of Adele and John Gray was beautifully executed by PercaDu, the percussion duo of Tomer Yariv (right) and Adi Morag (left) on marimbas, with the Tel Aviv Soloists Ensemble conducted by Barak Tal.
Chai Society

Henry Shweid and Isaac Stern met in San Francisco at age 6, when both were studying the violin. Throughout the years they remained close friends, Henry always following Isaac’s career and relishing in it. At a later date, Henry joined his brother in business—successfully so.

At his untimely death in 2002 his will named AICF as one of several non-profit beneficiaries. We are grateful for his love and compassion for AICF, giving us the opportunity to create a sizeable endowment fund in his and his wife Munzi’s memory.

AICF has launched the Chai Society, to recognize those who have included the America-Israel Cultural Foundation in their long-range financial plans. These future gifts will help ensure that AICF may continue fostering the arts in Israel for generations to come.

In Memoriam

We sadly note the passing of these friends of AICF:

Richard Colburn
Jacques François
Jean-Claude Landau
Estee Lauder

Seymour Owens
David Rottapel
Helene Rottapel
Larry Tisch
AICF is lending its support to many summer workshops and master classes taking place in Israel this summer. Here are some:

• The Tel-Hai International Piano Master Classes, Yefim Bronfman, Patron

• Keshet Eilon Violin Master Course, Shlomo Mintz, Patron

• The International Vocal Arts Institute Master Classes, Tel Aviv, Joan Dorneman, Master Coach

• 8th International Summer Institute of Strings, Emek Jezreel, The Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance

• Clarinet Workshop, Classical, Jazz and Klezmer Headed by Giora Feidman in Safed

2003 Gala: The Tel Aviv Soloists Ensemble in front of Carnegie Hall with Vera Stern, Chair of the Board; Gideon Paz, Executive Director, Israel; & Vicki Marantz Friedman, Director of Development.

Fostering the Arts for a New Generation in Israel

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