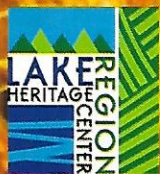


Rachel CALOF

June 20 & 21

at the Robert E. Fawcett
Auditorium at Lake Region
State College

*A memoir
with music*



**SONS OF
JACOB**

Established 1885



Rachel Calof: A Memoir with Music

starring
Kate Fuglei

Adapted for the stage by Ken LaZebnik
Music and Lyrics by Leslie Steinweiss
Directed by Ellen S. Pressmean
Musical accompaniment by Ross Källing
Lighting design by Paul Epton
Stage managed by Mr. Crowe & Mr. Eisenzimmer

Setting: Saint Paul, Minnesota – Calof's dining room, 1936

This dynamic, solo theatrical event is based on the memoir of a Jewish bride who emigrated from Russia to North Dakota in 1894 to marry a man she had never met, determined to make a new life as a homesteader.

Based on the book RACHEL'S STORY: Jewish Homesteader on the Northern Plains by Rachel Calof, published by Indiana University Press. Used with permission of Indiana University Press.

Rachel Bella Calof's manuscript/journal was discovered by her children after her death, chronicles her life living in a 12 by 14 foot shack. In 1995, Ken LaZebnik wrote an adaptation and Leslie Steinweiss wrote and composed music to bring the story to life again.

RACHEL CALOF: A MEMOIR WITH MUSIC, received its world premiere at the New York International Fringe Festival – August, 2011.

This activity is made possible by the North Dakota Chautauqua Association
Lake Region Heritage Center & Sons of Jacob Community

All cell phones & cameras must be shut off during the performance. No photos allowed.



The Creative Team



Kate Fuglei (Rachel Calof) got her professional start at the Guthrie Theater, and has played leading roles on stage across America. Credits include Mrs. Webb in *Our Town* for Tony Award-winning director Michael Greif at the La Jolla Playhouse, The Adult Woman in the Broadway National Tour of *Spring Awakening* directed by Tony Awarding winner Michael Mayer, Maria in *Love's Labour's Lost* at New York Shakespere Festival, and a new staging of Willa Cather's *My Antonia*, directed by Scott Schwartz, with music by Stephen Schwartz.

Other stage credits include McCarter Theater, Arena Stage, Hartford Stage, Seattle's ACT, Portland Stage and Utah Shakespeare Festival.

Film credits include *The Onion Movie*, *the Green Hornet*, *Nowhereland*, *Indictment: The McMartin Trial*, *Amish Grace*, and two films soon to be released: *Forty is the New Dead* and *Ryder and Julina*. TV credits include *Touch*, *90210*, *The Event*, *Love That Girl*, *Desperate Housewives*, *N.C.I.S.*, *The Closer*, *Nip/Tuck*, and many others including upcoming *Masters of Sex* on Showtime. Kate is married to writer Ken LaZebnik – proud mother of two sons Jack and Ben.

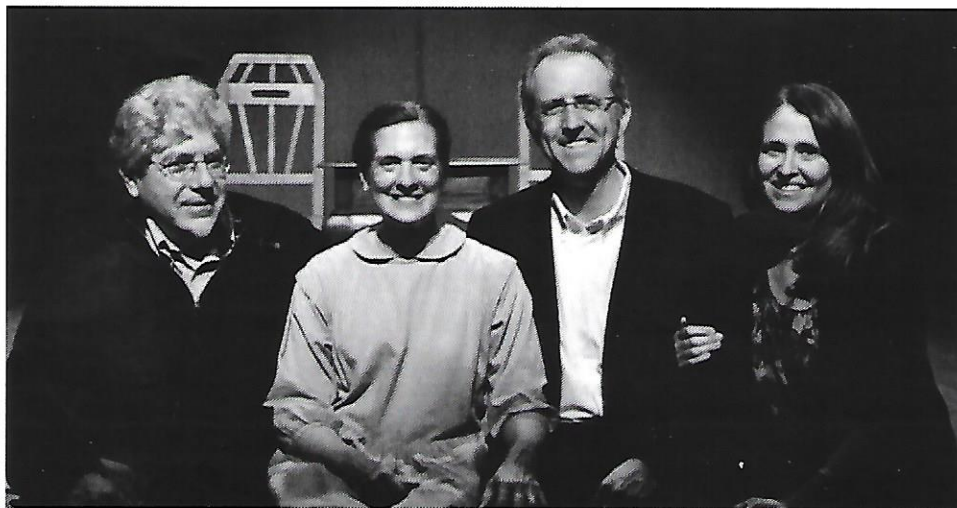
Ellen S. Pressman (Director) is an Emmy Award-winner who began her career as an Associate Producer on *Hill Street Blues*, and then began producing and directing for *L.A. Law* and *Thirtysomething*. She has also directed episodes of *My So-Called Life*, *Party of Five*, *Arli\$\$*, *Felicity*, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, *Charmed*, *Time of Your Life*, *413 Hope Street*, *Pasadena*, *Huff*, *Jack and Bobby*, *Everwood*, and *Windfall*. On stage she directed Frankie and Johnny in the *Claire de Lune* and the workshop production of *Rachel Calof* at Ensemble Studio Theater West. She is a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley.

Ken LaZebnik (Playwright) is a playwright and screen writer whose work has been produced at theaters across America. His plays *Vestibular Sense*, *League of Nations*, *Calvinisms*, and *On the Spectrum* all received their world premiere at Mixed Blood Theatre under the direction of Jack Reuler. *On the Spectrum* was awarded a Steinberg Citation from the American Theatre Critics Association honoring it as

one of the three best new plays produced outside of New York in 2011. He has a long history of writing for Garrison Keillor's *Prairie Home Companion* radio show. Ken wrote the Lionsgate film Thomas Kikade's *Christmas Cottage* starring Peter O'Toole. For TV, he has written episodes for many series including *Touched By an Angel*, *Providence*, *Army Wives*, and *Star Trek: Enterprise*. He wrote three PBS specials for their series *In Concert at the White House* filmed in the East Room of the White House. Ken is currently writing for an upcoming Hallmark Channel show, *When Calls the Heart*. He lives in Los Angeles with his wife Kate and is the proud father to their two sons Jack and Ben.

Leslie Steinweiss (Music & Lyrics) Most recently created a concert piece, *Flight of Fancy* for Clarinet and Piano, was premiered in Cambridge, MASS. He is current working on a Trio for Piano, Clarinet, and Viola. *Rachel Calof*: was featured at the Association for Jewish Theatre Conference in Los Angeles and was presented at the NYC international fringe theater festival. Leslie also has created music for short films and PBS documentaries. He was composer-in-residence for the theater company Dearthknows in New York City, with works performed at Lincoln Center, Home for Contemporary Theater and Art in New York City, and the Whole Theater in Montclair, NJ. *The School of Jolly Dogs*, a British Music Hall with book and lyrics by Didi Balle, was work-shopped and performed at Eugene O'Neill Theater Center and produced by the St. Lawrence Theater Festival. Other film credits include independent films and collaborative work with his filmmaker wife, Marjory Steinweiss, including *Open Lines*, an award-winning short directed and edited by Marjory and featured at the Breckenridge, Chicago and Saaabrucken film festivals.

Ross Källing (Pianist) Mr. Källing is an award winning musical director and pianist. He received Dramalogue awards for his musical direction of *FATE's*, production of *'Marat/Sade'* and *'Threepenny Opera'*. Also was pianist/M.D. for the revival of *'Liz Swados' 'Nightclub Cantata'* at the Odyssey Theatre and produced the song *'It Don't Make a Difference in the Dark'*; for the movie *'Relative Strangers'*, coaxing respectable vocal performances out of the stars, Danny Devito and Cathy Bates. He was Musical Director at the prestigious Beverly Hills Playhouse for fifteen years, where he worked with such stars as Anthony Head, Doris Roberts, Dorothy Lyman, Jeffrey Tambor and such directors as Gene Reynolds and the late Milton Katselas. He was the founding director of Music Curriculum at the Academy for New Musical Theatre in Los Angeles where he remains active as an instructor and dramaturge. As a composer/lyricist his own plays have been produced in Los Angeles, New York, London, Chicago and Seattle. He can be seen performing around Los Angeles in various Cabaret or Jazz venues or with his classical chamber ensemble, Trio Cayenne or teaching voice in his Burbank vocal studio.



Leslie Steinweiss • Kate Fuglei • Ken LaZebnik • Ellen S. Pressman

Calof Family Photo in St. Paul, MN

approx. 1919-1923



Back Row L-R: Hannah, Minnie & Husband Dan Rubin, Moses "Mac", and 1st wife Jennie

Middle Row L-R: Bessie, Elizabeth, Alec, Isaac "Jack"

Front Row L-R: Abraham, Jacob, Celia & Rachel

Rare Native Prairie Greet Visitors

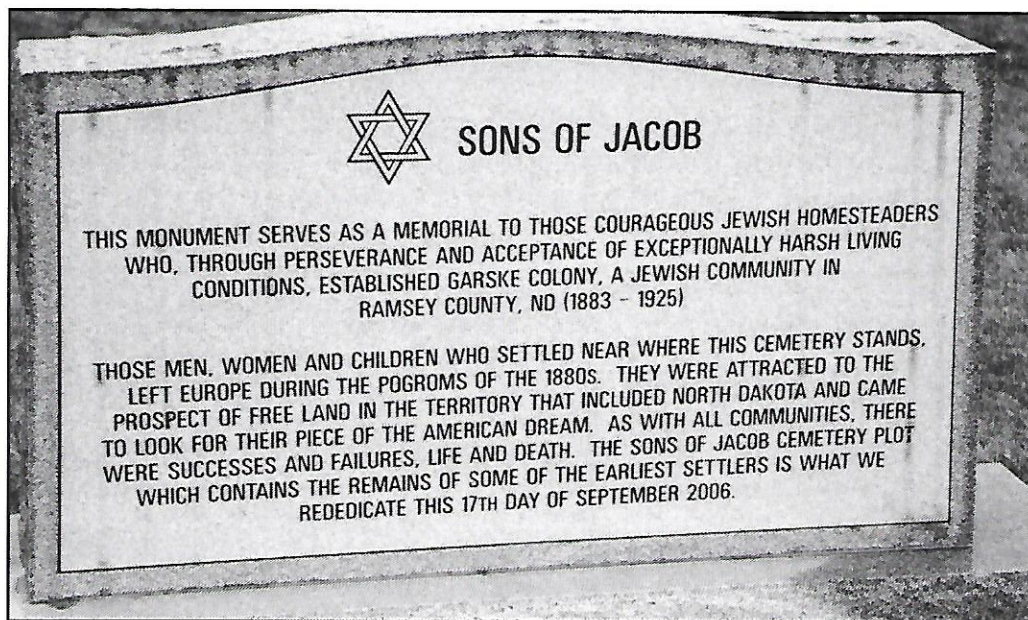
The spectacular view at the Sons of Jacob Cemetery is only heightened via the fact that it is surrounded by a strip of untouched native prairie. One of the last remaining pieces of native prairie in the region, it allows the visitor to view the land in the same way Rachel Calof and the original settlers would have. Before Euro-American farmers started breaking up the sod, mixed-grass prairie covered about 85% of North Dakota. Today, mixed-grass prairie as it exists at the Sons of Jacob Cemetery, can be found in only about 30% of the state. This type of prairie is called a Drift Prairie or Glaciated Plains and contains mixed -grass prairie plants. A mixed-grass prairie is a combination of tallgrass and shortgrass species.

Much like the Jewish Homesteaders, the prairie plants developed and thrived because of their deep root systems. These extremely deep roots enable the grasses and flowers to withstand certain conditions others could not survive. These conditions included the following: (1) low amounts of precipitations; (2) long, cold winters, hot summers, and strong winds; and (3) frequent fires. Spring and early summer wildflowers caress the cemetery and "dot" the border with color; but the diversity of this stretch of native prairie is extensive and most remarkably visible in mid to late summer when the warm season wild flowers are at their peak.

History of the Garske Colony

"The Garske Colony was not the first community to have Jewish settlers, but it was one that succeeded. Eventually 90 Jewish men and women filed claims in Ramsey County for land in this area. German Philanthropist Baron de Hirsch played an important part in the establishment of the Garske Colony. He believed that Jews would be better accepted in the United States if they were more like their neighbors and that translated into farming. Thus many settlers received funds (from Baron de Hirsch) before making their way to North Dakota. The Minneapolis Jewish community and other communities in the United States sent food and money to help the settlers over the difficult times.

Typically, the homesteaders would stay on the land the required number of years in order to receive their land patent. If their attempts at farming were unsuccessful, as most were, many homesteaders sold the land and used the money to move to larger cities. Some moved into the closest town, Devils Lake, to become peddlers, storekeepers or railroad construction workers.



Devils Lake had a full Jewish communal life. Jewish High Holiday services were held in the courthouse and it was said, that court dates were not set in the fall of the year until holiday dates were scheduled. Most Jewish settlers adhered to Orthodox traditions. Rabbi Benjamin Papermaster was Grand Forks, ND's first rabbi arriving in 1891. He traveled to serve the Garske community as needed and would come every fall with provisions and to help prepare kosher meat for the oncoming winter." (www.sojnorthdakota.com)

These are the 104 names on the monument honoring the Original Jewish Homesteaders of the Garske Colony.

Charley Abraham	Herman Friedman	Love Kaslow	Max Pyes
Abraham Adelman	Jacob Friedman	Albert Kaufman	Abraham Rackner
Joseph Adelman	Lena Friedman	Herman Kaufman	Sam Rosenthal
Pit Alswang	Zenda Gilman	Abraham Kempinsky	Israel M. Rosenwate
Isaac Becker	Joseph J. Goldberg	Simon Klizen	Bessie Rubin
Jake Berkowitz	Sam Goldberg	Biney Kohn	Davis Rubin
Levi Britsk	Solomon Goldberg	Max Kohn	David Schapera
Israel Buchmann	Solomon Goldstein	Mosko Kolov	Isaac Schapera
Abram Calof	Louis Gooderman	Abraham Leschensky	Josef Schapera
Maier Calof	Hemis Grawoig	Mendel Levitz	Samuel C. Schapera
Barnett Cantor	Abraham Greenberg	Hyman Liberman	Jacob Schechter
Fred Cantor	Ben Greenberg	Rachel Lieberman	Halleck Schechter
Simon Clitchen	Mollie Greenberg	Sarah Lieberman	Esther Schlemison
Katie Cohen	Phillip Greenberg	H. Margolis	Max Schulmson
Rueben Cohen	Benie Greenberg	Louis Mavil	Abraham Sherman
Louis Colosky	Jacob Grossman	Israel Mill	Woolf Sherowitz
Aron Comonow	Joseph W. Grossman	Max Mill	Jacob Solomonske
Sarah Comonow	Herman Hoffman	Michael Moschitska	Isaac Sperior
Theodore Dekeyzer	David Hollander	Heims Nathan	Abe Steren
Ida U. Delavech	Max Hollander	Simon Nathan	Hyman Walk
Isaac Delavech	Sam Hollander	Nudelman	S.L. Wineman
Isaac Edelman	Nathan Horwitz	M. Oxman	Emma Wolfe
Simon Ettinger	Luis Kahan	Charles Parks	Jacob Wolfe
Laser Filis	Savol Kalov	Abraham Penner	Max Wolfson
Dora Frankel	Solomon Kalov	Moses Plentnichky	John Yaffe
Aron Friedman	Herc Kaplon	~ Ike Pyes	Joseph Zurich

Rachel Calof Days: June 20 - 21, 2014

This past May the **City of Devils Lake** and the **Ramsey County Commission** passed a resolution dedicating June 20th and 21st, 2014 as Rachel Calof Days. This dedication is in honor of the fortitude and resolve of the hundreds of Jewish settlers and business people who helped build our community.



State of
North Dakota
Office of the Governor

Jack Dalrymple
Governor

Greetings,


On behalf of the State of North Dakota, congratulations to the people of Devils Lake and Ramsey County on the successful production of the 'Rachel Calof Story'!

Our great State achieved the success it enjoys today because of the efforts of Rachel Calof and thousands of others like her who came to North Dakota to build a better life. From every nation around the world people like Rachel came to North Dakota to pursue their individual dreams.

The Lake Region Heritage Center, North Dakota Chautauqua Association and Sons of Jacob community are to be complimented for leading the way in bringing Rachel's story to the community to enjoy. With the support of the State Historical Society of North Dakota, the Devils Lake business community and support from all over the United States the play is happening now.

As you watch the play tonight take a moment to remember those, like Rachel Calof, who came before us and helped make all of this possible!

First Lady Betsy and I would like to extend our best wishes to everyone enjoying the play tonight!


Jack Dalrymple
Governor

**Thanks to those who have
supported the play in a special way!**



STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF NORTH DAKOTA

devils lake
Tourism

 **Lake Region**
State College

Devils Lake Public School District - Tours
Marketplace Motors - all vehicle arrangements for play
Krantz's Floral - special floral arrangements
Newgard Family - Calof Homestead tour

Rachel Calof Play Committee

Jeff Frith - Chautauqua
Barb McCormick - Chautauqua
Lisa Zimmerman - Lake Region Heritage Center
Suzie Kenner - Devils Lake Convention & Visitors Bureau
Charla Hannesson - Lake Region State College
Cathy Wolfe - Sons of Jacob
Shirley & Rick LaFleur - Sons of Jacob
Brenda Swenseth - Chautauqua
Dennis Kitsch - Sons of Jacob
Mike Connor - Sons of Jacob
Jonielle & Chuck Soderstrom - Chautauqua

Thank you for contributing to bring the “Rachel Calof Story” home to Devils Lake

‘Harvester’ (up to \$99)

Felicia & Albert Schwenk
Glen & Lenore Richter
Judith Ettinger
Garske Elevator Company
Dale Katz
Leading Edge Equipment
Home of Economy
Eugene A. Serumgard

Mr & Mrs J’s Restaurant
Old Main Street Cafe
Adeline’s Beauty Shop
Xtreme Signs & Graphix
Broden Law Office
Ronald & Darla Obenchain
Chuck & Jonielle Soderstrom
Northern Plains Electric Coop.

‘Sodbuster’ (\$100-\$249)

Janet Shark Frisch - in memory of Myer Shark
Shark Family - in memory of Myer Shark
Stanley & Mary Beth Adelman Family
Jim & Andrea Glickson
Stuart & Cindy Zemel
Stan Calof & Family
Evelyn Liebman
Thompson’s Glass & Paint
White House Café
Reslock Printing - The Message Board

La Motte’s Paint & Glass Supply
High Plains Equipment
Ramsey County Abstract
Traynor Law Firm, PC
Gilbertson Funeral Home
North Central Granite
Bert’s Deep Rock Service
Luella & Fred Rance
Judy R. Ryan & Shelly Ryan
JS Wholesale & Vending

‘Homesteader’ (\$250 and up)

Duane & Beverly Otto
North Dakota Telephone Company
Ellen & Mike Connor
The Great Grandchildren of Emma and Jacob Wolfe
Klemetsrud Plumbing, Heating & Air Conditioning

Thanks to our Corporate Sponsors:



**MEDICAL IMAGING
ASSOCIATES**

