









Bring Jamie Elman & Eli Batalion, the creators and stars of the award-winning Yiddish comedy web series YidLife Crisis (and closeted professional Jewish educators!) to your event for a night of shtick, schmoozing and inspiration.

Jamie and Eli's show mixes skits, song, discussion and screenings, with a Talmudic use of the "Trojan horse" of comedy to engage audiences on modern **Jewish identity**. With an inclusive approach that reaches out to Jews and non-Jews alike, **YidLive!** revitalizes the discussion of Jewish culture with a night of laughter and insight.

Since 2014, YidLife Crisis has gone around the world with their **bridge-building Jewish comedy**, achieving the following:

- Over **3,000,000** video views and an organically-built subscriber base of 30,000+ across social media
- Touring live presentations to NYC, LA,
   Jerusalem, Chicago, Vancouver, and 18
   cities across the world
- Global Shtetl Jewish docu-series filming in Israel, UK, EU, US and Canada
- Winning an IAWTV Award for Best Non-English Series and Best Comedy Series at the T.O.
   Web Fest

- Being nominated for 4 Canadian Screen
   Awards (Canadian Oscars)
- Being selected twice to the prestigious
   Slingshot, the authoritative guide of the Top
   Most Innovative Jewish Organizations in North America



#### **SHOW STRUCTURE**

The core of the 75-90 minute English variety show is Jamie "Chaimie" Elman and Eli "Leizer" Batalion telling the story of **reconnecting to their Jewish roots through comedy**, and how that led them to make their acclaimed online series. They debate and rib each other as they sort out how and why and what it means to live Jewishly in the secular 21st century.



"Asking the critical existential Jewish questions while splitting our sides, YidLife Crisis challenges our traditions while reminding us how amazing they can be. YidLife raised the roof and helped us explore the dichotomy of youth, Judaism and contemporary culture. Their live shows were a cornerstone of the festival, and I'd recommend them highly to anyone."

Atarah Derrick, Limmud Toronto

#### **CUSTOMIZED TO THE COMMUNITY**

Each show is **customized to the specific local Jewish community** and audience in attendance, including audiovisual content specific to that community event.

"It's amazing how Eli and Jamie customized a fun and lively show that poked our funny bones, incorporating "inside information" about our community that had the audience (knowingly) roaring with laughter. Mixed with

their witty banter and engaging chemistry on stage, as well as samples of their great videos, Eli and Jamie have a winning format that entertains and brings smiles to faces."

Elliott Steinberg, Calgary Jewish Federation



#### MULTIMEDIA AND MUSIC

Jamie and Eli use videos and slides to tell their story, including material from their award-winning YidLife Crisis catalogue, providing a live-meets-screen-based experience that engages audiences across the evening. Both trained musicians, Jamie and Eli also perform Jewish songs and mainstream parody songs on Jewish themes to the delight of audiences who enjoy singing along.



"In my 16 years in Film Festivals I've never heard so many people laughing, or had so many compliments on our excellent choice for an opening event. The boys did their local research and blew the crowd away. Their comedy crosses all barriers and united us all for 90 minutes!"

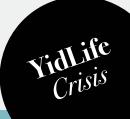
Robert Albanese, Vancouver Jewish Film Festival



#### FOR AUDIENCES 18 TO 118

With their hip and irreverent approach on one hand and their homage to Yiddish and old school Jewish comedy on the other, they've been described as being enjoyable for everyone "from hipsters to hip replacements," something the bokhers always aim to do.

With a **Q&Q Section** (obviously, Jamie and Eli don't answer questions with anything but questions!), a little stand-up, a little *Yidnastics* (physical exercises for Jews, i.e. they don't have to get up) and much more, it's a memorable night of comedy for all ages and denominations.





### PAST PARTNERS AND SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

- Natan Foundation
- ROI Community
- Charles & Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation
- Bronfman Youth Fellowships in Israel
- Slingshot
- Federation CJA of Montreal
- Jewish Community Foundation of Montreal
- Jewish Federations of North America
- Silver Lake Independent JCC
- Yiddishkayt
- JCC Manhattan
- Folksbiene National Yiddish Theater
- The Workmen's Circle
- HEEB Magazine
- Koffler Centre of the Performing Arts



# PRIOR SHOW REFERENCES

Chicago, JCC Chicago
Houston, E. Rubenstein JCC
Sonoma State University
San Francisco JFF, Piano Fight Bar
JCC Manhattan
Los Angeles
Birmingham, UK

Poland, JCC Krakow
Toronto, CSI Annex
Vancouver JFF, 5th Ave Cinemas
Toronto, Koffler Centre
Montreal, Segal Centre
Edmonton, Citadel Theatre
Calgary, Beth Tzedec Congregation

## RELEVANT LINKS

QUOTES &
TESTIMONIALS
ABOUT
YidLife Crisis

YidLive! Reel

Website

**Press** 

**Facebook Page** 

"Watch the hilarious **YidLife** *Crisis* – I can't get over these two young guys. I love the series!"

Mayim Bialik, *The Big Bang Theory* 

"If "Seinfeld" had taken place in Montreal instead of New York and been in Yiddish instead of English, it would have been "YidLife Crisis" ... It's at once funny and profound... A love letter to Yiddish and secular Judaism."

"Yiddish is not just a language; it's a lens through which we see the world. And in that, these guys are fluent."

Rabbi Reuven Poupko, Canadian Rabbinic Caucus

Renee Ghert-Zand, Times of Israel

