

Please join visionary scholars, activists, and artists **Rabbi Jill Hammer**, **Shoshana Jedwab**, and **Maria Broom** for a weekend exploration of the Divine Feminine in Prayer, Movement, Drumming, Singing, and Being.



## **She Is The Tree of Life**

### **A Weekend Immersion into the Divine Feminine and Cultivating Joy**

(Hosted by Kol HaLev and The Waldorf School of Baltimore)

October 12-14, 2018



#### **Program Description**

### **She is the Tree of Life**

**Rabbi Jill Hammer and Shoshana Jedwab**



Evidence of the presence of feminine representations of the Divine in sacred Jewish texts and artifacts has been hiding in plain sight throughout the ages. But it has taken the emergence of contemporary feminist scholarship and sensitivities to begin to reclaim and to celebrate this heritage and to reintegrate the Divine Feminine into Jewish life. Master teachers Jill Hammer and Shoshana Jedwab are leaders on this cutting edge of Jewish scholarship and practice, and we are thrilled to be able to bring them to Baltimore for this 3-day event. Come experience a weekend filled with embodied, earth-based transformative Jewish ritual that is accessible to people of all faiths and spiritual paths.

## **Dance Medicine: Good for You!**

**Maria Broom**



Come stretch, twirl. Shimmy your shoulders and shake your hips to rhythmic and soulful world music. Come to release all your aches, your worries, tension and stress. This is the 'medicine' in dancing. The heart beats faster. Emotions settle down and your spirit feels refreshed. You look radiant and youthful. You feel like a brand new person! Each class begins with meditation, a time to rest your body and mind. Dancing to release shame and criticism

**\*\* Dancing through grief and resilience \*\* Dancing for peace and justice \*\***

Dancing is prayer

#### **Fee for this 3-day workshop event**

- \$100 (bring your own meals and drinks)
- \$150 (includes catered vegetarian meals, drinks, and snacks)

To purchase tickets: Go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/she-is-the-tree-of-life-a-weekend-immersion-into-the-divine-feminine-tickets-48433907120>

For more information, please email [divinetreemd@gmail.com](mailto:divinetreemd@gmail.com)

Space is limited. Please order soon.

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Please also join us Sunday afternoon at a benefit concert featuring  
**Shoshana Jedwab** and **SONiA** (disappear fear)

## **"Re-Membering Our Voices"**

**October 14, 2018, 4pm-7pm**

**The Waldorf School of Baltimore: 4801 Tamarind Road, Baltimore MD 21209**

This benefit concert will support **Ezra Uganda Assistance** and  
**Advocates for Children and Youth**

**Tickets: \$20 in advance\* (\$25 at the door\*)**

**Please see the back page for schedule of events**

# Schedule of Events

**Friday, October 12, 2018, 7 pm-9pm at Kol HaLev**

130 W. Seminary Avenue, Suite 100 Lutherville MD 21093

## **Kabbalat Shabbat Service and Talk**

### **Divine Feminine in Jewish Sources" with Rabbi Jill Hammer**

When, how, and why have Jews conceived the divine in female terms? What needs might this have met for them, and can meet for us? With Rabbi Jill Hammer, explore biblical, rabbinic, and kabbalistic sources in which the Divine is midwife, mother, mourning woman, and bride, and develop an awareness of this face of the sacred. The service will be followed by Kiddush.

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**Saturday, October 13, 2018: 10 am-noon at Kol HaLev**

## **Shabbat Morning Service and Experiential Torah Service**

The service will be followed by Kiddush

Afternoon program begins with lunch (for workshop participants only)

Program continues through Sunday Morning

- 12:00-12:45 pm Boxed Lunch
  - 1:00-2:15 pm **The Wise Woman and the Tree of Life: The Divine Feminine in the Book of Proverbs with Rabbi Jill Hammer**  
In the book of Proverbs, Wisdom is depicted as a female teacher or prophetess. Who is this mysterious figure, and what happens to her for the rest of Jewish history? Learn more in this study session.
  - 2:30-4:00 pm **Dance Medicine with Maria Broom!**
  - 4:00-5:00 pm Break and Snack
  - 5:15-6:30 pm **Shekhinah and Sacred Earth: The Kabbalists, the Divine Mother, and the Planet with Rabbi Jill Hammer**  
The kabbalists understood the whole earth to be full of divine presence. In general, they equated this earthly divine immanence with Shekhinah, the divine mother. How did this understanding of the world around them influence their beliefs and practices? In what ways can their beliefs inspire us as we face a threatened world?
  - 6:30-7:30 pm Dinner
  - 7:30-8:30 pm **Havdalah and Drum Circle**
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**Sunday, October 14, 2018: 9am-11am**

Program continues at **The Waldorf School of Baltimore**

**4801 Tamarind Road, Baltimore MD 21209**

9:00-10:00 am

### **Embracing The Hebrew Priestess**

*The Hebrew Priestess, Rabbi Jill Hammer's book with Taya Shere, carefully excavates the forgotten roles of women as Jewish spiritual leaders from the millennia before women began receiving rabbinic ordination in the 1970s. From before the days of Miriam the Prophetess and Deborah the Judge, Jewish women have offered their talents as religious leaders. The Hebrew Priestess tells their stories, often reading between the lines of the Bible and Talmud to rediscover the women that rabbinic editors downplayed and perhaps even tried to erase. Discover the holy women, shrinekeepers, shamanesses, and prophetesses of the Bible and how they can inform our Judaism today.*

10:00-11:00 am

### **Closing Circle (Labyrinth Walk)**

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Please also join us Sunday Afternoon at a benefit concert featuring  
**Shoshana Jedwab and SONiA (disappear fear)**

## **"Re-Membering Our Voices"**

**October 14, 2018, 4:00 pm-7pm**

**The Waldorf School of Baltimore**

This is a benefit concert to support Ezra Uganda Assistance and Advocates for Children and Youth

Tickets: **\$20 in advance\*** (**\$25 at the door\***) \*Suggested donations



Making a Difference Far and Near  
**"Re-Membering Our Voices"**

A Benefit Concert featuring



**Shoshana Jedwab**  
and  
**SONiA**

(disappear fear)



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**Shoshana Jedwab** brings intuitive musical work in community and her immersion in sacred literature in her career as a Jewish educator together in these original compositions from her 2016 debut album *I Remember* and her 2018 single, *Where You Go*. The songs are reflections on ancient and medieval Hebrew poets, wise women, Hassidic masters, Sufi mystics, and contemporary teachers. Each piece explores a unique landscape that taps simultaneously into the Hebrew and World soul.

**SONiA (Rutstein) disappear fear** has 17 Award winning CDs including first round Grammy entries for several albums. "Her songs are a vivid celebration of the human spirit in all its infinite manifestations" says Don Kening-Chicago Daily Herald, "her music has a singular sound that makes labeling and categorizing a waste of time."

SONiA is a world class composer and artist. She is the recipient of the Coin Of Honor from a joint coalition of United States military for her humanitarian efforts. She has received the GLAMA (Gay and Lesbian Music Awards) for Female Artist of the year and the GLAAD (Gay and Lesbian American Anti Defamation) Award for Best Album to name a few. Writing songs in Spanish, Hebrew, Arabic, German and Kurdish- in multiple genres from blues to middle eastern to country and folk, making music lovers around the globe. She received the Spirit of Folk Music Award (2017) by Folk Alliance International.

SONiA's latest double CD "LIVE at MAXiMAL" was in the first round running Grammy for Folk Album of the Year. She is a featured artist (Hamburg 2018) for the VOICE PROJECT to free the imprisoned Nudem Durak who is jailed in Turkey for singing in Kurdish. This is also one of many projects SONiA embraces to live into the possibility that- *when you disappear fear what you have is love.*

### **Re-Membering Our Voices: Making a Difference Near and Far**

This concert was created to support children living here in Baltimore and across the globe in Uganda.

**Ezra Uganda Assistance:** The Abayudaya, the Jews of Eastern Uganda, number about 2,000 souls, concentrated in a few villages with their center near the town of Mbale. Devout in practice, keeping kosher and observing Shabbat and holy days, the Abayudaya have been recognized as legitimately Jewish by the Reform, Reconstructionist, Conservative and Renewal movements of Judaism. The Abayudaya subsist on small farming. Most villages do not have electricity or running water and depend on their water supply from rain water collected in local wells. The village of Namutumba, about 60 kilometers from Mbale, has about 400 Abayudaya Jews who currently live on the brink of starvation since drought and famine have plagued Eastern Uganda for some time now. Their spiritual leader is a young man, Shadrach HaLevi Mugoya, who was appointed by the elderly retiring rabbi as his successor. Concert proceeds will go directly to the Abayudaya Ezra Uganda Fund for food, medication, and other basic needs for children and families in the village. To learn more, please go to: <https://www.ezrauganda.org/about>

**Advocates for Children and Youth:** The Mission of ACY is to identify problems, promote policies and programs that improve results for Maryland's children in measurable and meaningful ways, and evaluate the effectiveness of programs and policies for the state's children and youth. To learn more, please go to: <https://www.acy.org/>