



**Kunst is the Yiddish Word for ART**

**ORA is the Hebrew word for light**

**Everything else in this newsletter is probably in English!**

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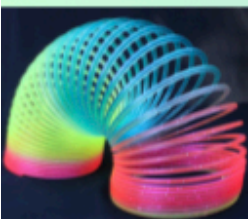
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**ORA COUCH MEETINGS**  
*coming to your neighborhood  
soon...see page 2 !*

## It's Spring!

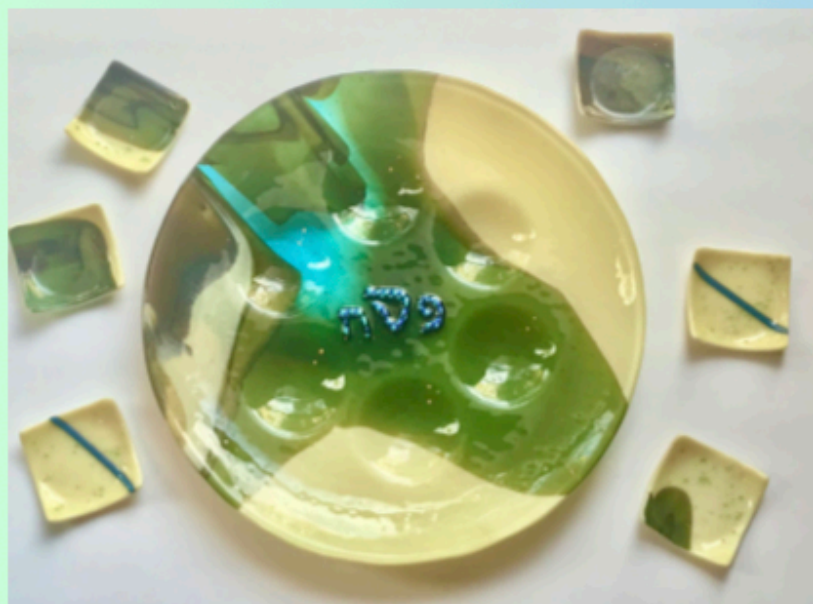


Spring has sprung and more Jewish holidays loom in the horizon! April is packed! According to My Jewish Learning : *Passover 2023 begins at sundown on Wednesday, April 5 and ends the evening of Thursday, April 13.*

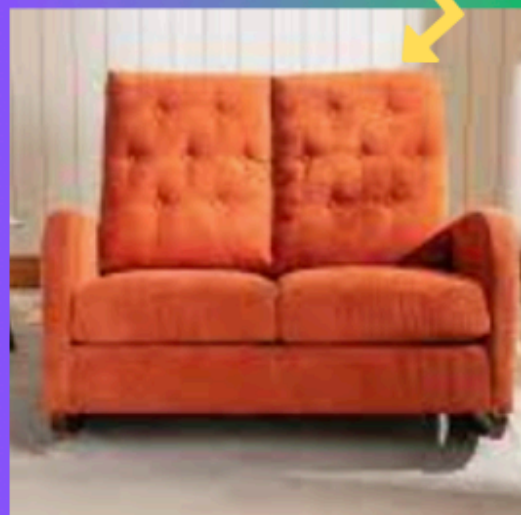
The first Passover seder is on the evening of Wednesday, April 5, and the second Passover seder takes place on the evening of Thursday, April 6.

Yom HaShoah or Holocaust Memorial Day begins the evening of April 17th and Israeli Independence Day begins the evening of April 25.

**Shavuot celebrates the giving of the Torah and it begins the evening of May 25th. We'll have a lengthy break until late summer when at the end of July we observe Tisha B'Av!**



**Fused Glass Seder Plate "At the Sea"**



Editor: Eddy Shuldman  
Copy Editor: Linda Bourne  
Interviews: Shari Anderson





# Be a Part of our Future:



## ORA COUCH MEETINGS!

Board members and interested ORA members met on January 8, 2023 with Wendy Weissman to develop a plan of action to implement our vision, mission and programs for ORA's members. For the past two years Wendy has been serving as a voluntary consultant and facilitator for our efforts to create a vision for our future.

We hope every ORA member will join in our effort to build a vibrant organization that has excited and engaged members. As we emerge from COVID restrictions we want to reconnect with you, person-to-person!

That's where our COUCH MEETINGS come in! We'll host at least three small group gatherings in different parts of town at different dates and times. Each meeting will be facilitated in order to make sure your ideas are heard. All you have to do is attend a meeting and help generate ideas. It's also a great way to reconnect with ORA and hopefully meet some of our newest members. Our first COUCH MEETING will be hosted by Joanna Westerfeld in NE Portland on April 23rd from 1:30-3:30pm. If you wish to attend this meeting, **please write to Joanna at [chaiart1818@hotmail.com](mailto:chaiart1818@hotmail.com)**. Additional meetings and locations will be announced shortly.

We can make great things happen for our members, but it requires all of our involvement. Much gratitude to members Ellen Green and Joanna Westerfeld for spearheading this effort to involve our members in growing ORA!

## Whatever Happened to JAM ?

### ....A Short History



First, a wee bit of background information:

Jam began in the early spring of 2010 with a grant from the Oregon Arts Commission. It was a massive undertaking that involved most of our local Jewish organizations as well as Portland Center Stage and Lewis & Clark College (to name just a few). Our "month" actually ran about 6 weeks because we had so many ambitious events. We renewed that grant for 2011. While both JAMs were successful, the planning, staging, and execution were extremely complex and taxing. We simply couldn't generate enough volunteers to continue on that scale.

In 2012 we scaled things back. The MJCC hosted a lobby sale for us. JAM was 3 weeks long. Each week a different group of artists marketed their art. We also supported Portland Jewish Academy students by sponsoring a display of their artwork. Six years ago we invited Jewish middle school students to have a jury experience and display/sell their work.

When COVID struck JAM went virtual. We re-emerged 2 years ago, running our in-person sales for just 1 week.



# ARTIST FELLOWSHIP AVAILABLE!

The Mandel Institute for Nonprofit Leadership is offering a two year fellowship focused on Cultural Leadership. The fellowship is designed for artists and cultural producers who have a desire to integrate Jewish themes in their work and/or harness Jewish culture to address communal and global challenges. Eligible candidates include, but are not limited to, visual artists, musicians, dancers, actors and theatre artists, writers, filmmakers, new media and multidisciplinary artists, as well as a range of cultural producers, such as journalists, curators, chefs, comedians, video game world builders, cultural organizers and culture bearers.

Candidates may work independently or in organizational settings such as museums, arts centers, media platforms, and cultural strategy organizations, among others. We will seek fellows who value boundary crossing and collaboration, and whose personal experiences and creative voices represent the diversity of the Jewish people. For more information and access to the application go to:

<https://mandelinstitute.org/programs/cultural-leadership/>



## YOU CAN HELP!!



We need folks to take photos at a variety of ORA events! These photos will be used for historical documentation, publicity, and for our website. **Send your photos to:** [oraartists@gmail.com](mailto:oraartists@gmail.com)

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*We are always looking for new places/spaces for staging our shows/sales . Perhaps you know someone who owns a warehouse,an event space, or even an empty house waiting to go on the market . We are talking about being creative in our thinking! Low cost or free would be ideal! We have loyal customers who come to the MJCC and the EJC, but expanding our visibility will also increase our customer base. Aware of a possible location?*

Send an email to: **Lou Jaffe** : [loujaffepdx@gmail.com](mailto:loujaffepdx@gmail.com)



**DO YOU LIVE in NW or SW PDX?** Would you like to host a couch meeting?

We need 2 additional meetings hosted by members living in each of these areas.

If you can help please send an email to :

Joanna Westerfeld, [chaiart1818@gmail.com](mailto:chaiart1818@gmail.com)



# Artist Profile:

## Stuart Luxenberg – Metal Art Creator/ Fabricator

by Shari Anderson

Stuart's art work is beautiful. From small project to large projects, he captures the essence of what he is creating seamlessly and with great flair.

Born in Detroit, Stuart's family moved to Portland when he was 8 months old. He married at Neveh Shalom in 1984 .

Stuart studied at a vocational school where he learned to weld. He has been welding ever since. At 55, he was no longer able to do his primary work of welding, so he used his incredible skills as a fabricator and welder to recreate himself as a Metal Artist. He works at his craft daily creating some very unique projects. His interests definitely influence his art. Over the years his techniques have improved which allows him to do more detailed work and give him the ability to create more intricate things. His inspiration comes from the things he sees around him

He enjoys the challenge of fabricating anything someone asks him to do."Whatever you want ,I can create it!" Some of his work comes from collaborating with the production company that puts on the St. Helens ' "Spirit of Halloween Town." He's the one that made the 10 foot tall pumpkin that sits in the town park. That is just one of the items he has made for them and one of his most fun projects too.

He enjoys the big projects more than the small projects because they become more one of a kind projects, but he enjoys making personalized small art projects for people as well. His guitars and landscape scenes are incredible and somewhat breathtaking.



Stu's work can be seen in many different businesses around town. He does a lot of logo work which can be seen at Society Pie, Dynalectric, Cooper Mountain Ale Works to name just a few. His work can be viewed at his website: [metalartbystu.com](http://metalartbystu.com) and he can also be reached through his Facebook page that people can follow: Metal Art by Stu. His works have also been shown at Beaverton Farmers Market; Gresham Festival of the Arts; Wilsonville Art Festival and others. These were before the pandemic, and we hope he will be back at these venues as soon as possible.

He has so many fun and creative and beautiful pieces. I'm sure there is something you would enjoy having at your home or business. Take the time to check out his artwork around town and on his website.



~ ~ ~



*Spring  
into Summer!*

# ART SALE

JUNE 11, 2023 10A-3:30P  
@ EASTSIDE JEWISH COMMONS



email Iris for more info: [irisbkern@yahoo.com](mailto:irisbkern@yahoo.com)



# SPRING MEMBER GALLERY



**Linda Bourne:** Ceramic Vase with Spring Flowers



**Yana Golberg**  
"March - The Song of The Lark", Oil Pastels



**"Leaf"** fused glass platter by Tom Gainer



**Francine Goteiner:** watercolor





**Shari Anderson**

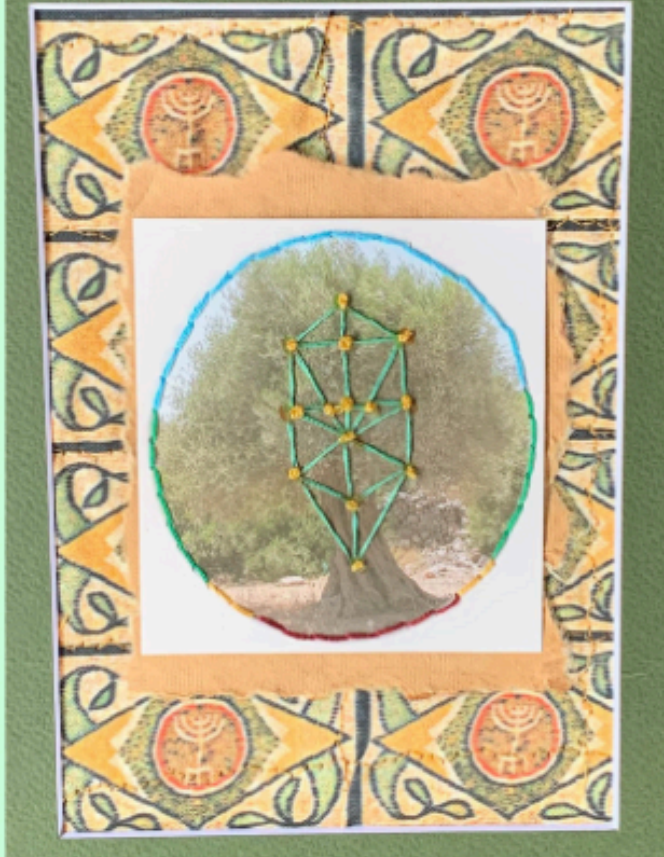


**Linda Zahavii: Camas Flower, Acrylic.**



**S. Joan Glebow: Pen and Ink drawing**





**"Cheryl Livneh : Trees"** watercolor painting

**Ahavah Oblak :** *"Sacred Food/ Tree of Life" elements of photo embroidery, hand and machine stitching, embroidery and on paper and fabric .*



**Daniel Florea 12x18 Gouage**





**Julia Waco:** *"Ms. Bettina Cavendish skips home through the sunny rose garden sheltered under the pink marmalade peonies as the dragonflies alight towards Sunday amusements."*  
Acrylic on canvas 36x36



**Boris Uan-Zoli:** *"Spring in NYC"*



**Eddy Shuldman :** *Fused Glass Snail Garden Stake*



**Diane Fredgant:** Silk Painting