



Shane Baker

Photo credit: Avia Moore

# JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

**MONDAYS, MAY 7, 14, 21 | 6 PM**  
**THURSDAYS, MAY 3, 10 | 6 PM**  
**FOREST HILLS**



**Celebrate Jewish American Culture with a monthlong festival that will include the most talented performers around town featuring special guest star Mitzi Manna, international star of the Yiddish theater who has appeared in basements everywhere from Berlin to the Bronx! Includes music, song, and old-time comedy acts straight out of vaudeville! Loads of laughter guaranteed! Not since the Borscht Belt has there been such a show!**

**Thursday, May 3 | 6 pm**  
**Hy Wolfe in Concert: Yiddish Songs and Stories\***



**Hy Wolfe** is a proud member of Actors' Equity Association and the president of the Hebrew Actors' Foundation. He is the director of the Yiddish National Theater.

Hy made his stage debut in 1978 in William Inge's *Natural Affection*. 2018 marks his 40th year as an actor. Hy will take you on a voyage spanning 100 years of Yiddish music and folklore. Hy is the "Real Deal" - a native-born Yiddish speaker who loves to perform in Mame-Loshn! Don't speak or understand Yiddish? Not to worry! Hy translates every song and story into English!

Monday, May 7 | 6 pm

**Miryem-Khaye Seigel in Concert: Yiddish Folk and Theater Music\***



**Miryem-Khaye Seigel** is a Yiddish singer, songwriter, and actor. A fluent Yiddish speaker and scholar, she has performed, taught, and lectured internationally. *Toyznt tamen = A thousand flavors* (2015) is her album of original and adapted Yiddish songs.

Miryem-Khaye's concert will include a broad range of Yiddish folk and theater repertoire, from heartfelt to humorous, sung in various dialects of Yiddish. You'll laugh, you'll cry, you'll learn! English translations will be provided.

\*CDs are available for sale and signing.

Thursday, May 10 | 6 pm  
**Mitzi Manna in Concert**



**Mitzi Manna**, international star of the Yiddish theater, has appeared in basements everywhere from Berlin to the Bronx. She is thrilled to at last be bringing her story to a basement in Queens. Mitzi sings and recites songs and poems written for and about her in her beloved mame-loshn, but she spills all the tea from her long and checkered career in whatever language the audience understands best—including ASL, Pig Latin, and the International Language of Love. Described by the *National Enquirer* as ‘an unstoppable force of nature’ and by the *Times of Israel* as ‘a cheap date’, Mitzi Manna will leave you wanting more. Or less. More or less.

Mitzi Manna is born of the pixillated mind of **Shane Baker**, the best-loved Episcopalian on the Yiddish stage today. Baker’s translation of Samuel Beckett’s *Waiting for Godot* gave the play its Yiddish world debut with the New Yiddish Rep in 2013, and since then NYR and Baker have played it in three Off Broadway runs as well as at Beckett festivals in Northern Ireland and Paris, France. *The New York Times* declares him “one of the most prominent proponents of Yiddish theater, language, and culture in New York.” But why trust the New York Times—come find out for yourself!

Monday, May 14 | 6 pm  
**Musical Salute to Molly Picon, Star of the Yiddish Theatre  
with Diane Cypkin!**



**Dr. Diane Cypkin** tells—in English narration—the life story of this exciting First Lady of the Yiddish Stage through the countless songs she sang and often wrote during her many years as an entertainer.

Indeed, the concert is a cornucopia, a beautiful bouquet, of tangos, waltzes, and fox-trots, that will have you humming for days. It is a tribute to a legend!

Multi-faceted, Dr. Cypkin is a Professor of Media and Communication Arts at Pace University in New York, an accomplished entertainer as well as a curator responsible for highly successful exhibits on Molly Picon at Lincoln Center and Yiddish Theatre at the Museum of the City of New York.

She will be accompanied by Lena Panfilova, a graduate of the Moscow Conservatory, who has performed as a collaborative pianist with many musicians and has given many solo and chamber concerts in Russia, across Europe, and in the United States.

Monday, May 21 | 6 pm  
**A Shameless Yiddish, etc. Vaudeville**



Featuring songs and sketches from Yiddish vaudeville, “Jewface” material from American vaudeville, and miscellaneous related frou-frou. Understanding Yiddish helps, but you’ll still laugh without it. With Yiddish Theater, Broadway, Off-Broadway, television, and movie veterans **Yelena Shmulenson**, **Steve Sterner**, and **Allen Lewis Rickman**.

Allen Lewis Rickman is a Yiddish theater historian as well as an actor, writer, and director. Acting credits include the Coen brothers’ Oscar-nominated *A Serious Man*, Barry Levinson’s *You Don’t Know Jack* (with Al Pacino), John Turturro’s *Fading Gigolo* (with Woody Allen), and recurring roles on *Boardwalk Empire* and *Public Morals*, along with appearances on Broadway, Off Broadway, in regional theatre, and in Yiddish theatre. He co-adapted and directed the Drama Desk-nominated Yiddish *Pirates Of Penzance*, and two other plays each for the Folksbiene and New Yiddish Rep. Plays he’s written have been produced in France, Denmark, Spain, Luxembourg, Sweden, Romania, and the U.S.; among those that have been published is his revue *The Essence: A Yiddish Theater Dim Sum*, which appeared in the anthology *Yiddishkeit*, co-edited by the late Harvey Pekar.





**FOREST HILLS**  
108-19 71 Avenue  
718.268.7934

**E F M R** to 71/Continental Avenue  
**Q23 Q60 Q64**

**Admission is free**  
**For more information,**  
**call: English: 718-990-0891**