



Rimonews

Nourishing Jewish life through the arts

Three Artists Receive Rimon Project Support Grants

This spring, *Rimon* selected three outstanding artists to receive Project Support Grants. **Elisa Korenne**, a singer-songwriter based in New York Mills, Minn., will research and create the "Jewish Ordinarily Unsung Concert," about the little known Jewish immigrants who settled in the Upper Midwest. Performances will take place in rural Minnesota where Jewish culture is currently unfamiliar.

The Stuart Pimsler Dance & Theater will use funding from *Rimon* to invite Jewish seniors to explore their individual and family histories through a creative process combining original writing and directed movement.

Playwright **Jenna Zark** expanded an early work into a full-length script. The play, "A Great Miracle Happened Here," was presented



Elisa Korenne

in a workshop production at Illusion Theater's prestigious Fresh Ink series in July 2009. The play is based on true stories of American Jewish couples whose children joined the Israeli Defense Forces.

To contribute to the *Rimon* Arts Fund, contact the Jewish Community Foundation at 952-593-2600 or log on to JewishMinnesota.org and click on Jewish Community Foundation Minneapolis.

Rimon Gets Dramatic!

Rimon Board members and other art-loving friends attended a special *Rimon* fundraising event at the Guthrie this June. Nearly 100 people enjoyed Tony Kushner's award-winning musical ***Caroline, or Change***, and also participated in a special reception and discussion with dramaturg Jo Holcomb, who shared many behind-the-scenes stories about the making of this unique play.



David Harris, Rimon Executive Director, and dramaturg Jo Holcomb

3rd Annual Artist Salon Series for 2009-2010

We begin our Artist Salon Series on Sunday, Nov. 15, 1 p.m., at the St. Paul JCC, featuring a dialogue between the Guthrie Theater's dramaturg Michael Lupu and Ela Weissberger, an original performer in the children's opera *Brundibar*, first staged at the concentration camp Terezin. Is theater a diversion or a transforming experience in politically oppressive environments? A collaboration with the Twin Cities Jewish Book Fair.

The second Salon, a dialogue between visual artists Shana Kaplow, Tanaegh Haddad, and Jeff Rathermel, artistic director of the Minnesota Center for Book Arts, will take place on Sunday, Jan. 24, 2 p.m. at MCBA. It will explore issues of identity, stereotyping, and how cultures are represented through visual language.

Our third and fourth Salons will take place on Feb. 28 and May 9, 2010.

St. Paul Artist Receives Travel-Study Grant

This year, the recipient of *Rimon's* annual Norman Ackerberg Artist Travel-Study Grant is Minnesota-based actress & emerging playwright, **Sun Mee Chomet**. She will use the grant to begin research in Vienna, Austria, for her first full-length play.

Her play centers on her warm relationship with her Jewish grandfather, who fled Austria prior to the Nazi incursion, and on her contradictory feelings about her birthplace - Korea. Chomet, who



Sun Mee Chomet

has an MFA in acting from NYU, has had a number of roles in Twin

Cities theaters, most recently two roles at the Guthrie.

"In my life as an artist, Judaism has shaped the vision I formed of the world and my place in it as a performer and writer," she said. "As a Korean adoptee, the crux of my work has dealt with, on some level, a search for identity."

The Norman Ackerberg Travel-Study Grant helps artists with a serious commitment to Jewish life develop & enhance their work.

For more information about *Rimon*, contact Executive Director David Harris at 952-381-3449 or rimon@sabesjcc.org.