



Camp Israel

2006



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Camp Israel/ Camp Eretz

Draft

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Day 8

Israel 1996

One of the greatest contributions of Russian immigration to Israel was in the arts. Many excellent artists made Aliyah to Israel. Musicians, performers, dancers, painters, sculptors and many other artists influenced the Israeli public sphere and brought with them new approaches to modern art.

One of the most successful examples of the Russian influence on Israeli arts is the Geshher Theater. Geshher Theater is situated in a beautiful old building in Jaffa (Tel Aviv area). The place was given to the company by the municipality of Tel Aviv in appreciation of their theatrical contribution to Israeli culture. Indeed, this is one of the finest theaters in Israel.

Geshher Theater was established in 1991 by the acclaimed artistic director *Yevgeny Arye*, who is the group's director to this day. It was founded as an Israeli-Russian theater, which performs in both languages (using Hebrew and Russian alternately). The director Yevgeny Arye has been noted for the creative blend of traditional Russian theater with new theatrical techniques, a mixture which has become Geshher's theatrical trademark. The theater produces many classical plays and novels adapted to present-day artistic notions, but also stages quite a number of plays by contemporary playwrights.

From the first production this theater ever staged, *"Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are dead"*, it has received marvelous reviews. The direction, design and exceptional acting skills of its ensemble have been raved about by critics.

From a principally Russian-speaking theater, Geshher has become a Sabra theater. Today, most of Geshher's plays are in Hebrew and a sizeable number of young Israeli actors recently joined the lineup.

In its 15 years of operation, Geshher Theater succeeded in securing its status as one of the country's leading theaters in Israel, and has staged an extensive list of plays by the best playwrights in Israel and the world. The Geshher Theater won the title of Israel's best theater many times. It was the first among the Israeli theaters to be invited to the prestigious international festival in Avignon.



The Cast of the Gesher Theater



A Show in Gesher



The Gesher Building in Jaffa



A Show in Gesher



A Russian Amateur Production



A Show in Gesher



- 9:00 - 9:15 Campers arrive
Counselors tell the campers about the Gesher Theater
- 9:15 – 12:00 Campers create a Gesher musical about their own life story in Russia and their Aliyah to Israel (learning Hebrew and adjusting to the Israeli society)
- noon - 12:30 Lunch
- 12:30 Journals
- 12:45 - 1:45 Committees/prepare for trip
- 1:45- 2:30 Pool
- 2:30 - 3:30 Prepare for overnight

Leave for Burke Lake Park

Build tents, make fire, prepare food for parents and campers.

Gesher Theater production- campers perform their musical for parents

Take pictures of campers for last day's farewell program