

IN-PERSON TOURS AND VIRTUAL TALKS FOR FALL AND WINTER 2023 AT THE DERFNER

To schedule a program, call 718-581-1596 or email art@riverspring.org.
Tours and programs free of charge for older adult and special needs groups.



Zhen Guo: Chroma Comes from the Margins (In-person or on Zoom)

This exhibition features large-scale ink paintings on rice paper intersected by brilliant bands of color, a neon installation and a short film by Chinese feminist artist Zhen Guo. These works evolved out of a 2016 series of monochromatic, semi-abstract landscapes that explored the silencing of women. Guo began inserting stripes of saturated color into the black and white compositions in 2022, describing this action as “a need for change,” and an opportunity for optimism. On view Sept. 10, 2023–Jan. 21, 2024.

Zhen Guo, *Yesterday Rain*, detail, 2022–23. Ink and oil pastel on rice paper, 77 1/8 x 37 7/8 in. Courtesy the artist.



Highlights of the Derfner Judaica Museum (In-person or on Zoom)

This tour provides an introduction to the ongoing exhibition *Tradition and Remembrance: Treasures of the Derfner Judaica Museum*, which explores the intersections of Jewish history and memory. The exhibition tells the story of art and objects used in traditional Jewish practice in light of the role memory plays in shaping both individual and communal identities. Ongoing.

Image: Szyldberg R. Hersz (dates unknown), Hanukkah Lamp, Warsaw, Russian Empire, now Poland, 1871. Silver: die-stamped, 9 1/8 x 7 5/8 in. Ralph and Leuba Baum Collection, B.144.



Modern and Contemporary Art from the Collection of Hebrew Home at Riverdale (Zoom only)

Explore the Hebrew Home at Riverdale’s renowned modern and contemporary art collection in a live, illustrated Zoom talk. The collection includes paintings, prints, photographs and sculpture in a range of styles, from Cubism to Pop Art. Artists to be discussed include Richard Avedon, Romare Bearden, Frédéric Brenner, Jim Dine, Herbert Ferber, Larry Fink, Menashe Kadishman, Alex Katz, Robert Mangold, Joan Mitchell, Louise Nevelson, Ben Shahn and Pablo Picasso.

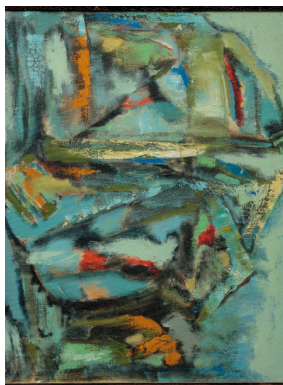
Image: Pablo Picasso (b. Málaga, Spain, 1881–d. Mougins, France, 1973), *Untitled*, from *Imaginary Portraits*, 1969. Lithograph, 26 x 20 in. Gift of Eva and Murray Roman, HHAR 821.



Missing Generations: Photographs by Jill Freedman (Zoom only)

On the fiftieth anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, noted street photographer Jill Freedman (b. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 1939–d. New York, New York, 2019) began a project she called Missing Generations, documenting the remnants of Jewish life after World War II in Hungary, Poland and Czechoslovakia. Dating from 1993 and 1994, her images feature survivors revisiting such sites as Auschwitz-Birkenau, the Warsaw Ghetto and Terezín (Theresienstadt) in the former Czechoslovakia, the Jewish quarter in Prague and portraits of survivors in Boca Raton and Miami, Florida.

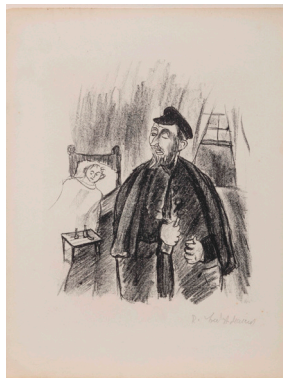
Image: Jill Freedman, *Tourists peering through the doors of the Old-New Synagogue (Altneuschul)*, Prague, 1994. Gelatin silver print, 12 11/16 x 8 1/2 in. Courtesy the Jill Freedman Family Estate.



Unlisted: Underappreciated Women Artists from the Permanent Collection (Zoom only)

This talk focuses on seventeen twentieth-century women artists found in the permanent collection who worked in modernist styles yet are not often exhibited today despite their significant skills and careers. “Listed” indicates that an artist is included in standard art reference books. It is found in descriptions of works at third-tier auction houses and online auction websites to bolster an artist’s legitimacy. “Unlisted,” the title of this talk, exposes the irony of the term and the arbitrariness of the art world.

Image: Elsa Schachter (b. city unknown, New Jersey, 1911 or 1912–d. Maplewood, New Jersey, 1971), *Untitled*, ca. 1960s. Oil on canvas, 20 x 16 in. Gift of Milton Schachter, HHAR 2471.



Rahel Szalit-Marcus and Solomon Gershov Illustrate Sholem Aleichem (Zoom only)

Learn about Rahel Szalit-Marcus (1888–1942) and Solomon Gershov (1906–1989) and their work inspired by the famed Yiddish writer, Sholem Aleichem (1869–1916). Yiddish language and culture energized Jewish artists in 20th-century Eastern Europe. Although they shared different fates in the tumultuous century, both artists brought Aleichem’s poignant and humorous stories to life in their prints and paintings.

Image: Rahel Szalit-Marcus (b. Telshi, Russian Empire, now Telšiai, Lithuania, 1888–d. Auschwitz concentration camp, Poland, 1942), *Untitled*, from *Motl, Peysi the Cantor’s Son*, 1922. Lithograph, 13 x 11 1/2 in. Gift of Sigmund R. Balka, 09.01.02.



Modern Ritual: From Bezalel to Wolpert (Zoom only)

From its founding in Jerusalem in 1906 by Boris Schatz (1866–1932), the Bezalel School of Arts and Crafts forged a national style and pioneered modernist design in Jewish ceremonial art. Ludwig Yehuda Wolpert (1900–1981), a German-trained silversmith who was influenced by the Bauhaus, came to teach at the School in 1935 and rapidly transformed its style. He was responsible for bringing clarity and streamlined design to the United States after emigrating in 1956, along with his daughter, Chava Wolpert Richard (1933–2015), who also had an impact on Judaica design.

Image: Kiddush Cup, Jerusalem, Palestine, 1909–1929. Copper alloy, copper, silver, 4 x 3 x 3 in. Ralph and Leuba Baum Collection, B.449.



Aviary Aesthetic: The Symbolism of Birds (Zoom only)

With more than thirty artists and works in diverse media, this talk explores the fascination birds have long held for artists and designers across different cultures and eras, ranging from late nineteenth-century France to the late twentieth-century United States. The featured objects reflect a variety of stylistic influences, from realism to surrealism, folk art to scientific illustration. Through these avian creatures, humanity seeks to understand and communicate its place within the natural world.

Image: Dan Bruggeman (b. Omaha, Nebraska, 1957), *Science of Birds: The Magpie*, 1999. Mixed media, 12 x 9 in. Purchase, HHAR 4085.