

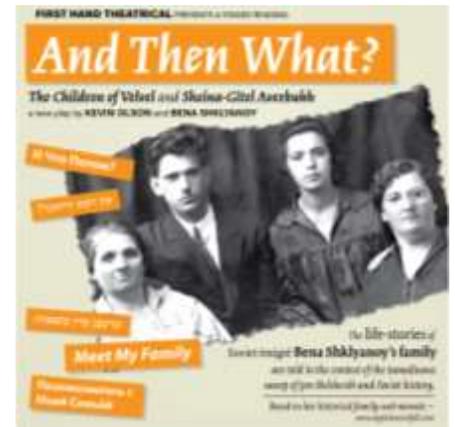
Help Preserve the Story of Soviet Jewish Immigration

WHO: Soviet émigré Bena Shklyanoy and First Hand Theatrical

WHAT: Present **The Apple Does Not Fall: Journeys of a Russian-Jewish Family**. This ten day run features performances of two original plays **And Then What?** and **How Many Bushels Am I Worth?** as eyewitness accounts of an ordinary family's experiences living through the pre-Bolshevik and Soviet eras and then immigrating to Chicago. A new short film, **Cultural Inheritance: Stories of Children and Grandchildren of Soviet Jewish Immigrants*** will be screened before select performances.

WHERE: Evanston, IL

WHEN: August, 2018



WHY: Learn what shaped the lives of your parents and grandparents. Remember your own roots. Reclaim the dormant recollections of your childhood that echo still in your actions, ideas, customs and beliefs.

"Rare piece of theater that truly touches every emotion."

"Captivates from the moment the first lines are spoken."

-- Broadway World**

50 years ago, after the 1967 Six-Day War, the Iron Curtain opened for Soviet Jews. Families made agonizing decisions on whether to stay or go. With the help of many organizations and the dedication of the Save Soviet Jewry effort, thousands immigrated to the United States in the first wave in the 1970s.

The Shklyanoy - a grandmother, mother, father, their daughters (ages 18 months and 8 years), - were in that first group.

Those daughters, now assimilated and pursuing their own families and careers, don't remember life in the Soviet Union: the communal apartments, the long lines for food, or when being Jewish was a stamp on a passport or a reason to get beat-up by a classmate. They want to know their history to tell their children.

HOW: Bena spent 11 years tracing her family's story. It spans two world wars, the Bolshevik Revolution, annihilated shtetls, the Holocaust, the Soviet empire and the large-scale immigration of Soviet Jews to the U.S. Bena partnered with Kevin Olson, Artistic Director of First Hand Theatrical to create the plays based on her story.

THE PLAYS: **And Then What?** debuted to critical acclaim in Providence, RI in 2017. The Readers Theatre play tells the life stories of Bena ancestors in the context of the tumultuous sweep of Pre-Bolshevik and Soviet history.

How Many Bushels Am I Worth? will premiere this summer in Chicago. The play takes us on Bena Shklyanoy's journey out of the Soviet Union and to her new home in Chicago. Painting a picture of her life in the Soviet Union, the play focuses on how it brought her to the decision to emigrate and what it cost mentally and in practical terms to cut the cord. It also applauds the unwavering determination of the Save Soviet Jewry movement in the United States to make that journey possible.

ACT NOW TO MAKE IT HAPPEN! Contribute Today.

• Contribute Online

Click the "Donate Now" button at <http://bit.ly/AppleDoesNotFallPlay> (URL is case sensitive.)

• Be a Sponsor

Call Deanna Shoss, Intercultural Talk/Marketing, at 773.968.1216 or email bena@appledoesnotfall.com to schedule a meeting to learn more about the benefits of sponsorship.

The Apple Does Not Fall: Journeys of a Russian-Jewish Family is a sponsored project of Fractured Atlas, a nonprofit arts service organization. Contributions for the charitable purposes of this project must be made online (<http://bit.ly/AppleDoesNotFallPlay>) or by check payable to "Fractured Atlas". Any contribution above the value of the goods and services received by the donor is tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

***Cultural Inheritance: Stories of Children and Grandchildren of Soviet Jewish Immigrants** is JUF Russian Jewish Division's Tikkun Fellowship project by Abigail Matz and is funded by Genesis Philanthropy Group.

**<http://bit.ly/AndThenWhatBroadwayWorldReview>