



# Kol HaNeshama

presents

## “SONG OF MY/OUR SOUL”

ARTISTS:

HELEN ABRAMOWICZ, JOAN L. DAVIDSON, TOBY DEUTSCH,  
MELANIE MARCUS, JUDY MAY, AMY MEYER, LINDA MILBERG,  
MICHELLE ROSENBERG, SUSAN SALZMAN, ANITA SARNO,  
ANNE SCHIMBERG, NAOMI SCHWARTZ, RABBI JENNIFER SINGER

PROJECT CO-COORDINATORS: RABBI JENNIFER SINGER,  
JOAN L. DAVIDSON, LINDA MILBERG  
QUILTER: SUSAN SALZMAN

March 23, 2022



## HELEN ABRAMOWICZ “Garden Memory” Photograph

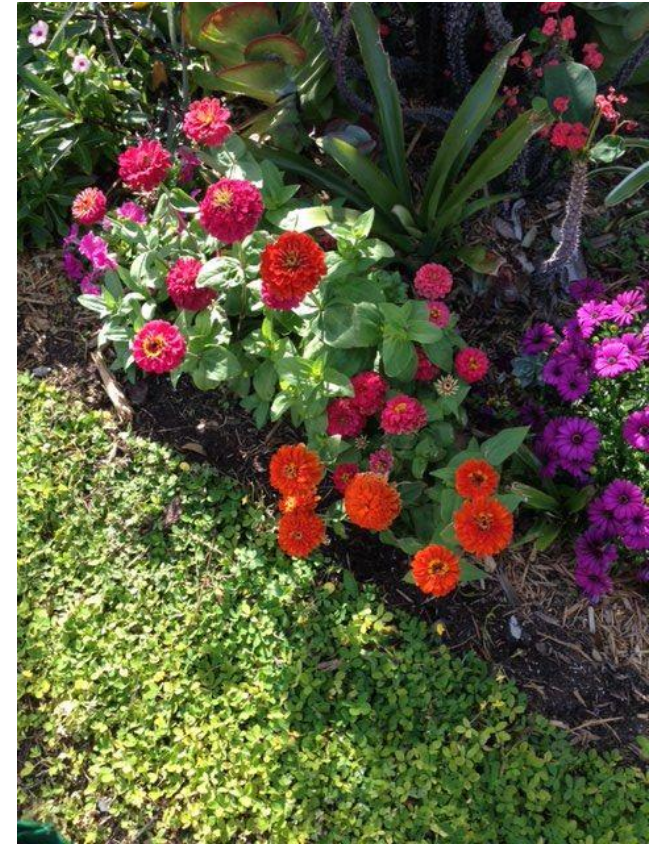
Gardening felt like part of my soul from my childhood.

To me seeds were like magic fairy dust that grew into beautiful plants,  
and I shared this wonder with my children,  
grandchildren, friends, and patients.

My garden supplied floral bouquets in my office, home,  
and as gifts for friends.

I frequently visited the New York Botanical Garden to scout out new  
candidates for my garden.

These photos were taken before we  
moved out of our home, so that I could remember my garden.





# HELEN ABRAMOWICZ

## “Garden Song”

Photograph

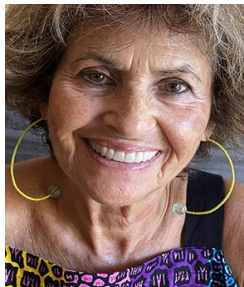
This is a photograph of my garden in Larchmont NY  
in the fall of 2015.

I am not an artist, but I was interested in taking  
part in this lovely art project planned by our congregation  
for our new home.

The theme “Song of My/Our Soul” resonated with my  
interest in gardening on our property for about 30 years.

From early spring to late fall my garden sang to me;  
I planted annuals, perennials, and vegetables  
in garden plots and arrangements in pots.





JOAN L. DAVIDSON  
"Simcha Song of Joy"  
acrylic paint

Simcha,  
A Song of Joy  
Brings to mind  
God's wondrous universe:  
Dancing plants,  
embedded in a solid foundation;  
Rushing waters, full of sprightly playful  
white bubbles on top of tumultuous moving  
and sounding waves;  
A bright sky,  
Filled with the wonder of all our souls.





JOAN L. DAVIDSON

“Simcha:

The Universe Listens”  
acrylic paint

Simcha Songs of Joy,  
the Universe listens  
and  
all living things  
are at peace  
with themselves  
and each other.

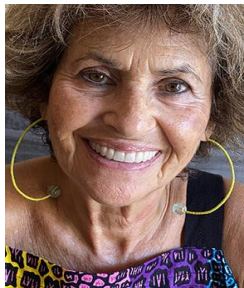




JOAN L. DAVIDSON  
"Birds Sing"  
acrylic paint

Birds sing,  
Heaven and Earth  
are filled  
with joy!





JOAN L. DAVIDSON  
“Stars Remember”  
acrylic paint

When a soul passes on  
We remember.  
When a soul passes on  
Birds sing  
and  
Stars remember!





TOBY DEUTSCH  
“Halleluja”  
mixed media

My soul's song is one of gratitude.

I feel blessed in my long life,  
in my wonderful children and grandchildren,  
dear friends, and health and security  
in the time of life I've been privileged to reach.

I always am uplifted when we sing the 150th  
Hallelujah psalm which expresses my joy.





## TOBY DEUTSCH

### “Praise God” mixed media

I wanted to spell out Hallelujah, praise God, in Hebrew and English, and in bright colors.

I played with a few possibilities and settled on multicolored balloons soaring into the sky.

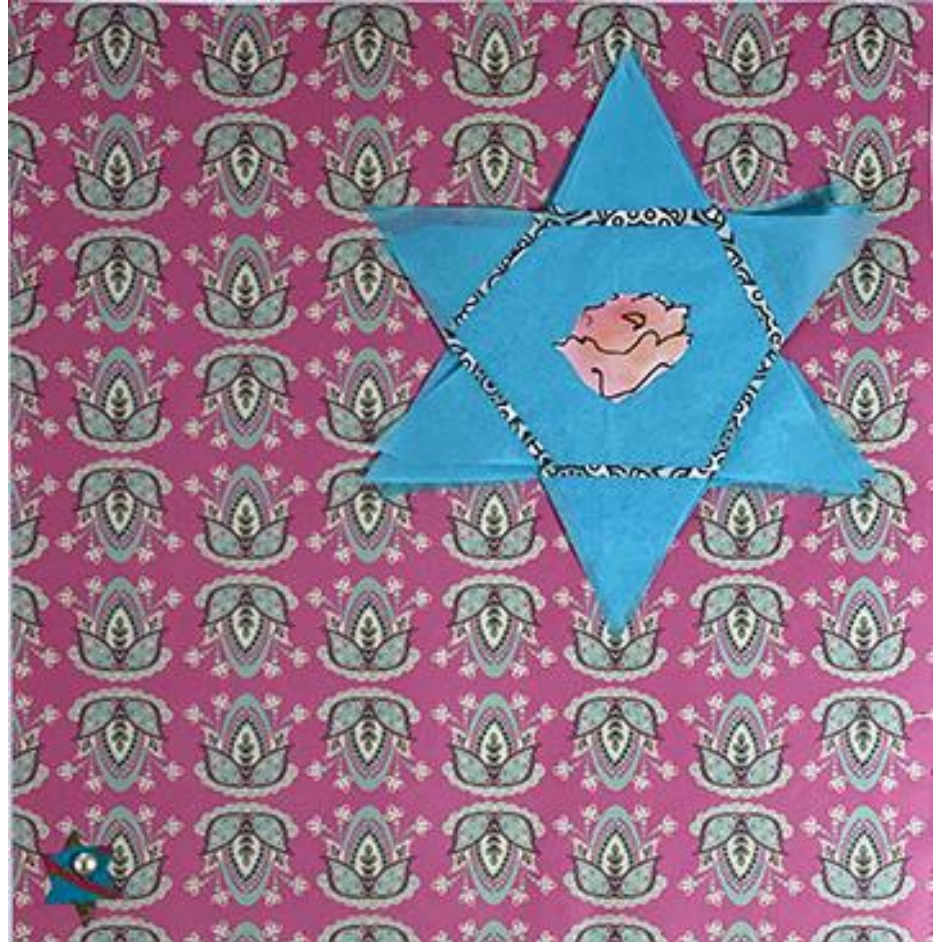
Balloons epitomize happiness and lightness, and rise on the wind, the breath of God.





MELANIE MARCUS  
“Mandala Star”  
mixed media

Alone and together  
Fragile and strong  
Sharp lines with soft centers  
I enter the song.



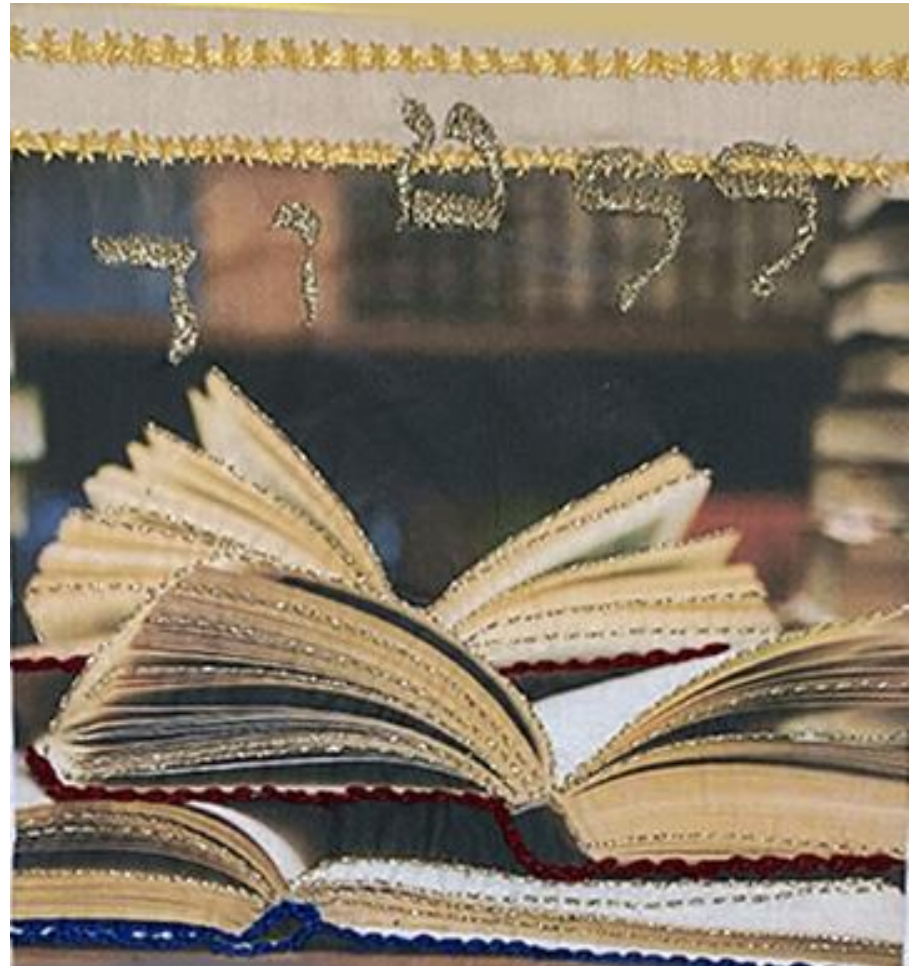


JUDY MAY

“Study #1”

“embroidery on a picture transfer

For me, the study of Jewish texts  
takes me to the heart and soul of Judaism;  
it takes me to spiritual heights.





JUDY MAY

“Study #2”

embroidery on a picture transfer

This image is the reverse of my first Image.





AMY MEYER  
“Meditation on a  
New Day Coming”  
photo with  
embroidered  
embellishments

I am drawn to the concept from Genesis,  
that we begin with the night.

As the sun sets, I find closure  
Of the day gone.  
and hope in the promise  
of the one coming.

Lemon Bay Park, Englewood, FL 2021





AMY MEYER  
“Tashlich”  
photo with embroidered  
embellishments

I cast my troubles to the fishes  
and gather in strength for the New Year.





## AMY MEYER

“Lie Down in Green Pastures”  
photo with embroidered embellishments

The natural world has always spoken to me  
as G\_d's voice and images.

I have always seen in clouds, flowers or water,  
the power of creation and the miracles of the world.

When I photograph a tiny bee on a flower or the sunset  
I feel connected with the soul of the World  
for that split second.

Here a bumble bee collects nectar on clover; this one at Punderson  
State Park in northeastern OH, 2021.

Clover is an ancient blossom indigenous to Israel, and spoken of,  
along with numerous bees, in the Bible.





## AMY MEYER

“Awake Awake Deborah!”  
photo with embroidered embellishments

I hear the Universe sing in the images captured,  
often not what I saw,  
but rather what I was meant to see.

Sharing my photos;  
bringing them to life for the congregation,  
has been a gift to me as much as to KH.

Vincent Van Gogh painted images of sunflowers frequently.

This one grown for an exhibit at the Salvador Dali Museum in  
St. Petersburg, FL, attracted an iridescent green bee, and my eye.





LINDA MILBERG  
“Celebrate”  
digital

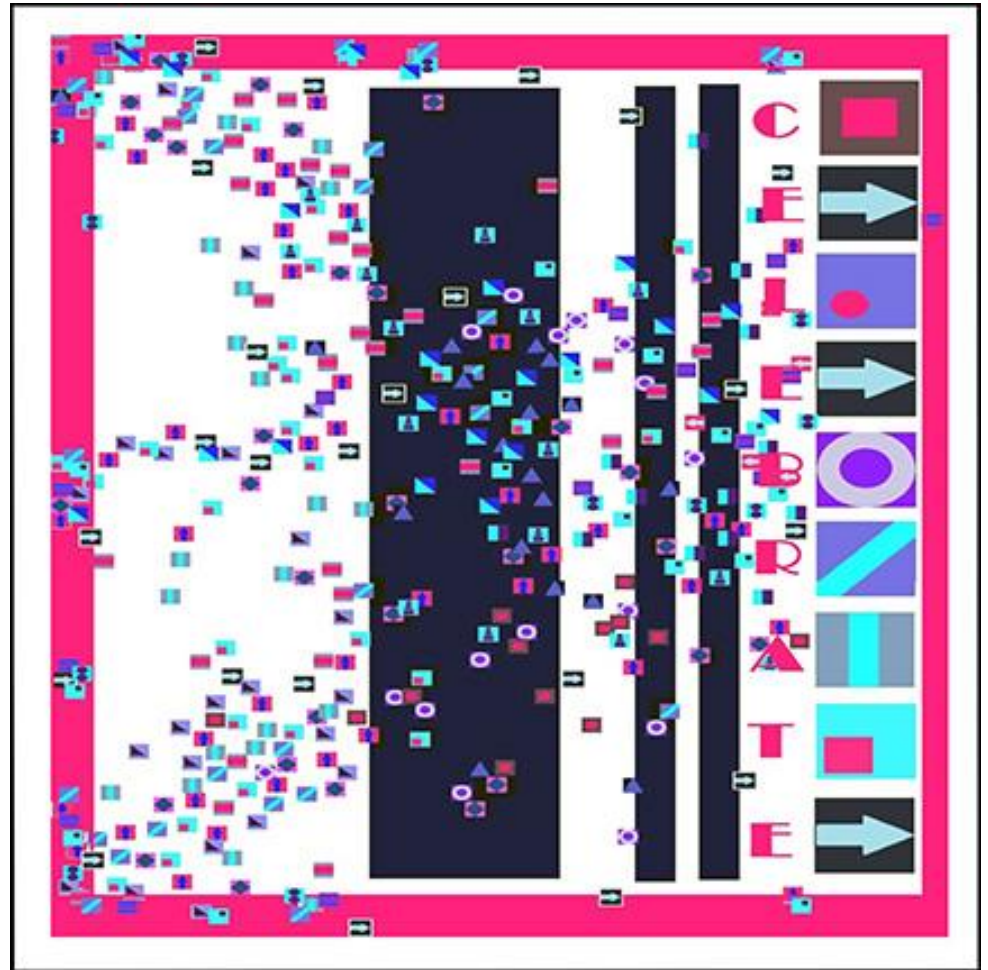
As I considered Song of My Soul, I realized that the song has changed over the years.

Now that I enter the next act the word  
**celebrate**

becomes the theme that governs my life.

From the vantage point of almost 70 years  
lightness and joy and laughter I know are  
what we can choose.

And it is a choice that I strive to make  
each day.





LINDA MILBERG  
“L’Dor V’Dor”  
digital

L’dor Va’dor is my legacy  
To be the conduit between  
the past and the future  
in my family.

And if this speaks to you then  
it too can become your legacy  
from generation to generation.





## MICHELLE ROSENTHAL

“Music Resonates Throughout Nature”  
chinese tissue paper, torn art paper and pen and ink.

A balance of color and line  
reflect the beauty, and harmony of both music and nature.

The objects in the work move upward;  
floating and filling the piece  
while reflecting how music and nature  
fill our lives, our souls.

The butterflies symbolize  
the transformative capabilities of music  
and the fragility and transience of life.

Butterflies are often used as a metaphor  
representing spiritual rebirth, transformation,  
change, hope and life.





MICHELLE ROSENTHAL

“Music Finds Its Way  
Into The Soul”

chinese tissue paper, art paper, and pen and ink.

The music in our services is a transition from our daily lives to a time of reflection and worship.

The music unites us as a community and inspires us to reflect and find peace in our soul.

The butterfly symbolizes the soul and is carried upward by the music.

The magnificent, yet short life of the butterfly, closely mirrors the process of spiritual transformation that occurs as we make music together.





**SUSAN SALZMAN**  
“Star of David -Yellow with  
Polka Dots ”  
fabric collage

I am a quilter.  
I tell my stories through fabrics and threads,  
colors and lines.

I duplicated each of my two block designs,  
making a total of four blocks.  
In each of the designs, the shape of the star of David  
and fabrics are different.

Here you see the yellow star with a polka dot background.





## SUSAN SALZMAN

“Star of David Song”  
fabric collage

The musical fabric in this stretched red star of David, connects the quilted block to the Jewish David story and the theme of our hanging, “Song of My/Our Soul”.

David was an early king,  
much beloved by his community.

He was a musician,  
playing lyre and lute and harp.

He was filled with passion and spirit. His  
six-pointed star became a symbol of Judaism  
and has remained so through the millennia.





## ANITA SARNO "Songs of Shabbat" embroidery

For my three grandsons I needle pointed tallis bags.  
For my three granddaughters I made challah covers,  
each with their Hebrew name.

This is counted-cross stitch embroidery done on a  
blank cloth. I found pictures of candle sticks, a wine  
glass and a challah and created the original images  
with thread.

Following the pictures in a Hebrew alphabet book, I  
sewed the prayers for wine, challah and the lighting of  
the shabbat candles, but left off the vowels.

These are the songs that we sing on Friday night, and  
hopefully that the girls will sing in their own homes.

I fringed each square and sewed on a backing, plus I  
made a cloth envelope to store each challah cover.





ANITA SARNO  
“A Place to Feed My Soul”  
oil paint

Trapped during covid, I needed to see  
a far horizon  
and be in a joyous place.  
This is an 18x18 oil painting on  
canvas.

It contains two of the things that I  
include in many of my paintings:  
yellow flowers and striped fabric.

As my son said, “I want to live there”.





ANITA SARNO  
"Joyous Sunflowers"  
oil paint

The flowers  
are bursting with life.

and I tried to capture  
that joy.





ANITA SARNO  
“This Makes My Heart Sing”  
oil paint

I painted the sunflowers in a vase  
with red striped cloth  
during my covid lock-down.

My favorite color is yellow, and this  
sunny subject made me happy as I painted it.

I took separate images of the flowers,  
the vase and the cloth, and combined them  
into this oil painting on canvas.





ANNE SCHIMBERG  
"Ruach -Spirit"  
acrylic paint

Spirit of Kol HaNeshama and Judaism.

A butterfly symbolizes a person's spirit  
or wind and makes me think  
of my son, Seth.

He had a special spirit and was like  
the wind - going/blowing everywhere.

Seth is the song of my soul.  
He is part of my heart.





ANNE SCHIMBERG  
"Neshama-Soul"  
acrylic paint

## Souls from the Past & Present

When I see a dragonfly  
I always think it is my son,  
Seth, being near me.

The dragonfly always seems to fly so close  
as though he is trying to  
communicate with me.

Seth's soul touching me is  
the Song of My Soul.





NAOMI SCHWARTZ  
"Aliyah to Jerusalem"  
acrylic paint

The painting of Aliyah or going up to Jerusalem  
was an emotional journey.

As I traveled up to Jerusalem,  
my heart became joyous,  
and I felt myself going inward to the essence  
of my soul.

Traveling up to Jerusalem  
brings a song to one's heart.





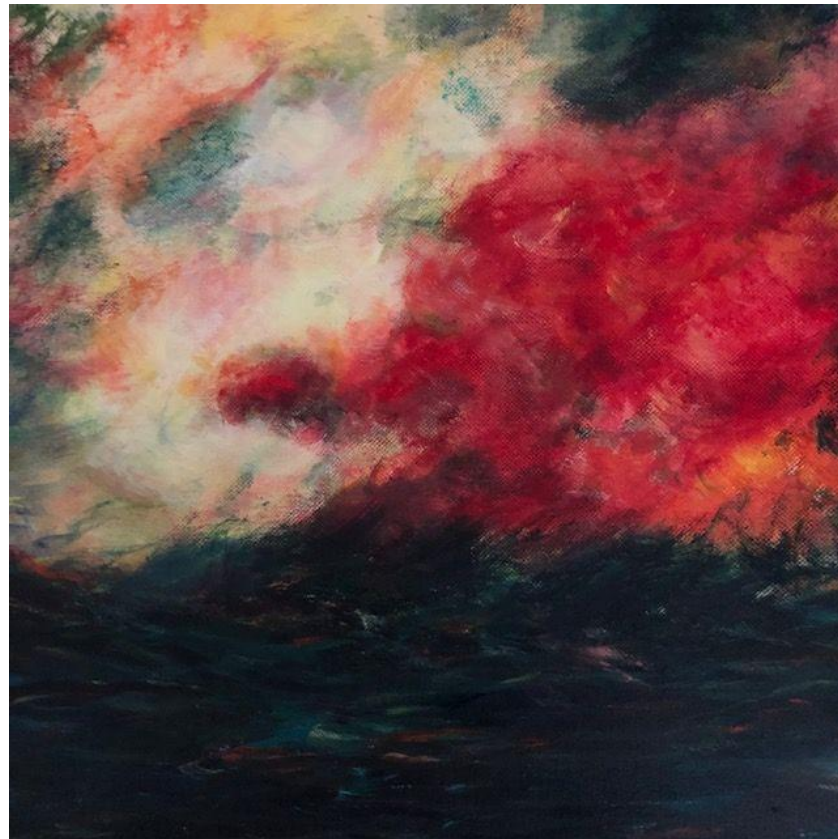
NAOMI SCHWARTZ  
“Illumination: First Day Of Creation”  
acrylic paint

This painting of the very first day of the universe  
is the creation of light  
that sparkles with color and vibrancy.

I wanted to show the light  
separating from the darkness.

I can just imagine God smiling  
with the development of the brightness from darkness  
and how the light vibrates within one’s soul.

In this painting, the darkness surrounding  
the light is made up of every color  
in the rainbow mixed together  
and when you look closely  
you can see the myriad of colors.





NAOMI SCHWARTZ  
“Separation of the Waters”  
acrylic paint

For the second day of creation,  
I focused on the movement of the waters  
as the water rose to enter the atmosphere and formed clouds.

I emphasized the motion within the water  
as well as its rising force above the depth of the water.

The movement of water is like a song that lifts you up.  
It brings you into a meditation moment of peacefulness  
and an opportunity to reach above oneself.

The rhythm of the waters is like the rhythm of music.





NAOMI SCHWARTZ  
“Dove of Peace”  
acrylic paint

The dove, a symbol of peace,  
makes me think of flying into the unknown,  
of going outside of myself  
to something larger.

We often represent the dove as a symbol  
of reaching for something beyond us.

It encourages my soul to relate to the larger universe.  
It makes my heart sing!





RABBI JENNIFER SINGER  
“ Song of My Soul”  
embroidery

The song of this congregation’s soul  
is filled with love.

I chose to make a stylized heart shape  
that is open,  
because of the open hearted welcome that  
newcomers are greeted with.

The piece is made from two media  
for the same reason.  
The embroidered heart shape loosely  
encompasses the cut flowers.

