



**OSHMAN FAMILY JCC PRESENTS
CELLIST AMIT PELED IN CONCERT
“JOURNEY WITH MY JEWISHNESS”
5:30pm, September 17, 2017
Oshman Family JCC - Schultz Cultural Arts Hall**

PALO ALTO, CA (20 July 2017) ∂ The **Oshman Family JCC** presents internationally acclaimed Israeli cellist **Amit Peled** in *Journey with my Jewishness*, an emotionally moving exploration of faith and self-discovery. A profoundly talented musician with a surprisingly inviting stage presence uncharacteristic of most classical performances, Peled is considered one of the most unique and memorable instrumentalists on stage today. In *Journey with my Jewishness*, Peled offers a compelling program that follows his story from growing up on a small kibbutz in Israel, to becoming a world traveler and renowned performer sharing the beauty of music and the human experience with others. The carefully selected works are inspired by defining moments in Peled's life, such as listening to his mother singing the traditional tune ∂Eli Eli,∂ to playing Max Bruch's ∂Kol Nidrei∂ as a young cellist and personally connecting with the Yom Kippur message. For this special event, **Amit Peled** will also be performing on the historic 1733 Matteo Goffriller cello once owned by the great cellist Pablo Casals, an instrument that is being loaned to him personally by Casals's widow. Accompanied by thoughtful anecdotes, Peled explores the ups and downs of life and the desire to balance tradition, identity and self-expression, delivering a fully immersive musical and spiritual experience. A one-night-only engagement, *Journey with my Jewishness* will begin 5:30pm on **Sunday, September 17, 2017** at the **Oshman Family JCC Schultz Cultural Arts Hall, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto**. Tickets (\$18-\$60) and more information can be found at paloaltojcc.org/peled or by calling **(650) 223-8649**.

At 6'5" tall, **Amit Peled** began life as a basketball player and was called "larger than life" and "Jacqueline du Pré in a farmer's body" when he enveloped his cello. Voted by *Musical America* as one of the most Influential Music Professionals of 2015, his deeply moving performances are accompanied by a personal narrative that makes the classical music experience more accessible

to wider audiences. The *Baltimore Sun* hailed Peled's "amiable and inviting personality" exactly the type everyone says we'll need more of if classical music is to survive."

Last year, Peled was given the privilege of playing the 1733 Matteo Goffriller cello owned by the father of cellists Pablo Casals. His mastery of the instrument was so impressive, Casals' widow, Marta Casals Istomin, invited him to borrow the illustrious cello in order to share its sound with audiences around the world. Peled will be playing this historic instrument, which he has called "A wild horse, ready to run. A magical voice is planted into that magnificent Goffriller," for his performance of *Journey with my Jewishness* in Palo Alto.

Amit Peled has performed as a soloist in world-renowned concert halls such as Carnegie Hall, New York; Salle Gaveau, Paris; Wigmore Hall, London; Konzerthaus, Berlin; and Tel Aviv's Mann Auditorium. Following his highly lauded concerto debut at Alice Tully Hall, *The New York Times* raved, "Glowing tone, a seductive timbre and an emotionally pointed approach to phrasing that made you want to hear him again." Peled's impressive discography includes critically acclaimed CDs released under Naxos Records, Centaur, and Delos. His release "Casals Homage," featuring the legendary 1915 Pablo Casals program, became a best-selling feature on iTunes. This fall, Peled will record Nadia Boulanger's "Three Pieces for Cello and Piano," before making a return trip to Russia to perform and teach at the St. Petersburg Conservatory.

About the Oshman Family JCC

The Oshman Family Jewish Community Center (OFJCC) on the Taube Koret Campus for Jewish Life serves the South Peninsula through educational, social, cultural, fitness, sports and other programs. The OFJCC is a multi-generational Jewish neighborhood where all are welcome, and which seeks to enrich lives, build community and inspire Jewish journeys. The OFJCC provides a common ground for individuals, Jewish institutions, and other local groups and organizations and individuals to work, learn, play and celebrate together for the betterment of the whole community. The OFJCC's registered trademarks are Live Fully® and J-Pass®. For more information, visit www.paloaltojcc.org or call (650) 223-8700.

For calendar editors:

WHAT: The **Oshman Family JCC** presents internationally acclaimed Israeli cellist **Amit Peled** in the one-night-only performance, *Journey with my Jewishness*. This powerful and deeply moving program is a personal, musical, and spiritual journey that explores the ups and downs of life, as well as Peled's desire to balance tradition, identity and self-expression. From his childhood growing up on a small kibbutz in Israel listening to his mother singing the traditional tune "Eli Eli," to playing Max Bruch's "Kol Nidrei" as a young cellist and personally connecting with the Yom Kippur message, Peled delivers a fully immersive musical and spiritual experience. For this special event, **Amit Peled** will also be performing on the historic Goffriller ca. 1733 once owned by the great cellist Pablo Casals.

WHEN: **5:30pm, Sunday, September 17**

WHERE: **Oshman Family JCC - Schultz Cultural Arts Hall**
3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto

TICKETS: \$40 General, \$35 Members and J-pass holders, \$18 Students (with ID), \$60 Premium Seating (includes post-concert reception with the artists). More information please visit palaltojcc.org/peled or call (650) 223-8649.

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PRESS: Contact Carla Befera & Co.
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PHOTOS: High resolution digital images may be downloaded at:
<http://www.cb-pr.com/press/amitpeled.html>