



The Arnold and Leona Finkler  
**Institute of Holocaust Research**  
Faculty of Jewish Studies  
Bar-Ilan University



The Finkler Institute of  
Holocaust Research,  
Bar-Ilan University, Israel,  
is inviting you to a Zoom event

# "Dear Erich"

Monday | December 2, 2024  
19:00 Israel time (12:00 EST)

[Click here for Zoom link >>](#)

During the event Ted Rosenthal will discuss and play video clips from his jazz opera, "Dear Erich", that was commissioned by New York City Opera and received its world premiere in 2019. "Dear Erich" is based on his family history. Erich, his father was able to escape Nazi Germany a few months before Kristallnacht. His family could not get out and perished. "Dear Erich" was inspired by 200 newly discovered letters written in Germany between 1938 and 1941 by Herta Rosenthal to her son Erich. "Dear Erich" tells a refugee story for our times. How can a family cope as the walls of their nation's hatred close in around them? For those who escape, what lies ahead? Discussion will follow the presentation.

## 19:00 Opening remarks: Creative Endeavors of the Second Generation

Prof. Judy Baumel-Schwartz, Director, the Finkler Institute of Holocaust Research, Bar-Ilan University

## 19:05 "Dear Erich": The Opera as a Reflection of History – Ted Rosenthal

Ted Rosenthal is one of the leading jazz pianist/composers of his generation. He has performed worldwide as soloist, with his trio, and with many jazz greats including Gerry Mulligan, Art Farmer, Phil Woods, and James Moody. Winner of the Thelonious Monk International Competition, Rosenthal has released 15 critically acclaimed CDs as a leader. His Rhapsody in Gershwin CD reached #1 on iTunes and Amazon. Rosenthal has been a featured soloist with major orchestras including the Detroit Symphony and Phoenix Symphony. An active composer, Rosenthal's jazz opera, "Dear Erich," was commissioned and premiered by New York City Opera in 2019. The recipient of three NEA grants, Rosenthal has also been commissioned by Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, The Park Avenue Chamber Symphony, and Dallas Black Dance Theatre. Rosenthal is an author and active in jazz education. He is on the faculties of The Juilliard School and Manhattan School of Music.

Websites: [www.tedrosenthal.com](http://www.tedrosenthal.com)  
[www.dearrich.com](http://www.dearrich.com)

## 20:00 Audience Q&A