

## *Some Things Seen in Israel: Photographs by Burt Allen Solomon*

On view April 14 – July 28, 2013

Opening Reception and Artist's Talk at the Derfner Judaica Museum  
Sunday, April 14, 3:30-5 p.m.



Burt Allen Solomon, "Altneuland" (Tel Aviv),  
2009, gelatin silver print, 9 ¾ x 7 ¾ inches  
(2009.3) © 2013

luxury housing on the former site of the Tel Aviv Opera House with a much older building in the foreground."

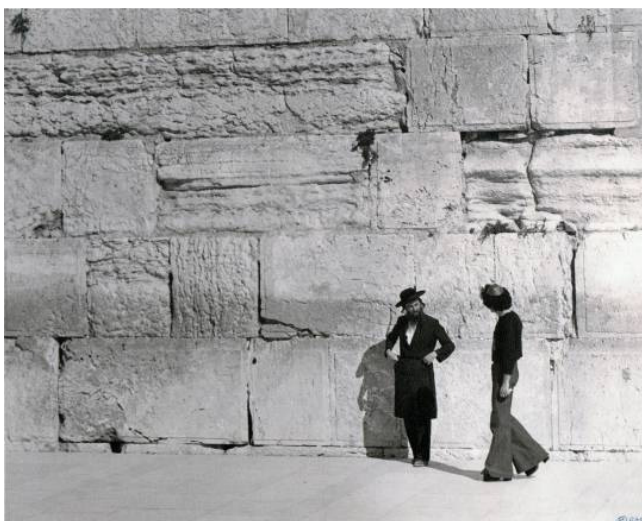
Reflecting on the many years he has photographed in Israel, Solomon noted, "Even now, having looked at thousands of photographs, my work is basically what I see. I look at what is in my view and some things interest me (subject matter, light, composition). If I have my camera with me and at the ready, I take a photograph. My first trip to Israel was exciting. Everything was new and 'exotic,' and there were lots of photographic subjects all the time."

The Hebrew Home at Riverdale is pleased to announce its latest exhibition in celebration of the 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the State of Israel. *Some Things Seen in Israel: Photographs by Burt Allen Solomon* will be on view in the Derfner Judaica Museum from April 14 – July 28, 2013. An opening reception and artist's talk will be held on Sunday, April 14, from 3:30 – 5 p.m. This event is free and open to the public. Please R.S.V.P. to 718.581.1596 or [art@hebrewhome.org](mailto:art@hebrewhome.org).

The exhibition features a selection of 42 black-and-white photographs taken at intervals over a forty-year period from the Mediterranean Sea to across the Green Line, Israel's pre-1967 border. Solomon began photographing in Israel in 1968 – arriving days after an El Al hijacking. His images capture the shifts in Israeli culture, fixing them in gestures, lights, shadows and contrasts. With rare exceptions, his images are untitled, encouraging audiences to look and not to be directed toward a particular viewpoint. "My view is that photographs should first stand on their own," Solomon said. "Only rarely have I given names to pictures. For example, I gave the ironic title *Altneuland* (Tel Aviv, 2009.3), after Herzl's book, to a photo contrasting new, multi-story



Burt Allen Solomon, *Tel Aviv*, 2009, gelatin silver print, 7 ¾ x 9 ¾ inches (2009.1) © 2013



Burt Allen Solomon, *Jerusalem*, 1974, gelatin silver print, 9 3/4 x 7 3/4 inches (1974.8) © 2013

Solomon was born in 1944 and grew up in Brooklyn, New York. His photographs reflect a documentary, "street photography" style. He has been taking, developing and printing photographs since he graduated from high school, having started out on his father's World-War-II-vintage Kodak Medalist II camera, with its large "medium format" (2 1/4 x 3 1/4) negative size, and has been behind many cameras since then. Among the photography books that have influenced him, Solomon has noted the acclaimed *The Family of Man* (1955) and *US Camera Annual 1947*, as well as visits to the Kodak gallery in Grand Central Terminal. His father, a printer by day and hobbyist photographer, introduced him to the darkroom in a corner of their garage in Brooklyn.

Solomon lives in South Orange, New Jersey and is a practicing attorney in New York City. His work has been exhibited previously at Vladeck Hall Gallery, Amalgamated Houses in The Bronx and at the Framing Mill, Maplewood, NJ.

As a member of the American Alliance of Museums, The Hebrew Home at Riverdale is committed to publicly exhibiting its art collection throughout its 32-acre campus including the Derfner Judaica Museum and a sculpture garden overlooking the Hudson River and Palisades. The Derfner Judaica Museum + The Art Collection provide educational and cultural programming for residents of the Hebrew Home, their families and the general public from throughout New York City, its surrounding suburbs and visitors from elsewhere. The Home is a nonprofit, non-sectarian geriatric organization serving more than 7,000 elderly persons through its resources and community service programs. Museum hours: Sunday - Thursday, 10:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Art Collection open daily, 10:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. Call for holiday hours, or for further information visit our website at

<http://hebrewhome.org/art.asp>



Burt Allen Solomon, *West Bank*, 1968, gelatin silver print, 9 3/4 x 7 3/4 inches (1968.0) © 2013

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