



IN MEMORIAM

Yaacov Naor, CAGS, TEP

Yaacov was born in Munich, Germany in 1948 however from 1949 on he grew up in Israel. He served three years in the Israeli Army and was married with two children. From 1973 to 1981 Yaacov spent time in the USA. He was fluent in English and Hebrew with a working knowledge of German.

Yaacov had extensive education and training: 1969-1973 BA in Psychology and Theater Arts. The Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel; 1975-1977 MA in Expressive Arts Therapy. Specialization in Psychodrama and Therapeutic use of Theater. Lesley College Graduate School, Cambridge, Mass, USA; The Israeli Association of Creative and Expressive Arts Therapies, 1974-1981; 1981-1982 Certified Therapist and Trainer in Intermodal Expressive Arts Therapy. 1981-1985 Certified Trainer, Educator and Practitioner (TEP) in Psychodrama, Group Psychotherapy and Sociometry. The American Board of Examiners in Psychodrama; 1996-1998 Certificate in Advanced Graduate Studies (CAGS) The European Graduate School (EGS), Switzerland.

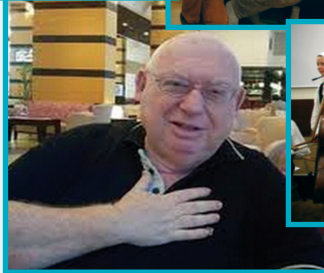
Yaacov Naor was the Founder and Director of THE INNER THEATER: a Psychodrama and Intermodal Expressive Arts Therapy Center in Tel Aviv. He was a certified therapist and trainer in Psychodrama, Group Psychotherapy and Expressive Arts and had taught in Europe, the USA, Canada, Australia, Colombia, Brazil, South Africa and Israel for the last 35 years. Yaacov was a specialist in Transgenerational Transmission of Trauma and since 1986 had led special psychodrama dialogue groups for second and third generation Holocaust survivors together with young Germans, Palestinians and Israelis. He was the Co-founder of The International School of Transgenerational Therapy.

Yaacov served on the council of FEPTO (Federation of European Psychodrama Training Organization) and on the board of IAGP (International Association of Group Psychotherapy and Group Processes) where he was Chair of the Psychodrama Section. His professionalism and generous giving is evident from his many professional memberships: IEATA (The International Expressive Arts Therapy Association); ASGPP (The American Society Of Group Psychotherapy and Psychodrama); The Israeli Association of Psychodrama (founding member); The Israeli Association of Creative and Expressive Therapies; The International Network of Creative Arts Therapy Training Centers (institute member); FEPTO (Federation of the European Psychodrama Training Organizations) – founding member, Chair of the Networking Committee since 2008; and lastly, PlfE (Psychodrama Institute fur Europa).

From Colleagues:

From Adam Blatner: "He was a significant member of the psychodrama powers-that-be over the last 40 years."

Vlada Zapetosky now of Sunnyvale, California, wrote: Yaacov was my psycho-drama teacher in Israel. I graduated from the 3-year program he led in Psychodrama and Art therapy that was a part of the Bar Ilan Uni-



versity. He was a wonderful teacher and a very generous man! We had a very special connection and kept in touch when I moved to California. He was one of my big supporters in going through the certification process here and helped me to prepare for the exam.

Here is a special story that I remember about Yaacov:

Yaacov was teaching one of the lessons on psychodrama for children and a part of the training was that each of the students took a role of the therapist and he played a child.

When it was my turn, he began to play a child that was abandoned by his mother and was seeking for attention. He was so good in his role that I immediately felt empathy toward this poor, messy, playful and lonely child and tried to give him the best support and comforting that I could. I remember that at some point I totally forgot that this was Yaacov, a strong and wise man- my teacher, and began to treat him like a young kid. When we finished the session, he cried, hugged me and said: "You were such a good mommy! You know, I have trouble falling asleep

these days. Could you come and sing me a lullaby before I go to sleep?" The whole class burst out laughing. We all were amazed by his ability to be real, open and vulnerable without losing a sense of humor and a powerful presence of a teacher and a truly special human being.

He will always stay present in my inner social atom as a man who had a great influence on my personal and professional growth, and I will always be grateful for having him in my life!!!
May he rest in peace!

From Rozei Telias:

When I think about Yaacov, and above all his warm and loving personality, these words come to mind... "a bridge over troubled water". In his personal life as a second generation survivor of the Holocaust, he was forced to cross over stormy waters but he chose to create a bridge for dialogue among the second generation survivors and the second generation of Nazi Germany. He thus revealed empathy, compassion and most of all he gave us examples as Psychodramatists about how to create encounters between human beings the Moreno style.

My first meeting with Yaacov was as a young student of psychodrama and later he was the second reader of my master's thesis entitled, *The relationship between the life story of artists such as John Lennon, and Dean Gems to their art work*. Among others things, he wrote "Art is a bridge between, personal interpersonal and universal". Who knew that Yaacov built bridges that become for so many people in the world as examples of how to pass through troubled waters. Leonard Cohen wrote and Sung to commemorate victims of the Holocaust:

"Dance me to your beauty with a burning violin

Dance me through the panic until I am gathered safely in."

I dedicate these words to you, Yaacov Naor.