



URL : <http://thelaboratory.harvard.edu/uncategorized/zalmen-or-the-madness-of-god/>

Zalmen or The Madness of God

“Zalmen or The Madness of God” marks Elie Wiesel’s dramatic effort to “correct” reality and “repair injustice”. Recounting the struggle of Jews in recently established post-Stalinist Russia, Wiesel’s play is a cry of anguish over the collective guilt of “the Silent”. Director Guila Clara Kessous breathes life into Wiesel’s words by utilizing the stage to bear witness to the past in the hopes of redefining the present and reclaiming the future. Taking the risk of remembrance, “Zalmen or The Madness of God”—much like *Untitled and Remembrance*—challenges the viewer to actively and objectively engage in the world around him, acknowledging injustice and addressing it as a member of our global community. Innovatively incorporating projection, puppetry, and live music, Kessous responds to Ai Weiwei’s installation (organized by the GSD and Harvard Art Museums) and partners with the Harvard Laboratory to give voice to the oppressed through a lens that transcends time and space.

“ZALMEN OR THE MADNESS OF GOD”

A PLAY BY ELIE WIESEL

PRODUCED & DIRECTED BY GUILA CLARA KESSOUS

SUNDAY, MAY 1ST, 2011, 5:00PM

THE NORTHWEST BUILDING

AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY

52 OXFORD STREET

CAMBRIDGE MA 02138

<http://www.zalmentheplay.com>

TICKETS: \$16 GENERAL, \$10 FOR STUDENTS

TO MAKE RESERVATIONS, PLEASE EMAIL ZALMENTHEPLAY@GMAIL.COM

This performance is being produced as a tribute to Professor Elie Wiesel, the distinguished author and winner of the 1986 Nobel Peace Prize. The foreword of this event will be given by Dr. Joel Rappel, Director of Elie Wiesel’s archives Center introducing Mr. Alex Koifman from the Russian Jewish Community Foundation and Mrs. Rosian Zerner, Holocaust survivor, niece of victim composer Edwin Geist and former vice president of the World Federation of Jewish Child Survivors of the Holocaust.

Visionary director Guila Clara Kessous stages eighteen actors and one puppet to transmit the testimony of suffering, dealing with burning questions such as the role of religion and the risks of assimilation. This event is sponsored by The Harvard University Center for Jewish Studies, The Lab at Harvard and Harvard University Pforzheimer House.