

KAUNAS 2022 LITVAK CULTURE FORUM

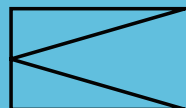


29 - 30 SEPTEMBER

**28, S. DAUKANTO STR.,
KAUNAS**

**ISTORIJŲ
FESTIVALIS**

Kaunas 2022
Europos kultūros sostinė



Kaunas - European Capital of Culture 2022 invitation to the Litvak Culture Forum on 29 - 30 September. 28, S. Daukanto str., Kaunas.

“Kaunas - European Capital of Culture 2022 and the Memory Office programme invite everyone who cares about the city’s history, culture and the future of an open and democratic city to meet at the Litvak Culture Forum on 29-30 September. The Forum will take place over several days and will include discussions with renowned artists, scholars and representatives of the cultural world. We will ask questions: what does it mean to be Litvak today? How can art help us understand a complex history?”

A unique programme of academic presentations and presentations of artistic projects will be accompanied by concerts, exhibitions and performances. Many of these art projects will be created by international Litvaks such as William Kentridge, Philip Miller, Jenny Kagan, Bruce Clarke and others. The discussion will be attended by prominent academics such as Prof. James E. Young, Prof. Antony Polonsky, Prof. Peter Salovey and others.

**Please register on the Forum website:
www.kaunas2022.eu/en/litvakforum/**

The patron of the Litvak Culture Forum is the Prime Minister of the Republic of Lithuania Ingrida Šimonytė. Honorary Patrons are Prof. Liudas Mažylis and Faina Kukliansky, President of the Lithuanian Jewish Community.

Organised by Kaunas 2022, Atminties biuras programme, curator Dr. Daiva Price.

Partners: Vytautas Magnus University, Lithuanian Jewish (Litvak) Community.

PROGRAM

9.00-9.30

Registration

9:30 - 10:15

Opening of the Forum and welcome remarks:

Prime Minister of the Republic of Lithuania Ingrida

Šimonytė

Ambassador of the State of Israel Hadas Wittenberg

Silverstein

President of the Lithuanian Jewish (Litvak) Community

Faina Kukliansky

Kaunas 2022 CEO Dr. Virginija Vitkienė

Curator of the Kaunas 2022 programme „Memory

Office“ Dr. Daiva Price

10.15-10.45

Musical Performance After Shagal.

Composer Anatoly Shenderov

10.45-11.05

Katharina von Schnurbein Coordinator of the European Commission for combating anti-Semitism and promoting Jewish life.

An EU Without Anti-Semitism -

Implementation of the EU Strategy to Combat Anti-Semitism and Promote Jewish Life

11.05-11.25

Prof. Antony Polonsky (RSA/UK).

What is a Litvak? Reflections on Litvak identity

29 SEPTEMBER, THURSDAY

11.25-11.45

Prof. Peter Salovey (USA).

The Multiple Dimensions of a Litvak Identity

11.45-12.05

Prof. Robert Kusek,

Dr. Wojciech Szymański (PL).

From „Nowhere“ to „Somewhere“ and Back: South Africans and the Return to Lithuania

12.05-12.25

Prof. Tsvia Walden (IL).

Litvak Fingerprints in Modern Hebrew

12:25 - 12:45

Artist Marilia Destot (USA).

My Poetic Journey. How to Revisit, Remember, Transmit a Fading History?

13.00-14.00

Break

14.00-15.30

Discussion.

The Search For a Common Identity

The discussion is organized by the Lithuanian Jewish (Litvak) Community

Participants:

Martynas Užpelkis - Heritage Expert of the Lithuanian Jewish (Litvak) Community

Viktorija Sideraitė Alon - architect, member of the Lithuanian Jewish Community, member of the creative group JUDVI&AŠ

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE LITVAK?

Simas Levinas - Chairman of Vilnius Jewish Religious Community

Dr. Ruth Reches - Director of the Vilnius Sholom Aleichem ORT Gymnasium

Prof. Leonidas Melnikas - pianist, organist, musicologist, head of the department of the LMTA.

15:30 - 16:00

Performance of klezmer music by pianist Aleksandr Paley and clarinetist Karolis Kolakauskas

16:00 - 16:15

Break

Exhibition Lithuanians in the Streets of Israel.

Authors of the exhibition Roza Litay, Lia Shibolet and Dr Carol Hoffman (IL). Organised by the Vilnius Gaon Museum of Jewish History.

Location: Lobby of the VMU Central Hall

16.15-17.30

Discussion.

Moderator: Prof. A. Polonsky, Professor Emeritus at Brandeis University, author of numerous monographs (RSA/UK)

Panelists:

Prof. Peter Salovey, President and Chris Argyris Professor of Psychology, Yale University (US)

Prof. Tsvia Walden, Psycholinguist, Professor at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (IL)

Dr. Robert Kusek, Jagiellonian University Professor (PL)

Faina Kukliansky, Chairwoman of Lithuanian Jewish (Litvak) Community (LT)

PROGRAM

**30 SEPTEMBER,
FRIDAY**

**ART HELPS TO
UNDERSTAND
HISTORY, ART HELPS
TO REMEMBER**

9.30-10.00

Registration

10.05-10.25

Prof. James E.Young (US).
History, Memory, and Monuments

10.25-10.40

Journalist and artist Michael Shubitz (IL).
Life without images

10.40-10.55

Artist Bruce Clarke (FR).
Weaving memories, connecting histories with art

10.55-11.10

Artist Jyll Bradley (UK).
Threshold

11.10-11.25

Artist, curator, writer Paulina Pukytė (LT/UK).
There And Not There – What the 11th Kaunas Art Biennial Did with Monuments

11.25-11.45

Curator of Kaunas 2022 programme “Memory Office” Dr. Daiva Price (LT).
How Did We Remember?

11.45-12.00

Break

12.00-12.50

Discussion.

Moderator: prof. Violeta Davoliūtė, VU TSPMI researcher on the politics of memory in East Central Europe (LT)

Panelists:

Paulina Pukytė, artist, writer, art curator (LT)

Bruce Clarke, artist, author of the ECCE HOMO project in Kaunas IX Fort (FR)

Dr. Daiva Price, art historian, curator of Kaunas 2022 programme “Memory Office” (LT)

13.00-14.00

Break

14.00-14.20

Artist Sigutė Chlebinskaitė and writer, publisher Daiva Čepauskaitė (LT).
The First Book in Lithuanian by Leah Goldberg

14.20-14.35

Artist M.Lukošaitis (LT).
Jews. My story

14.35-14.50

Artist Lina Šlipavičiūtė-Černiauskienė (LT).
Searching for lost memory in the street art project „Walls Remember“

14.50-15.10

Writer Aneta Anra (LT).
Remaining a Woman in the Face of the Holocaust

15.15-15.30

Break

15.30-16.30

Discussion.

Moderator: publicist Donatas Puslys (LT)

Panelists:

Sigutė Chlebinskaitė, the artist of the book „Rented Apartment“ (LT)

Daiva Čepauskaitė, the publisher of the book, writer (LT)

Aneta Anra, the writer, author of the book „Jehudit: How Beautiful the World Could Be“ (LT)

16.30-17.00

Summary of the Forum

IN THE FORUM PROGRAMME YOU WILL HEAR:

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE AFTER SHAGAL. COMPOSER ANATOLIJUS ŠENDEROVAS

Composer Šenderovas said about this work: „Almost 30 years ago, when I was in Jerusalem for the first time, in the Hadassah Medical Centre, in the special hall (synagogue), I saw unusually bright colours on the floor. It was a reflection of Marc Chagall's twelve stained-glass windows mounted high up on the ceiling. They were full of symbols - triangles and circles, imprints of birds, fish, beasts, menorahs and Hebrew letters. A kind of Babylon. However, Shagal's main source of inspiration is the Bible and his own experience. The image kept changing as the sun set. My work is also full of symbols - the clarinet recalls the former Jewish life in Europe, the percussion and the string quartet are like an allusion to the Biblical world.“

Šenderovas' work will be performed by the Chordos String Quartet, clarinetist Algirdas Žiūra and percussionist Arkadijus Gotesmanas. Šenderovas and Gotesmanas have a long personal creative friendship: especially for this work, Gotesmanas has made a stand that can hold the sounding pieces of stained glass
Author of the project A.Gotesmanas.

A PERFORMANCE OF KLEZMER MUSIC BY PIANIST ALEXAN- DER PALEY AND CLARINETIST KAROLIS KOLAKAUSKAS

Pianist A. Paley has been interested in klezmer music for many years. This is the music which was played at weddings and festivals. Over time, it developed into a separate genre of music. Although it seems simple, this music is not easy to play, and improvisation is very important. The musicians will remind us of the life of the Jews of Vilnius, which is no longer...

LITVAK CULTURE FORUM RECOMMENDS

29 SEPTEMBER, 19:00

FROM ASHES TO GLORY: MUSICIANS FROM KAUNAS AND VILNIUS GHETTOS AT THE NUREMBERG OPERA (1946)

This is „a concert about those whose glances recorded their lives in an invisible diary, those for whom the barrack wall was a prayer book, who kept their violins, whose fates eventually became the pride of the world. About Kaunas and its special spirit“, say the organisers.

The concert will be performed by singer Marija Krupoves. She will be accompanied by Artūras Anusauskas, violinists Borisas Kirzneris and Vytautas Mikeliūnas, double bassist Eugenijus Kanevičius, accordionist Darius Bagdonavičius, clarinetist Haroldas Parulis, and percussionist Arkadijus Gotesmanas.
Author of the concert and producer A.Gotesmanas.

Venue: Žalgiris Arena. Concert free of charge

**30 SEPTEMBER AND 1 OCTOBER,
19:00**

„KAUNAS CANTATA“, PREMIERE.

This is a collaboration between two Litvaks - artist Jenny Kagan (UK), composer Philip Miller (PAR) - and many Lithuanian and foreign musicians. It is a conversation about difficult historical traumas and the need to remain silent. The cantata invites us to confront ourselves and encourages us to talk about difficult choices in the face of dramatic events. It is therefore particularly relevant in today's context of war.

Venue: Žalgiris Arena. Tickets are available: <https://www.bilietai.lt>

CULTURAL PROGRAMME TO ACCOMPANY THE LITVAK CULTURAL FORUM:

WILLIAM KENTRIDGE'S EXHIBITION „THAT WHICH WE DO NOT REMEMBER“

National M. K. Čiurlionis Art Museum, V. Putvinskio str. 55

THE EXHIBITION „OUT OF DARKNESS“ BY JENNY KAGAN Gimnazijos str. 4

BRUCE CLARKE'S ART INSTALLATION „ECCE HOMO: THOSE WHO STAYED“.

Kaunas Ninth Fort Museum, Žemaičių pl. 73

MICHAEL SHUBITZ'S PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION „BACK TO KAUNAS“

Lobby of the VMU Central Hall, S.Daukanto 28

COLLECTOR M.DUŠKESAS' EXHIBITION „A WINDOW INTO THE JEWISH LIFE IN KAUNAS BEFORE THE HOLOCAUST“

Kaunas Centre for Cultures of Different Nations, Šv. Gertrūdos str. 58

JYLL BRADLEY'S ART INSTALLATION IN PUBLIC SPACES „THRESHOLD“

www.atmintiesvietos.lt/lt/marsrutai/slenkstis/

EXHIBITION „THE SHTETL LIGHT BY S. KAR CZMAR“

A.Žmuidzinavičius Creations and Collections Museum, V. Putvinskio str. 64

EXHIBITION „MAUŠA LEVIS AND SHIMON BAJER. THE LEGACY OF INTERWAR PHOTOGRAPHERS“.

Maironis Museum of Lithuanian Literature, Rotušės sq. 13

EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHY BY DOROTHY BOHM

Kaunas Photography Gallery, Vilniaus str. 2