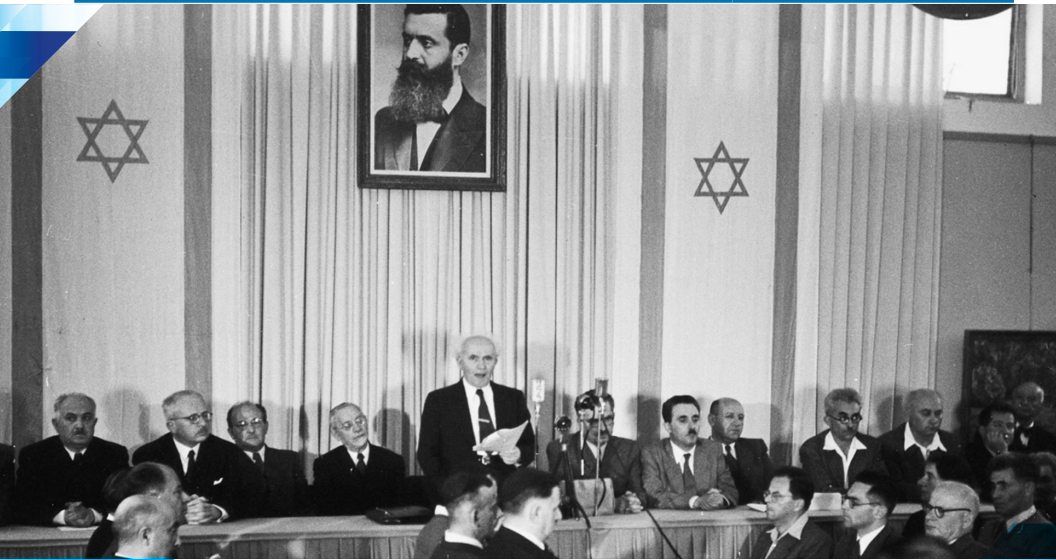


Israel at 70



July 3-5, 2018

SB-Atrium, 1590 Docteur Penfield



ISRAEL AT 70, A CELEBRATION IN COLLAGE

**Created and written by: Noa Isabel,
BFA student, Department of Painting
and Drawing**

I have created this multimedia collage as a celebration of and a window on 70 years of Israeli history. It is made up of eight panels. Each of the first seven panels represents a decade in Israel's history between 1948 and 2018. The panels progress chronologically from left to right and, when observed together, present the viewer with a symbolic version of the Israeli flag. The eighth panel, while aesthetically consistent with the other panels, stands alone, and has been created to show the relationship between Canada and Israel from 1948 to the present day. The collage has been made using multimedia watercolor paper, oil paint and found images. It includes 19 portraits painted in oil across the work, depicting the twelve Prime Ministers of Israel as well as other politically and culturally relevant figures.

The main goal of this work is that it serves as a celebratory "highlight reel" of some of the big moments and influential people, cultural creativity and political successes as well as technical innovations and international relations that have shaped the Israel of today. The work also takes into account the innumerable challenges and hardships, crises and conflicts that are part of the fabric of Israeli history, although sober reflection is not the dominant theme. This work should not be regarded as an all-encompassing historical record. It goes without saying that the entirety of Israeli

history cannot and should not be reduced to seven panels.

This brings me to the difficulty I faced while constructing this project; namely, deciding what would and what would not make it into the final piece. Israel's history, though comparatively short at 70 years, is incredibly complex. This fact weighed all the more heavily on me because I am a relative newcomer to the subject. It was clear to me, however, given the scope of Israeli history, that certain subjects, such as the religious history of Israel and Israeli-Palestinian relations, were deserving of their own dedicated projects. There are elements of both these subjects in my work, but they have not been brought to the forefront in light of my decision to focus instead on a celebration of the highlights of Israel's history as a whole.

The process of creating this work required many hours of reading and researching before I even set foot in the studio. It has been a real learning experience for me. I am finishing this project with much more knowledge of Israeli history than I began with in September. I am also finishing this project with the understanding that there is much more for me to learn both as a student of Israeli history and as an artist seeking to give meaningful expression to consequential ideas and issues. Going forward, I have recently added Israel Studies as a minor to my Bachelor of Fine Arts degree, and I can think of no better way to begin my studies than by creating this piece, a combination of two of my passions – painting and learning about Israel.

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ABOUT THE AZRIELI INSTITUTE OF ISRAEL STUDIES

Interest in the field of Israeli studies is prevalent as it ever was, attested by the growing numbers of academic programs and institutes devoted to the academic study of Israel. The Association for Israel Studies, a scholarly society devoted to the academic and professional study of Israel, is composed of scholars from all disciplines and from various countries. North America in particular is responsible for this growth; excluding Israel, the United States has the most prolific number of centers, institutes, study programs, endowed chairs, and faculty members that focus on the academic study of modern Israel. Although Canada does not compare to the U.S.' numbers, its contribution to the field should not be overlooked.

Canada is increasingly contributing to this discipline, in large part due to the Andrea and Charles Bronfman Chair of Israeli Studies, chaired by Prof. Emanuel Adler at the University of Toronto, as well as the Azrieli Institute of Israel Studies, directed by Dr. Csaba Nikolenyi, at Concordia University. Both are among the very few centres that are privileged with institutional membership to the Association of Israel Studies. They are also both dedicated to contribute to the scholarship of modern Israeli society by encouraging the development of the field across disciplines within their respective universities.

Notably, the Azrieli Institute created the first and only Israel Studies undergraduate program in Canada, in which students can minor in the subject. The program is designed to allow students to complement their core area of study with courses in history, political science, religion, literature and language. The study of modern Israel is a significant focus of the program, but students also explore this birthplace of major civilizational currents in all its facets and time periods. At least 20 students have graduated with the minor and/or are currently in the minor program.

Furthermore, the Institute strives to foster, promote and support graduate training, faculty based research projects, conferences, public lectures and exchange programs in Israel. In both Montreal and Israel, the Institute organizes several lectures, workshops and conferences throughout the year, with speakers who are recognized scholars and world renowned experts. Furthermore, the research centre has often welcomed post-doctoral fellows and visiting researchers to continue their work using the Institute's facilities. It has so far supported 14 Graduate Fellows and 4 Postdoc fellows. In creating a dynamic understanding of Israel through different lenses, the Institute, the first of its kind in Canada, has become well-established among the other research institutes and programs within the same field.

The activities of the Institute are managed by Dr. Csaba Nikolenyi (Political Science), the Associate Director, Dr. Norma Joseph (Religions and Cultures) and coordinated by an Advisory Group. In addition, an External Advisory Board consisting of representatives from community organizations, philanthropic associations and the corporate sector was established to facilitate the Institute's outreach and strengthen its relations with the various communities represented.

Among its many achievements, the Institute organized a conference on Israel's 65th which was held on November 11-12, 2013 with resounding success. Many notable speakers participated, such as renowned scholars Ilan Troen, from Brandeis University, and Motti Inbari, from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke. In addition, the Institute hosted the 31st Annual Conference of the Association for Israel Studies, held June 1-3, 2015, with over 250 academics from around the world. The Azrieli Institute has since continued to invite esteemed scholars from far and wide to present their work, with some in the past having travelled from India, Israel, the UK, and so on.

Moreover, the Institute has recently initiated the “Summer in Israel” program, in coordination with Concordia International, which provides students with the opportunity to earn Concordia credits while spending part of their summer in Israel. This constitutes an invaluable learning experience for the students, as they are directly immersed in the Israeli cultural and social environments on an intimate inter-personal level, which evidently leads them to a much deeper and more nuanced understanding of some of the complex facets of Israeli life and society.

As a truly multi-disciplinary research centre, the Azrieli Institute of Israel Studies is a prime example of this research mission in action. The centre brings together academics from wide ranging fields such as archaeology, history and religion with economics, art and literature in order to contribute new ideas and voices to Israel Studies. It is also an important source of support for the next generation of scholars through funding for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows who are dedicated to the study of Israel in all its facets.

Together, with other important research institutes and programs, the Azrieli Institute of Israel Studies is at the forefront of promoting interdisciplinary study of Israel, and it will continue to do so as it continues to foster research and teaching that contribute to the study of the state of Israel, locally, nationally and internationally.

**Written by: Chloe Collier, M.A. student,
Department of Religion and Cultures &
recipient of the 2017-18 Montefiore Award
from the Azrieli Institute of Israel Studies**



CONFERENCE PROGRAM

JULY 3 – 5, 2018

TUESDAY, JULY 3

A 70 YEAR ROADSIDE MAP: "YOU ARE HERE"

Doors open at 9 a.m.

Welcome begins at 9:15 a.m. with:

Csaba Nikolenyi, Director, Azrieli Institute of Israel Studies, Concordia University, Montreal

Paula Kabalo, Director, Ben-Gurion Research Institute for the Study of Israel and Zionism, BGU, Israel

Jason Camlot, Acting Dean, Faculty of Arts and Science

Samuel Dergel, Chair, Israel & Overseas committee at Federation CJA

9:30 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Session TUI – Israeli history

Chair: Csaba Nikolenyi

Adi Sherzer: Looking at them looking at us: The Israelis and Ben-Gurion's journey to the US (1951)

Paula Kabalo: City with no walls - Ben-Gurion's Jerusalem vision after the Six Day War

Amir Locker Biletzki: Megi histalek me'artsenu (Mac-Ge Get Out of our Country): Anti-imperialism and Israeli nationalism in Israeli Communist politics of the 1950s

Ira Robinson: When Neturei Karta (almost) met Red Haifa: the protest over Shabbat at the Haifa Industrial Exposition of 1956

11 a.m. – 11:15 a.m

Coffee break

11:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Session TU2 –

Iraqi and Moroccan migration:

Chair: Csaba Nikolenyi

Yolande Cohen: Zionism and Moroccan Jew's post-colonial migrations

Aviad Moreno: Macro-Meso-Micro: a multilayer perspective on Jewish-Moroccan migration after 1948

Esther Meir-Glitzenstein: From emigration to expulsion: The Exodus of Iraqi Jews, 1950-1951

Norma Joseph: Ethnic eating: Jewish Diversity and its substantiation

12:45 p.m.

Lunch break - meals provided for the conference speakers only

2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Session TU3 –

Electoral and legislative politics

Chair: Natan Aridan

Ofer Kenig: 'All about the money?' Candidates' expenditure and success in Israel's party primary elections

Dana Blander: The paradox of political participation in Israel

Csaba Nikolenyi: Exit and loyalty in the Knesset: Determinants of party switching in the Israeli legislature

Chen Friedberg: Measuring the strength of the Israeli parliamentary committees in its legislative process

3:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Coffee break

3:45 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

Session TU4 –

Israeli identity and politics through archives, landmarks and cartoons

Chair: Carly Daniel-Hughes

Adi Portuguese: Following the footprints of Canadian "Total Archive": Communal-archive project at BGRI as initiative of bottom-up research in Israel Studies and as a cornerstone for new currents of collective memory in Israel.

Chloe Collier: Jewish pilgrimage to the Temple Mount: Shaping collective memory through sacred landscape

Tal-Or Ben-Choreen: Collective imaginings of place: A study of photography surveys in Israel and the West Bank

Ilan Danjoux: Do political cartoons predict election results? A cartoon analysis of Israeli elections 1995 - 2015

5:15 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Refreshments

5:30 p.m.

Keynote: The history of Zionism, and its ramifications on international politics today

Gil Troy: Reclaiming the Z-word: From the Zionist to the Zionist ideas in the Jewish world, the scholarly world, Canada, and beyond

WEDNESDAY, JULY 4

DIFFERENT AMONG ALL OTHER NATIONS: STRUGGLING WITH EXCEPTIONALITY

Doors open at 9 a.m.

9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Session WE1–

International perspectives on Zionism:

Chair: Andrea Gondos

Minghui Pan: China's response to the Holocaust during WWII

Daniel Rickenbacker: A comparative perspective on Quebec Anti-Zionism in the early 1970s

Natan Aridan: 'Setting up Shop' for Israel advocacy – Divergencies and convergences in reaching a Modus Vivendi between the Diaspora 'Retailers' and the Israeli 'Wholesalers'

Ofer Shiff: The Diasporic component within the Homeland – Israel as a case study

10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Coffee break

11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Session WE2– The "Jewish" State:

Chair: Ira Robinson

Nahum Karlinsky: The crisis of Israeli identity a model

Meir Amor: "Ethnic democracy" as conservative sociology: gated communities and Ashkenazi privilege

Ben Herzog: Communicating race: Canadian and Israeli citizenship discourse

Avi Bareli: Forgetting Europe: Perspectives on the debate about Zionism and colonialism

Lunch break for all speakers

Tour of Kahnawake for Israeli participants beginning at 1:15 p.m.

Daniel Salée: The politics of Indigenous peoples-settler relations in Canada: Historical context and contemporary challenges

Dinner for speakers only

THURSDAY, JULY 5

THE ISRAELI STATE OF MIND: FROM STATE-OF-THE-ART TO A STATE OF THE ARTS"

Doors open at 9 a.m.

9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Session TH1: Redefining the home: Sedentary vs. Nomadic definitions of Aboriginal identity

Chair: Paula Kabalo

Tanya Zion-Waldoks: Home-making and Home-breaking: Gender and the Jewish-Israeli collective

Havatzelet Yahel: The Jewish people and the Indigenous discourse: the legal perspective

Emir Galilee: "A Nomadic state of mind": The formation and transformations of Negev Bedouin mental maps in the 19th and 20th centuries

Mark Watson: Montreal Inuit and the socio-political context of urban Indigenous migration in Canada and elsewhere

10:45 a.m. – 11 a.m

Coffee break

11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Session TH2 – Understanding Israeli society through language, symbols and education

Chair: Naftali Cohn

Yael Halevi-Wise: Ben Gurion's message in A. B. Yehoshua's latest novel, *HaMinharah* (The Tunnel)

Judith Weisz Woodsworth: A language for Israel: the role of translation in building the resources of Hebrew

Tali Tadmor-Shimony: 'Natural Body' and the newcomers in the Hebrew school

Andrea Gondos: The New East: Cultural agency in shaping Zionist Identity in Transylvania's substantiation

12:45 p.m.

Closing Remarks

Csaba Nikolenyi, Director, Azrieli Institute of Israel Studies, Concordia University, Montreal

Paula Kabalo, Director, Ben-Gurion Research Institute for the Study of Israel and Zionism, BGU, Israel

Organized lunch for speakers only

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



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