



A LIVING
MEMORIAL
TO THE
HOLOCAUST

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***Resurrecting Hebrew* Author Provides Insight into the Role of Language in Jewish Continuity**

at the Museum of Jewish Heritage—A Living Memorial to the Holocaust

New York, NY—On **Wednesday, March 18 at 7 p.m.**, join author **Ilan Stavans** in conversation with *Nextbook* senior editor **Gabriel Sanders** for a discussion of his compelling new book *Resurrecting Hebrew* (Shoken/Nextbook, 2008) as part of the *Nextbook Jewish Encounters Series* at the **Museum of Jewish Heritage—A Living Memorial to the Holocaust**. Praised by author Elie Wiesel as “exciting and penetrating,” *Resurrecting Hebrew* tells the story of how Hebrew was rescued from the fate of a dead language to become the living tongue of a modern nation.

Tickets to this program are \$10 adults, \$7 students/seniors, \$5 members and are available online at www.mjhnyc.org or by calling the Museum box office at 646.437.4202. This program is co-sponsored by the National Yiddish Book Center.

The author’s quest begins with a dream featuring a beautiful woman speaking an unknown language. When the language turns out to be Hebrew, a friend diagnoses “language withdrawal,” and Stavans sets out in search of his own forgotten Hebrew. Along the way, he explores the life of the man who helped revive the language at the end of the nineteenth century, Eliezer Ben-Yehuda, and his great dictionary of the Hebrew language. *Resurrecting Hebrew* raises urgent questions about the role language plays in Jewish survival and in the origins of Israel itself, culminating in a fascinating biography as well as a moving personal journey.

Ilan Stavans is the Lewis-Sebring Professor in Latin American and Latino Culture at Amherst College. He has taught courses on a wide array of topics such as world Jewish writers, the cultural history of the Spanish language, Isaac Bashevis Singer, Yiddish literature, and Jewish-Hispanic relations. He has written and edited several books including *On Borrowed Words: A Memoir of Language*.

Gabriel Sanders was the associate editor of the *Forward* for four years before joining *Nextbook*. He has interviewed a wide range of authors at the Museum. His writing has appeared in *The New York Times Book Review*, *Bookforum*, *The Jerusalem Report*, *Time Out New York*, and other publications.

WHAT: *Resurrecting Hebrew*
(Shoken Books/Nextbook, 2008)
With author **Ilan Stavans** interviewed by **Gabriel Sanders**, senior editor, *Nextbook*

WHERE: Museum of Jewish Heritage—A Living Memorial to the Holocaust
Edmond J. Safra Plaza, 36 Battery Place, Lower Manhattan

WHEN: Wednesday, March 18 at 7 p.m.

COST: \$10 adults, \$7 students/seniors, \$5 members

About the Museum of Jewish Heritage

The Museum’s three-floor Core Exhibition educates people of all ages and backgrounds about the rich tapestry of Jewish life over the past century—before, during, and after the Holocaust. Special exhibitions include *Woman of Letters: Irène Némirovsky and Suite Française*, extended through August 30 and *The Shooting of Jews in Ukraine: Holocaust by Bullets*, on view through March 23. The Museum offers visitors a vibrant public program schedule in its Edmond J. Safra Hall. It is also home to Andy Goldsworthy’s memorial *Garden of Stones*, as well as James Carpenter’s *Reflection Passage*, Gift of The Gruss Lipper Foundation. The Museum receives general operating support from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, and is a founding member of the *Museums of Lower Manhattan*.